

**BUNCOMBE COUNTY  
LAND CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
8:00 AM, MAY 15, 2024. ZOOM**

Members present:  Nancy Nehls Nelson –Chair Jacob Wiseman Robert Turner – Vice-Chair Joel Mazelis Stagg Newman Lang Hornthal Sarah Fraser Bob Gale  (quorum = 5/9)	Non-members present:  Ariel Zijp, BCSWCD Avni Naik – BCSWCD Jess Laggis - SAHC Hannah Coats – RiverLink Tom Fanslow Angelica Tyler – BC Staff
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There was a quorum, as there were at least 5 members present. The following discussion occurred between members present:

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am

- Chair Nancy Nehls Nelson called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

- Bob Gale made a motion to approve the May 15, 2024, agenda, seconded by Sarah Fraser, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

- Joel Mazelis made a motion to approve the April 17, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by Jacob Wiseman, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Warren Wilson College (WWC) Easement Proposal – Jess Laggis, SAHC

- +/-600 acres
- Broken into 4 bargain-sale agricultural conservation easements
- 69% important soils
- Scenic views, tailgate market, public hiking trails
- Over 4 miles of streams protected through stream mitigation easements/projects
- \$310,000 request in transaction costs. Ms. Laggis stated that this is a higher request than usual, but this is due to the project being a larger acreage and broken into 4 separate easements

#### Updates from Land Conservation Agencies:

- Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy  
Jess Laggis  
No new closings in the County since the last meeting but working with BC Staff to tie up projections and funding.
- Conserving Carolina  
Tom Fanslow  
Had a site visit with NC Land and Water Fund around The Light Center easement and they hope to hear back soon about that funding. Also working on two other potential projects that he hopes to bring to the LCAB in the future.
- RiverLink  
Hannah Coates  
Working on a park on Riverside Dr. – working with the TDA on funding.

#### Ag Advisory Board (AAB) Update - Ms. Zipp

- Hoping to take an Ag Advisory Board easement project request to the BOC for Bond funds on June 4. The WWC funding request will also be presented to the BOC on June 4 if it is approved by LCAB
- Staff will be reaching out to the Board about the special meeting on 5/22/24 to vote on the WWC request
- Preparation for The Conservation Dinner on 6/13/24 is underway

#### Passive Recreation Lands – Bob Turner

- The subcommittee has received scoring from staff around projects and they are prepping for presentations and site visits in the next few weeks.

#### Announcements and Discussions

No other announcements or discussions at this time.

With no other announcements or discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 am.