

MINUTES

The Kent County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board met on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at the Commissioner's Hearing Room, 400 High Street and virtually online through video conference. The following members were in attendance: David Hill, Chairman, Davidson Coleman, Tyler Gale and Ernest "Tot" Strong. Also, in attendance were Carla Gerber, GIS Specialist; Rob Tracey, Community Planner; William Mackey, Director; and Brian Jones, Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes of the August 24, 2020 meeting were approved as written and distributed.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Proposed changes to the Easement Prioritization Formula & Ag Preservation District Criteria.

Mr. Tracey and Ms. Gerber gave an overview of the proposed changes. The board discussed the proposed changes.

Mr. Coleman made a motion that newly established districts cannot apply to sell an easement immediately following district establishment. Mr. Strong seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Strong made a motion to approve the following proposed change:

Rank applications based on the date that the District Agreement (DA) was signed by the landowner, and then assign points in reverse order for the EPF rankings and the DA rankings (#1 rank gets most points). The final rankings would be based on the combined point totals.

Mr. Coleman seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

After further discussion, Mr. Gale made a motion to use the following formula:

Soil Capability is 20%, Farm Quality and Potential is 40%, and Priority Preservation Area is 40%.

Mr. Strong seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Board agreed to send a recommendation to the County Commissioners with proposed changes.

Discussion of Proposed Regulations regarding Corrective Easement Regulation and Overlay Easement Regulation (COMAR Title 15, Subsection 15, Chapters 11 & 16)

Mr. Tracey and Ms. Gerber gave a brief overview of the proposed regulations.

The Board was in support of the proposed regulations with Mr. Strong abstaining.

ADJOURN

There being no further business for the good of the organization, Mr. Strong made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Coleman seconded, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Rob W. Tracey

Brian Jones