



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

DIVISION OF PLANNING & PERMITTING
Department of Development Review & Planning

Jan H. Gardner
County Executive

Steven C. Horn, Division Director
Michael L. Wilkins, Director

Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Minutes of Monday, December 23rd, 2019
Approved 11/23/2020

Members Present: Samuel Tressler, III, Chair; Dick Bittner, Vice Chair; Paul Spurrier, Andrew Toms, Eric Troxell

Staff Present: Anne Bradley, Program Administrator; Shannon O'Neil, Planner I

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tressler at 7:00 p.m.

I. MALPF

A. Crum (#10-17-07) Sight Distance Easement Request

Staff presented a request for a 0.08775 acre sight distance easement on either side of the driveway on the Crum MALPF easement. The Crum's neighbor requested the easement as part of their approval by the County Board of Appeals for a kennel operation. The Board discussed the small size of the overlay easement and agreed it should have minimal impact on the farming operation.

Mr. Toms made a motion to approve the request for a 0.08775-acre sight distance easement over the Crum MALPF easement. Mr. Spurrier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vote: Yea 5 Nay 0

B. MALPF Matching Funds

Staff reviewed a request for approval to commit to a full match for the FY2020 MALPF funding. The County can match MALPF funding with \$1.33 million of County funding to make offers to the FY20 applicants.

Vice Chair Bittner made a motion to approve the recommendation to provide a full \$1.33 million match for the FY2020 MALPF program. Mr. Spurrier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vote: Yea 5 Nay 0

II. Program Status Reports

A. MARBIDCO Next Generation

Staff reported that the Next Gen program will be accepting applications on a monthly basis for the time being. Three Next Gen applications are currently pending from the July application cycle.

B. Rural Legacy

Staff let the Board know that the FY20 grant will be announced at 1/8/2020 Board of Public Works meeting.

C. CREP

Staff reported that CREP contracts have not yet opened up to new enrollments.

D. Ag Reconciliation Committee

Staff reported that a Right to Farm complaint has been filed. Complaints to the Right to Farm Ordinance are heard by the Ag Reconciliation Committee. This committee only meets as needed. One member of the Ag Board is needed to represent the Board on this Committee.

E. County Executive Initiative

Staff reported that the County Executive will be proposing an increase to the ag preservation funding. She will be announcing this proposal within the next few months.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to go into closed session. Vice Chair Bittner seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vote: Yea 5 Nay 0

III. Closed Session

A. Critical Farms Offers Recommendation

Chair Tressler adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.