

**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008
8:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM (Environmental Health)**

The Agricultural Advisory Board held a public meeting Thursday, August 7, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. (Environmental Health Conference Room). Chairman Harvey Roberts called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Harvey Roberts, Sidney Garrett, Wade Morgan. Jerry Wright and Martin Jarvis were absent. Mike Doxey and Kim Ferrell (Currituck SWCD) were present.

February 2007 minutes – minutes were approved as read.

Chairman Roberts stated the purpose of this meeting is to make the board aware there are currently 2 applicants that are very interested in putting their farms into the farmland preservation program. The farms are Jeffrey Tice (165 acres/S. Lou Sawyer Rd) & Shaun/Amber/Michael Landry farm (78 acres/Hwy 158/Shortcut Rd). One other farm may be interested, the Duncan Farm (137 acres, which is near the Landry farm). Chairman Roberts will be meeting with the owners of the Duncan farm to discuss.

The county budget currently has \$500,000.00 set aside for farmland preservation. The owner can also donate a part of the property to help with funding issues. Chairman Roberts stated a farm was recently sold for development and the owner got about \$8,000.00 per acre. An appraisal is needed before any owners will commit to the program. The county would pay for an appraisal (approximately \$2,500.00) if applicant was approved by the advisory board.

NRCS Farmland Protection Program is a source the county can use to apply for matching funds; a 50/50 match is required. NRCS also requires a ranking form for each applicant. The more acres the farm has and whether an appraisal has been obtained would score more points on the ranking form.

Mr. Morgan added that in order for the program to work, for funding purposes, the owner needs to donate a portion of the land.

After much discussion, Sidney Garrett made a motion to have Mike Doxey rank the Landry Farm and the Tice Farm. Motion was seconded by Wade Morgan, motion passed unanimously. The following results for ranking: Tice Farm (1,705 points); Landry Farm (1,555 points). Motion was made by Wade Morgan to have the Tice Farm submitted into Farmland Preservation Program, based on ranking form results. Motion was seconded by Sidney Garrett. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Roberts figured funding for Tice farm as 165 acres x \$7,000/ac approximately = \$1,155,000.00.

The Board decided the next step is to have an appraisal completed on the Tice Farm.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Harvey Roberts

W. Harvey Roberts, Chairman

Kim D. Ferrell

Kim D. Ferrell, Recording Secretary

*This was a paid meeting.

