

Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board
Carroll County, Maryland
Official Minutes
July 10, 2024

The Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board met on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 10:58 a.m. The following board members were present: Tom Irwin, Chair, Mark Savage, Vice Chair, Alice Altstatt, Greg Dell, Phil Snader, and Stan Pennington, Alternate. Others in attendance were J. P. Smith, Jr., Program Manager, Jackie Brathuhn, Preservation Specialist, and Donna L. Black, Office Technician, of the Agricultural Land Preservation Office. Also in attendance was Bradford I. Webb, Attorney, Charles J. Miller Jr., Michele Ostrander, Attorney, and Jonathan Bowman, Forest Conservation/Landscape Specialist.

Notice of this meeting was posted electronically on the County's website.

Call to Order: Tom Irwin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:58 a.m.

Approval of Minutes - meeting minutes of June 12, 2024: Alice Altstatt made the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mark Savage motion carried unanimously.

Request for an agricultural forest bank overlay easement, Miller Stambaugh LLC., 309 Jasontown Road, Westminster, County Easement: J.P. introduced Bradford Webb, Attorney and Charles J. Miller Jr. to the Board. He explained we are here to revisit the request for an agriculture forest bank overlay easement to the board which was tabled last meeting. He showed the location of the overlay easement area on the property and gave Mr. Webb and Charles J. Miller Jr. time to speak. J.P. reiterated that he did not recommend this request for approval as it is inconsistent with the Deed of Easement. He then introduced Jonathan Bowman and Jonathan spoke and reviewed the request that he received. J.P. introduced Michele Ostrander, Attorney, and representative for the County. Mr. Webb spoke about the Deed of Easement. Tom Irwin asked a few questions, Phil Snader and Alice Altstatt make comments. Phil Snader made a motion to deny the request as it is presented. The motion was seconded by Alice Altstatt, motion carried.

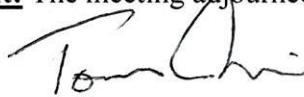
Request for a forest conservation easement overlay location, Glenn Wilhide property, 6180 Keysville Road, Keymar, MALPF easement: J.P. explained the request to the Board and the location of the forest conservation easement overlay location. J.P. recommended this request for approval. Phil Snader made a motion to accept this request as it is presented. The motion was seconded by Greg Dell, motion carried. Alice Alstatt abstained from voting.

Request to subdivide a pre-existing dwelling, Donna Caple property, 1801 Ridge Road, Westminster, MALPF: J.P. explained the request to the Board. He showed the board the relocation of a pre-existing dwelling and explained this request had been previously approved in a different location. The previously approved location did not pass multiple perc tests. BPR provided a letter verifying the failed perc tests. J.P. did not recommend this for approval as it would remove the only dwelling on the farm creating an unbuildable parcel. Phil Sander made a motion to deny the request as it is presented. The motion was seconded by Tom Irwin, motion carried.

Announcements: Jackie informed the board the FY25 MALPF applications haven't been mailed and received by the State. Also, all yearly inspections are completed and mailed and received by the State. J.P. informed the Board that Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP) is proposing an electrical grid enhancement plan authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and PJM, the regional electric grid operator across 13 states including Maryland. PSEG is proposing installing electric transmission line throughout Carroll County and across many Agriculture Preservation Easements. The Board of County Commissioners continues to learn about this project and recommends constituents attend one of the information sessions for a more in-depth conversation with PSEG, the administrators of the project.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Irwin", is written above a horizontal line.

Tom Irwin, Chair