

Minutes
Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board
January 7, 2002

Attending: Jack Quinn, Janet Stine, Roger Dailey and Joe Osterman and Jane Tabb.

Others attending: Greg Corlis, Rusty Morgan and Craig Yohn.

A motion was made by Roger Dailey, seconded by Janet Stine to approve the minutes as sent via email. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report was given by Roger Dailey which showed a balance of \$3,726.61. A discussion was raised about the Digest money. At this point in time no monies have been received by the county commission from the Legislative Digest. It was also pointed out that this was the time of year to make budget proposals to the County Commission for the fiscal year starting July 1st. Roger Dailey was to pursue this with County Administrator, Leslie Smith.

Committee Reports

Farmland Protection Plan:

Joe Osterman made several suggestions to the draft plan. Craig Yohn is to make these revisions and add the Land Evaluation Criteria to the end of the plan and send via email as soon as possible. This may allow revisions to be further made with the intent of approving the plan at the next meeting.

Fund Raising:

A discussion centered on legislative initiatives related to an increase in the real estate transfer tax. A proposal has been developed by the Jefferson County Commission and Clint Hogdon to raise the transfer tax by 33% and split the increase with the state. There was also discussion about making a visit to Senator Byrd's Office as part a delegation from the Tri-County to discuss the progress the Farmland Protection Boards have made.

A presentation was made by Greg Corlis and Rusty Morgan about the development in the rural farm acres of Jefferson County and how this will affect the ability of farmers to farm. They stressed the importance of helping to get legislation passed that would allow the use transferable development rights in Jefferson County. The board informed the gentlemen that this was brought up to the legislative delegation in early December and Craig Yohn provided information to John Doyle on the existing laws in other states related to TDR's.

Old Business

Letter to Assessor on data files has not yet been sent. It will be printed and given to Jack Quinn and then taken to Shannon Donley to sign and mail.

Roger Dailey reported that the cost of developing a web page would be between \$750 and \$1000. It was suggested that this be put on hold until there is more information developed by the three Farmland Protection Boards.

There was a discussion about the resource manual that was sent out by Craig Yohn and other non-finalized documents being released to the general public. The board raised concerns related to the release of such documents and the fact that they may be taken as others as policy when these documents and policies may still be under consideration and revision. It was agreed that more care and approval should be taken not to release such documents from the confines of the Board and its subcommittees.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Yohn
Acting Secretary