



Buncombe County Agricultural Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda for February 20, 2024, at 11:00 am

49 Mount Carmel Rd, Asheville, NC 28806

Call to order	Steve Duckett, Chair
Public Comment	
Approval of February 20, 2024, meeting agenda	Board
Approval of January 16, 2024, meeting minutes	Board
Board Member Reports	Board
New Board Appointment Discussion	Board
Applications for VAD and EVAD	Avni Naik, BCSWCD
Farmland Preservation Report	Ariel Zijp, BCSWCD
VAD/EVAD Discussion	Ariel Zijp, BCSWCD
Announcements and Discussion	Board

Applicant	Township	Acres	Program	Determination	Appl. Date	Appl. No.
Phillip Worley	Leicester	88.5	VAD	Eligible - Renewal	11/22/2023	671-Worley
David Snelson	Leicester	109.22	EVAD	Eligible	12/4/2023	672-Snelson
The Light Center	Black Mountain	120	VAD	Eligible	12/8/2023	673-Light Center
Mark & Donna Diaz	Sandy Mush	46.79	EVAD	Eligible	12/11/2023	674-Diaz
Joseph Ramsey	Weaverville	40	EVAD	Eligible	2/12/2024	675-Ramsey
Tempas Rensus	Black Mountain	113.65	VAD	Eligible	11/27/2023	676-Tempus
Fairman & Kate Jayne	Sandy Mush	428.75	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/29/2024	677-Jayne
Richard Garrison, Haskell Garrison	Weaverville	96.1	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/30/2024	678-Garrison
Etta Louise Harwood	Weaverville	44.75	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/29/2024	679-Harwood
Joan Carter	Alexander	161.76	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/30/2024	680-Carter
Stephen Duckett	Sandy Mush	54.63	EVAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/29/2024	681-Duckett
Claudia Wheeler	Weaverville	50.25	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/30/2024	682-Wheeler
Lloyd Burleson	Weaverville	27.7	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/27/2024	683-Burleson
Morris, Steve & Cheryl	Weaverville	12.46	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/29/2024	684-Morris
RB Edwards Heirs	Swannanoa	64.39	EVAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/1/2024	685-Edwards
Robert Dennis Weaver	Weaverville	147.5	EVAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/31/2024	686-Weaver
Compton, Miles & Carolyn	Barnardsville	16.04	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/31/2024	687-Compton
Lang, Alan & Jonnie	Barnardsville	88.3	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/30/2024	688-Lang
Reece, Frank & Martha	Weaverville	22.42	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/30/2024	689-Reece
Ronnie Caldwell	Leicester	64.97	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/31/2024	691-Caldwell
Robert Ploeger	Fletcher	20.45	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/29/2024	692-Ploeger
David & Kim Everett	Sandy Mush	126.09	EVAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/2/2024	693-Everett
James & Maxine Owens	Leicester	65.36	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/31/2024	694-Owens
Waugh, Sharon & W.D. McDowall, Jr.	Leicester	62.6	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/31/2024	695-Waugh
Hawkins, Curtis & June	Leicester	47.72	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/5/2024	696-Curtis
Green, Steve	Leicester	13.67	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/6/2024	697-Green
Johnson, Paul D. & Mary Backlund	Barnardsville	91.81	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/5/2024	698-Backlund
Sevier, William	Weaverville	8	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/5/2024	699-Sevier
Geouge, Curtis	Weaverville	54	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/5/2024	700-Geouge
Merschhat, Carl	Barnardsville	118.03	EVAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/2/2024	701-Merschhat
Hamilton, Mazie	Weaverville	34.14	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/6/2024	702-Hamilton
Snelson, Bruce (Snelson Farm LLC)	Leicester	159.09	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/3/2024	703-Hamilton
Ballard, Charles & Diane	Weaverville	27.89	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/3/2024	704-Ballard

Kindley, Billie	Asheville	59.9	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/6/2024	705-Kindley
Mccain, James	Fairview	31.46	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/31/2024	706-McCain
Garner, Lisa	Leicester	26.04	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/13/2024	707-Garner
Garrison, Haskell & Martha	Weaverville	26.91	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/9/2024	708-Garrison
Rayburn, Michael & Lauren	Barnardsville	16.48	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/9/2024	709-Rayburn
Kilpatrick, John & Patricia	Candler	31.53	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	1/27/2024	710-Kilpatrick
Atkins, William; Poore, Kim	Barnardsville	64	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/12/2024	711-Atkins
Helen Kilby Greene	Candler	55.48	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/9/2024	712-Greene
Cremer, Claudine & Paul	Weaverville	40.58	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/11/2024	731-Cremer
Stockdale, Stanley & Connie	Fairview	22.25	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/10/2024	732-Stockdale
Hemphill, Mary Elizabeth	Weaverville	60.46	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/12/2024	733-Hemphill
Hipps, De Forrest	Fairview	69.5	VAD	Eligible-Renewal	2/12/2024	734-Hipps

478.16

	VAD Totals		EVAD Totals		AD/EVAD Combined Totals
Totals as of January 2024	Number of Farms	320	Number of Farms	21	341
	Total Acreage	22615.7	Total Acreage	2258.58	24874.26

New totals for February 2024 (if proposed applications are approved)	Number of Farms	321	Number of Farms	23	344
	Total Acreage	22700.1	Total Acreage	2454.59	25154.7



Buncombe County Ag Advisory Board Meeting

Farmland Preservation Program Report

February 20, 2024

Ariel Zijp & Avni Naik

- VAD GIS layer update and VAD renewals/removals
- Program process update – new materials & formats
- RFP for easement attorney open to replace Lynn after she retires
- Scheduling monitoring visits for this year!
- Ag Cost-Share training presentation
- NCDCA VAD record keeping presentation
- Mark Your Calendars
 - Friends of Ag Breakfast – March 26th on PUV at Leicester Community center!
 - Conservation Donor Dinner – June 13th at 6pm
- Easement Project Updates
 - Larson Easement – deed review & scheduling closing
 - Wesley Easement closed on Jan 22nd!
 - Ramsey Easement – final payment delivered!
 - SAHC Teague Property Easement – working to exclude the disputed area.
 - Sluder Easement– waiting for additional funding
 - Jasperwood Farm Easements – BDR & Deed drafts submitted for review
 - Splendor Valley LLC Easement –Ag South Credit is refinancing to do subordination
 - Clark Easement – waiting on subordination agreement resolution
 - Worthen & Krekel – survey finished and starting deed work
 - Soden – survey finished
 - Parham/Fortner Farm – Bond easement purchase request to commissioners on February 6
 - Rogers Farm Trust – survey and environmental assessment started
 - David Rogers – survey and environmental assessment started
 - Scott Fisher– survey and environmental assessment started



Welsey Easement Closing



Ramsey Easement Closing

Meeting Minutes
Buncombe County Agricultural Advisory Board - Buncombe Soil & Water Conservation District
49 Mount Carmel Rd, Asheville, NC 28787
January 16, 2024, at 11:00 am

Ag Advisory Board Members Present: Terri Wells, Suzy Rankin, Vice-Chair Chase Hubbard, Anne Grier, Mark Diaz.

Others Present: Ariel Zijp, Avni Naik, Johanna Cano (BC Staff).

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 am by Vice-Chair Chase Hubbard.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the January 16, 2024, Meeting Agenda

- **Terri Wells made a motion to approve the January 16, 2024, meeting agenda, seconded by Suzy Rankin, and the motion passed on the vote.**

Approval of the November 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes

- **Suzy Rankin made a motion to approve the November 21, 2023, meeting minutes, seconded by Terri Wells, and the motion passed on the vote.**

Board Member Reports: Ms. Wells will be attending the Ag Steering Committee in a few days and asked the Board if they had any ag-related statewide policies or needs that she could bring up or push for. The Board talked about the need for engineers for cost-share programs. Mr. Diaz informed that a meeting with the Board of Adjustment that was scheduled for Jan 10 in regards to a special use permit for an air strip in Sandy Mush has been pushed to February. The Board of Adjustment is quasi-judicial so he is hoping to craft arguments against why the air strip is not suitable for Sandy Mush from a legal standpoint (ex. power pole/lines). The community is mostly against it but there are no regulations against the air strip so unless there's a legal argument presented the air strip may be allowed. The FAA has provided recommendations for the air strip but no requirements.

Board Terms: The Board has two positions rotating off – David and Ed's positions – and Terri and Suzy may be reappointed if they choose. There is currently one application available for a board position. The Board can wait for more applications before making recommendations or can approve the application and wait until there are more. The Board decided to wait for more applications.

2024 Board Meeting Calendar Approval: Staff put together a list of proposed 2024 meeting dates for the third Tues of every month that they then post publicly on the website. The Board can agree to these dates and vote today. LCAB decides to not to meet in Dec because of the holidays so that was an option that the Board could consider.

- **Terri made a motion to approve the meeting calendar minus the December date, seconded by Anne Grier, and motion passed on the vote.**

VAD and EVAD Applications: Three new VAD applications and two VAD properties that will be moved from VAD into EVAD.

