

Henderson County
Farmland Preservation Taskforce: August 12, 2024

The Farmland Preservation Taskforce held a meeting on August 12, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the King Street Meeting Room located at 100 N. King Street.

| Taskforce Member | Present | Absent |
|--|---------|--------|
| Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Chair | ✓ | |
| Commissioner David Hill, Chair | ✓ | |
| Hunter Marks – Planning Board | ✓ | |
| Danny McConnell – Soil & Water Conservation District | ✓ | |
| Gary Steiner – NC Cooperative Extension | | ✓ |
| Jimmy Cowan – NC Farm Bureau | ✓ | |
| Joffrey Merrill – AgHC | | ✓ |
| Randy Newman – Hendersonville Board of Realtors | ✓ | |
| Jason Edney – At large | | ✓ |
| Justin Patwin – At large | ✓ | |
| Linda Pryor – At large | ✓ | |
| Alan Ward – At large | ✓ | |
| Danielle McCall – At large | ✓ | |

Also present:

Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director
Liz Hanson, Planner
April Hoyt, Soil & Water Conservation District
Jonathan Wallin, Soil & Water Conservation District
Tom Fanslow, Conserving Carolina

R = attended remotely

Commissioner and Taskforce Chair Rebecca McCall called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance:

Commissioner and Taskforce Chair David Hill lead the invocation and pledge after the meeting was called to order.

Adjustment and Approval of Agenda:

Taskforce member Jimmy Cowan motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Taskforce member Alan Ward seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Lynn Williams gave a public comment on Farmland Preservation and matters regarding the city of Hendersonville, specifically sewer service and annexation.

Adjustment and Approval of July 19, 2024, Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner and Taskforce Chair David Hill motioned to approve the July 29, 2024; meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Staff Updates:

Planning Staff had previously been asked by the Taskforce to meet internally along with the Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District, Conserving Carolina, and the NC Cooperative Extension to draft amendments to Chapter 45. Staff worked to incorporate the requested amendments into the existing Chapter 45 document, and it was shared with the Taskforce prior to the meeting. Mrs. Radcliff provided an overview of the most recent changes to Chapter 45 to the Taskforce.

Discussion:

The Taskforce continued their discussion of the Chapter 45 amendments with the incorporation of existing language. Planning staff, Soil & Water staff, and Conserving Carolina were available to answer questions from the Taskforce.

Staff will continue to work on amending Chapter 45 with the Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District staff, Conserving Carolina, and the NC Cooperative Extension. Staff will share revised drafts of Chapter 45 to the Taskforce prior to their next meeting, if time permits.

The Taskforce requested a guest speaker that has gone through the process of placing an agricultural conservation easement on their property, to share their experience. Staff will work to schedule a speaker for a future Taskforce meeting.

Next Meeting:

The Taskforce agreed to hold a Special Called Meeting on August 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the King Street Meeting Room. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Chair and Commissioner David Hill, Chair
Henderson County Farmland Preservation Taskforce