



## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

Steven A. Silverman  
*Director*

### MEMORANDUM

February 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, February 17, 2015

Please be advised the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be meeting on **Tuesday, February 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:aacFeb20(aac15)

## **Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting**

### **Agenda – February 17, 2015**

1. Introductions:

2. Approval of the AAC Minutes from January 20, 2015. (See Attachment A.)

3. Pesticide Legislation Bill 52-14 (Leventhal, Floreen, Reimer, Navarro, and Elrich). Public hearing was Thursday January 15, 2015 at 7:30 pm with the T&E Committee. The AAC-Doug Tregoning, MCFB-Lonnie Luther and Eric Spates- MAP testified. Second public hearing was last night February 12, 2015.

T&E Committee Work Session is scheduled for March 16, 2015.

4. Follow up from the Annual Meeting of County Executive-APAB and AAC- February 10, 2015. Please refer to (Attachment B.) 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/2014AACannualreportcomplete.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices/Resources/Files/aac_annual_reports/2014AACannualreportcomplete.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.

### **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.

[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 Ad was released December 2, 2014 closed on December 15, 2014. The County implemented hiring freeze December 12, 2014. The exemption has been approved by the OMB and CAO approval is pending.

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 C.)

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. High Speed Broad Band Inter-Net access in the Rural and Agricultural areas. David Weitzer and his neighbors are working to schedule a meeting in Poolesville Town Hall with Comcast and Verizon providers.

11. Next Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting March 17, 2015 @7:00pm Room B.

**Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

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

Farm Bureau Day in Annapolis-February 18, 2015

Winter Agronomy Update-February 25, 2015-Urbana Fire Hall

Producers Meeting with MCA-February 27, 2015@ 10:00am

Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Directors-March 3, 2015@ 7:00pm

Montgomery County Agricultural Pres. Advisory Board-March 10, 2015@ 7:00pm

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

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

Annual Montgomery County Farmers Market Meeting Training May 5, 2015