

**Henderson County  
Farmland Preservation Taskforce: May 30, 2024**

The Farmland Preservation Taskforce held a meeting on May 30, 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:**

Chris Todd, Business & Community Development Director  
 Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director  
 Liz Hanson, Planner I  
 Jonathan Wallin, Soil & Water Conservation District  
 April Hoyt, Soil & Water Conservation District  
 Dr. Terry Kelley, NC Cooperative Extension  
 Kieran Roe, Conserving Carolina  
 Tom Fanslow, Conserving Carolina  
 Jeffrey Darnell, NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Commissioner Rebecca McCall, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Adjustment and Approval of Agenda:**

Commissioner David Hill requested Agenda Item C and B switch order. Taskforce member Randy Newman moved to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

There was no public comment for this meeting.

**Adjustment and Approval of May 13, 2024, Meeting Minutes:**

Taskforce member Randy Newman moved to approve the May 13, 2024, Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

The Taskforce heard from several guest speakers during the meeting.

The Task force had previously requested Evan Davis from the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NC DACS), to attend as a guest speaker. Mr. Davis provided a presentation (virtually) on Agricultural Conservation Easements and the NC Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (ADFPTF). Mr. Davis provided a comprehensive overview of how Agricultural Conservation Easements function and the role of NC DACS and the NC ADFPTF in preserving agricultural land throughout the state of North Carolina. After Mr. Davis's presentation the Taskforce had the opportunity to ask questions and gain more information. Mr. Davis remained on the Microsoft Teams call for the duration of the meeting to be available for any more questions from the Taskforce.

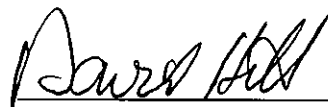
The Taskforce also previously requested representatives from Conserving Carolina to present on their expertise and experience in Conservation Easements. Tom Fanslow, Land Protection Director for Conserving Carolina, presented first, followed by Kieran Roe, Executive Director of Conserving Carolina. Mr. Fanslow provided an overview of Conserving Carolina as an entity, their service area, past conservation projects, and their role in Agricultural Conservation Easements. An example budget for an Agricultural Conservation project, led by Conserving Carolina, was also presented to the Taskforce. Taskforce members had an opportunity to pose questions to Mr. Fanslow and Mr. Roe after their presentations.

Commissioner Hill suggested continuing the remaining agenda items at a future meeting due to time constraints.

**Next Meeting:**

The taskforce will meet on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the King St Meeting Room at 100 N. King Street. The Taskforce requested Staff to arrange guest speakers from the Buncombe County Soil and Water Conservation District and the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, to present at the June 10, 2024, meeting.

Commissioner Hill motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM. Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hill", is written above a horizontal line.

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