



Schuyler County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

Schuyler County Planning Department
105 Ninth Street, Unit 39
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
Tel: (607) 535-8211 Fax: (607) 535-8193

February 17, 2016
Human Services Complex
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Present: Elaine Dalrymple, Michael Lausell, Dan Teed, Walter Adam, Mike Bergen, John Murch, Rory Miller
Staff: Kristin VanHorn
Public: Barb Kelley
Excused: Brett Chedzoy, Ben Rawleigh
Absent: none

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Election of Officers for 2016: Motion to appoint the following as the officers of the AFPB for 2015

Chair: Dan Teed

Vice Chair: Rory Miller

Secretary: Kristin VanHorn

All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Acceptance of Minutes: Motion to approve the November 2015 meeting minutes as submitted made by Michael Lausell, and seconded by Elaine Dalrymple

All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Polly-O Cheese Factory Closing

- Have been cautioned to stay low key and let things play out for now. There are many teams working on this issue.
- D. Teed reported that he has spoken with Ed Gates and he thought that the milk ordering would be okay, although milk prices are down across the state and if farmers have to ship their milk further that would be an increased burden.
- R. Miller reported that the Mennonites are holding off on buying farms right now because there is not a guaranteed milk markets
- D. Teed said that in his discussion with SCOPED they do not want the AFPB or Farm Bureau to discourage dairy farming. There is a need to continue to have a demand for milk production to keep the plant open.

New Business

1. Annual Ag District Enrollment

- 33.00-1-68.1, 33.00-1-68.2, and 33.00-1-69 containing a total of 13.9 acres owned by Buckeye Loyal, LLC, in Ag District #1
 - Discussion was had surrounding the small .01 acre parcel
 - Motion to approve made by W. Adam, seconded by M. Bergen. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 33.00-1-71 containing 13.6 acres owned by Van Harp, in Ag District #1
 - Motion to approve made by W. Adam, seconded by M. Bergen. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 44.16-1-10.2 and 44.00-1-31.21 containing a total of 7.8 acres owned by Wallace Wasson, in Ag District #1
 - Motion to approve made by M. Lausell, seconded by J. Murch. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 44.19-1-71, 54.00-1-4.2, 54.07-1-23.1 and 54.07-1-24.1 containing a total of 34.0 acres owned by Laurence and Charlotte Jaynes, in Ag District #1
 - Motion to approve made by W. Adam, seconded by T. Bloodgood. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 57.07-1-15 containing 4.0 acres owned by Robert and Cathy Mangus, in Ag District #1
 - Motion to approve made by m. Bergen, seconded by M. Lausell. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 86.00-1-6, 86.00-1-7.2, and 86.00-1-7.12 containing a total of 18.3 acres owned by Danielle and Brian Tilden, in Ag District #2
 - Motion to approve made by M. Bergen, seconded by W. Adam. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 103.00-1-30 containing 41.8 acres owned by Brian Clark, in Ag District #2
 - Motion to approve made by W. Adam, seconded by T. Bloodgood. – *All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.*

2. Draft of Updated Town of Catharine Zoning Law

- K. VanHorn provided a brief update of the changes in the Zoning Law and discussed the Rural Agriculture Zone and the Manure Storage Facility Section
- Manure Storage Facility Article Concerns
 - Ag and Markets Law covers the majority of what is presented in this article and would ultimately the local law would be preempted by State Law.
 - There have been several existing precedents where other municipalities have tried to pass something similar and it has been found unreasonable by Ag and Markets – A good contact about this would be Bob Somers at Ag and Markets
 - There is potential for this regulation to be taken to the extreme and end up forcing a farmer with one or two animals to have to install an engineered storage facility.
 - The AFPB as a whole does not feel qualified to review plans for storage facilities
 - A motion was made to remove Article 5, Section 2 from the proposed Town of Catharine Zoning Law by W. Adam and seconded by R. Miller – *All in favor vote. M. Bergen abstained, Motion passed.*

Other:

1. Farm Bureau – Primarily working on lobbying days in Albany that will take place the week of Feb 22nd – main topics include, minimum wage and immigration reform.
2. CCE – No Update
3. Soil and Water
 - Governors Grant (\$900,000) – Have had a few applicants but there is still time to apply.
 - Best Management Practices Grant – Non-Ag Point Program, anyone interested should contact Soil and Water for more information and an application.

Motion to Adjourn made by W. Adam, seconded by M. Lausell at 8:05 pm

Next Meeting: **May 16, 2016** at 6:00 pm at the Human Services Building. This will be a workshop around land conservation facilitated by the Finger Lakes Land Trust.



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August 15, 2016
Human Services Complex
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Present: Michael Lausell, Dan Teed, Walter Adam, Mike Bergen, John Murch, Brett Chedzoy, Tom Bloodgood
Staff: Kristin VanHorn
Public: none
Excused: none
Absent: Elaine Dalrymple, Rory Miller, Ben Rawleigh

Meeting Called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Acceptance of Minutes: Motion to approve the February 2015 meeting minutes with addition of Tom Bloodgood to under present members made by Mike Bergen, and seconded by John Murch.
All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Polly-O Cheese Factory Closing
 - Most area farmers are not reporting any significant impacts yet.
2. Town of Catharine Zoning
 - The Town and consultants worked with Ag and Markets to make sure that all proposed regulations were in line with the recommendations of Ag and Markets. The Farm Bureau also reviewed the proposed zoning changes and found them to be very "farm friendly"
 - The committee discussed the pros and cons of minimum lot sizes between 2 and 10 acres. Overall it was determined that there is not a lot of development pressure in this area and the board did not have a strong opinion one way or another

New Business

1. Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program
 - Had a general discussion about whether the board wanted to again pursue candidates for the PDR program. It was determined that if the land trust was willing to assist with the majority of the paperwork it may be okay to look into again.

- The board requested that Kristin look into where PDR money had recently been distributed, and speak with the Finger Lakes Land Trust about what level of support they can provide and report back to the board at the next meeting.
2. Ag District #3 Renewal
 - This District is up for renewal in February 2017. Kristin will bring more information to the next meeting.
 3. Ag and Farmland Protection Plan
 - This plan needs to be updated. It was last updated in 2008 by a consultant with funding from the state
 - Requested that Kristin determine if Schuyler County is eligible for funding and what the process requires.

Other:

1. Farm Bureau – No Update
2. CCE – No Update
3. Soil and Water - No Update

Motion to Adjourn made by Mike Bergen, seconded by Walter Adam at 8:06 pm

Next Meeting: **November 21** at 7:00 pm at the Human Services Building.



Schuyler County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

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November 21, 2016
Human Services Complex
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Present: Dan Teed, John Murch, Brett Chedzoy, Tom Bloodgood, Elaine Dalrymple, Rory Miller,
Staff: Kristin VanHorn
Public: none
Excused: Walter Adam
Absent: Michael Lausell, Mike Bergen, Ben Rawleigh

Meeting Called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Acceptance of Minutes: Motion to approve the August 15, 2016 meeting minutes with addition of Tom Bloodgood to under present members made by Mike Bergen, and seconded by John Murch.
All in favor vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Town of Catharine Zoning
 - Discussed the updates to the Catharine Zoning law and the impacts of minimum lot size.
2. Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program
 - Reviewed the information provided by Elizabeth Newbold and the Finger Lakes Land Trust.
 - Dan suggested that there was money tentatively in the state budget for 2017
 - Tom asked about how the PDR program and its goals align with the goals of the county and the ag protection plan.
 - Elaine asked if FLLT would be able to be able to help with some of the out of pocket costs associated with the program.
 - Brett recommended that the board pursue this program in 2017
 - Try and hold an information session in early January and then get some dates from FLLT on when applications would need to be in.
 - Dan Teed made a motion to pursue the PDR program again, and seconded by Tom Bloodgood

3. Ag District #3 Renewal

- This District is up for renewal in February 2017.
- Kristin reported that all of the mailings had been sent out and that there has been a good response so far.
- Kristin asked the board to review the 2009 report and provide updates and comments
- Kristin will email everyone the enrollment/removal parcels to review so we can move forward with the review.

New Business

1. Drought Assistance Program

- Some concerns were expressed over the execution of the program
- It has been very difficult and it not making the actual benefits to farmers

Other:

1. Farm Bureau

- Push to get membership up in 2017
- Over the summer they hosted over 100 farmers from Iowa visiting the area.

2. CCE

- New Director, Phil Cherry begin in early December
- Brett now spends 1 day a week managing the Arnot Forest.

3. Soil and Water

- Working on Ag Environmental Grant.
- Elaine is going to look into the status of the governors \$30million grant

Motion to Adjourn made by Elaine Dalrymple seconded by John Murch at 8:23 pm

Next Meeting: **February 22, 2017** at 7:00 pm at the Human Services Building.