



**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

Steven A. Silverman  
*Director*

**MEMORANDUM**

March 13, 2015

**TO:** Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)

**FROM:** Jeremy V. Criss, Agricultural Services Manager  
Department of Economic Development

**SUBJECT:** The Agricultural Advisory Committee and Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board Meeting Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Please be advised the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be meeting on **Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at the Up County Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road Germantown in Room B at 7:00 p.m.**

The agenda is on the next page.

The other attachments for our meeting will be posted on the Agricultural Services web site. Due to the County's paper reduction mandate, please print these attachments out and bring them with you to the meeting.

See you on Tuesday evening.

\*Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If you need other services or aids to participate in this activity, please call 301-590-2810

e:aacMarch(aac15)

## **Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda – March 17, 2015**

1. Introductions:

2. Approval of the AAC Minutes from January 20, 2015. (See Attachment A.) *Please note the February 17, 2015 AAC meeting was cancelled due to the County Government being closed.*

3. Pesticide Legislation Bill 52-14 (Leventhal, Floreen, Reimer, Navarro, and Elrich). Public hearings were January 15, 2015 and February 12, 2015. The AAC-Doug Tregoning, MCFB-Lonnie Luther and Eric Spates- MAP testified. T&E Committee Work Sessions are scheduled for March 16 and 30, 2015 at 9:30 am. (See Attachment B.)

4. Follow up from the Annual Meeting of County Executive-APAB and AAC- February 10, 2015. Please refer to (Attachment C.) for the meeting agenda.

The 2014 Annual Report of the AAC is posted on line:

[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices/Resources/Files/aac\\_annual\\_reports/2014AACannalreportcomplete.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices/Resources/Files/aac_annual_reports/2014AACannalreportcomplete.pdf)

5. January 30, 2015 Tour of farms with Planning Board Members. The tour included Robert Stabler-Pleasant Valley Farm, Pam Saul-Rolling Acres Farm and John Fendrick-Woodbourne Creamery. Four of the Five Planning Bd Members attended along with Council member Hans Reimer. Follow up message from Hans Reimer regarding no-till farming. (Attachment D.)

### **6. Updated Farm Directory**

The DED-Agricultural Service updated the Farm Directory and we are requesting assistance to make corrections to the farms that are listed and help to reach out to those farms that still need to be listed. Please list of AAC members-farms that are listed in the Directory (Attachment E.)

[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices/Resources/Files/publications/2015\\_farm\\_directory.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices/Resources/Files/publications/2015_farm_directory.pdf)

7. New Resource Conservationist for MSCD (Brian Taylor) The hiring exemption was approved and the interviews were conducted on March 13, 2015.

8. Continued Discussion on amendments to the Zoning Regulations that would allow production of Beer, Hard-Cider, and Distilled Spirits and associated tasting rooms, private events like birthday parties, Bar mitzvahs, and weddings on farms in the AR zone as limited use accessory to farming. A Subcommittee of the AAC will be formed with industry represents-Jessica Butts, Phil Muth, Steven Fistere, Susan Butler, Washington White, etc. (See Attachment F.)

9. The County Council approved the Supplemental Appropriation for the Agricultural Land Preservation CIP-\$1.0 million from the Crown Farm Annexation Agreement for a pending Agricultural Easement acquisition.

10. Follow up on the Poolesville meeting-High Speed Internet in Ag Reserve-March 4, 2015. The meeting was attended by representatives from Verizon and Comcast and 40 people living along Sugarland, Partnership and Montevideo Roads. Cost Proposals are pending.

11. MAEF Mobile Science Lab (MAEF-Trailer) built for Montgomery County and rotated to County Schools. Meeting with County Council President is scheduled for March 24, 2015.  
(See Attachment G.)

12. Nutrient Trading Outreach Meeting for County Farmers-March 20, 2015 @ 9:30 am AHFP  
(See Attachment H.)

**13. Farmland Preservation Update** (See Attachment I.)

14. Next Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting March 21, 2015 @7:00pm **Room A.**

**Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Sup-March 13, 2015@ 9:00am

T&E Committee on Bill 52-14 Pesticides March 16, 2015@ 9:30 am

Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Directors-March 16, 2015@ 7:00pm

Agricultural Advisory Committee-March 17, 2015@ 7:00pm

Montgomery County Agricultural Pres. Advisory Board-March 19, 2015@ 7:00pm

Nutrient Trading Outreach Meeting-March 20, 2015@ 9:30 am

Annual Meeting of Montgomery Weed Control, Inc.-March 26, 2015@9:30 am

Annual Montgomery County Farmers Market Meeting Training May 5, 2015Upcoming