

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Building A Large Conference Room
101 Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
January 23, 2020
4:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Chris Taylor called the Agricultural and Forestal District (AFD) Advisory Committee meeting to order at 4 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Bruce Abbott
Chris Taylor, Chair
Thomas Hitchens
Loretta Garrett
Payten Harcum
Richard Bradshaw (late arrival)
Sue Sadler
Sandy Wanner

Absent:

William Harcum

Staff:

Thomas Wysong, Senior Planner
Katie Pelletier, Community Development Assistant

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the October 24, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Bruce Abbott motioned to Approve the minutes of the October 24, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Thomas Hitchens seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved 7-0. Mr. Richard Bradshaw was not present for the vote.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. AFD Advisory Committee Proposed 2020/2021 Calendar

Mr. Abbott motioned to Approve the AFD Advisory Committee Proposed 2020/2021 Calendar.

Mr. Sandy Wanner seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved 7-0. Mr. Bradshaw was not present for the vote.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

Mr. Bradshaw arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Payten Harcum motioned to Re-elect Mr. Taylor as the Committee Chairman and Mr. Abbott as the Vice Chairman.

Mr. Hitchens seconded the motion, and the motion was approved 8-0 after a unanimous voice vote.

2. Case No. AFD-19-0003. Barnes Swamp AFD Addition, 811 and 917 Stewarts Road

Mr. Thomas Wysong addressed the Committee and stated that the applicant, Mr. Stephen Bowmer, has applied to enroll 44.74 acres of land located at 811 and 917 Stewarts Road into the Barnes Swamp AFD.

Mr. Wysong stated the subject parcels are currently undeveloped, forested, and located within one mile of the core of the Barnes Swamp District. He said the parcels are zoned A-1, General Agricultural and designated for Rural Lands within the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Wysong said the applicant received a reforestation plan from the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) in September 2019. The applicant began harvesting in that same month under the monitoring of the VDOF and completed the harvest in October 2019.

Mr. Wysong told the Committee that staff finds the proposal compatible with surrounding development and the Barnes Swamp District core and consistent with the goals and recommendations within the Comprehensive Plan. He said that staff does not anticipate any impacts that would need to be mitigated as a result of the addition. Mr. Wysong said staff therefore recommends that the Committee recommend approval of the application to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Wysong said both he and the applicant were available to answer any questions.

Mr. Hitchens asked how many acres are the two combined parcels.

Mr. Wysong replied there are 44.74 acres of land total.

Mr. Hitchens asked if the land had ever been in an AFD.

Mr. Wysong replied no.

Ms. Loretta Garrett asked how many acres were currently in the Barnes Swamp AFD.

Mr. Wysong stated that if the current application is approved, there would be 1,698.48 acres in the District.

Mr. Bradshaw replied there are currently 1,653.74 acres in the District.

Mr. Taylor asked the applicant about any structures located on the parcels.

Mr. Bowmer stated a previous structure had burned down.

Mr. Taylor asked if there were any further comments or questions.

Mr. Abbott motioned to Approve Case No. AFD-19-0003, Barnes Swamp AFD Addition, 811 and 917 Stewarts Road.

Mr. Hitchens seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote of 8-0.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hitchens motioned to Adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Bradshaw seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. after a unanimous 8-0 voice vote.

Chris Taylor, Chair

Ellen Cook, Principal Planner