

Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2022

7:02 p.m.

Attendance: John Fendrick, Michael Jamison, Nicholas Deluca

Staff: Mike Scheffel

Guests: Susan and Robert Jamison

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Introduction of guests.

1. Approval October meeting minutes
2. AEP Easement Program
 - a. Drew Baker – request for ag building.

Scheffel shared with the Board a map provided by Drew showing the approximate location of the ag building. The building will be 30' x 60', used for storage of agricultural equipment. Drew has already contacted the SCD and begun the process of getting E&S guidance. Based on the proposed use, size, and location of the building Scheffel recommended approval. Jamison made the motion to approve, Fendrick seconded. Motion carried.

3. Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 - a.
4. RLP Easement Program
 - a. Reserved lot request – Susan and Robert Jamison (Leet Farm)

Susan and Robert introduced themselves to the Board and described their farm. It is comprised of two parcels, both approximately 105 acres. On the north parcel there is an existing house, on the south parcel there is no house, that is where they are proposing to build the house. Susan and Robert shared a map showing where the approved septic sites are and where they propose to construct the house. The Board had concerns about the house being in the middle of an existing crop field as policy dictates to the extent possible, houses should be located along existing ingress/egress and field edges. While describing why they proposed the house location, Robert also indicated he was requesting a boundary adjustment between the two parcels. Scheffel stated this was not the original request from the

Jamison's and at this point recommended no board action based on the new request. Susan and Robert were amenable to this recommendation and stated they were in the beginning stages of the house planning process.

After more discussion about the proposed house location, it was suggested that the Board members have a site visit to better understand the proposal. Scheffel will set up a date and time for this to occur.

The board thanked Susan and Robert for their time.

b. IWLA – E&S progress

The BCC-IWLA continues to work with the SCD on this process. Scheffel believes the work will be approved soon, it is just a matter of checking all the necessary boxes.

c. FY23 RL Grant Agreement – signed by the County

Scheffel informed the Board of the status of the agreement, he received a signed copy from the County Executive staff and had sent the copy to the RL staff at DNR.

5. Legislative activities

a. OLO – TDR/BLT Discussion

Scheffel told the Board the OAG has received a draft copy of 3 of the 5 chapters of the report. The OAG will be remitting comments to OLO staff after review. The report continues to show TDRs and BLTs being deemphasized; however the importance of this report will be the recommendations, which the OAG has not received yet.

b. Bill 40-21 Septic Tank pump out, work session 10/24 T&E

The bill went before T&E committee and the committee asked many questions of DEP staff about the proposals in the bill. After the questions, the T&E committee asked DEP staff to gather more information pertaining to septic systems in the County and would schedule another work session.

c. RRFMP Update public hearing, 11/17

The OAG continues to monitor the RRFMP and along with the plan update the proposals from the RRAC on additional members to the committee and removing the income requirement for farmer members.

d. Bill 24-22 Streets and Roads

The proposals from the RRAC in this bill have been removed and will be taken up by the RRFMP update.

e. Bill 13-22 Building Decarbonization – farming exemption

Farming uses and farm alcohol production have been exempted from this bill as amendments proposed by the PHED committee. The OAG will monitor the bill as it goes before the full council.

6. Other business

a. FY23-28 Ag Preservation CIP Budget

The OAG is working with OMB on the capital budget and questions arose surrounding non-ag preservation costs remaining in the project. OAG's understanding was the Council supported adding \$500,000 to the FY23 CIP and migrating non-ag preservation expenditures to the operating budget beginning in FY24. OAG learned the migration of non-ag preservation expenditures was not supported by the CE. The OAG was instructed by OMB to submit an operating budget above our mark but to also prepare the CIP in a manner which still has the non-ag preservation expenditures. Neither budget is finalized, and the OAG will work with OMB on this process.

b. December meeting?

Scheffel suggested to the Board if there are no pending requests requiring action, the meeting in December could be cancelled as it is a busy month for everyone. The Board thought was reasonable, Scheffel said he would let the members know if any requests had been made and could cancel the meeting two weeks out from the scheduled date of December 13.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.