

Jefferson County Farmland
Protection Board
Minutes
July 2, 2001

Present: Shannon Donley, Jack Quinn, Janet Stine and Joe Osterman

Not Present: Jane Tabb, Roger Dailey and Jane Peters

Others: Craig Yohn

Treasurer's Report: \$1,000 Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle
 \$1,000 Eastern Panhandle Soil Conservation District
 \$2,500 County Commission Account
 \$4,500

Committee Reports:

Non-profit Status: Several details are still under scrutiny by Mr. Layva.

The subcommittee for the development of an evaluation system did not meet and has not worked on the definitions for the different criteria used. Dr. Patrick Drohan has scanned the maps and is now looking for guidance on how the maps may best be used by the Board. It was asked that Dr. Drohan be asked to come to the next meeting.

The Legislative Digest money has been appropriated. Senator John Unger was instrumental in obtaining that money. It was suggested that a letter of Thanks be to Senator Unger. It was also determined that a letterhead needs to be developed. Craig Yohn will develop the letterhead for approval. Craig Yohn also suggested that some postage be purchased and kept with the secretary.

Publicity:

The letter to landowners was reviewed and approved with only a minor change to state that meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month rather than the first and third Mondays. The website domain has been secured for the Protection Board. That domain is wvfarmlandprotection.net. A brochure will be printed on cream-colored 60-pound paper with green type. This tri-fold publication will be printed at Eastern Panhandle Print and Copy for \$183.90. A discussion followed about trying to participate as part of the program for the Farm Bureau\Chamber of Commerce Picnic which is to be held on Wednesday, August 1 at the USDA Appalachian Fruit Center. A motion was made by Jack Quinn, seconded by Joe Osterman to ask the Farm Bureau for time on the program. Motion passed unanimously. Craig Yohn is to work with Shannon Donley on a PowerPoint presentation for the meeting on the law, the makeup of the board and the progress of the board.

Craig Yohn reported on meetings with the Shepherdstown Men's Club on the affect and influence of wildlife on land use planning and a visit to the Pocahontas County Commission about the law related to the Farmland Protection Board and what Jefferson County is doing.

Rennie Smith of the Jefferson County Planning Commission attended the meeting and reported on the first meeting with the consultant hired to revise the comprehensive plan. Problems with the present

plan according to the consultant include the fact that it is not a plan at all, there are issues related to the laws of the state that limit what can be accomplished and there are issues that were not addressed previously such as wildlife and or nature issues. One of the concerns may be the lack of importance of the agricultural industry in the initial document from the consultant. There is a meeting scheduled with the consultant on July 18th beginning at 7:00 pm. Ms. Smith suggested that members get a copy of the initial review and plan to attend and comment at the meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.