

**MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 24, 2023**

This meeting was held via internet and telephone conference call.

Trustees Participating:

William Allen, Chair
Cricket Goodall, Vice Chair
Steve Connelly, representing Acting Secretary Kevin Atticks, Maryland Department of Agriculture
Alex Butler, representing Comptroller Brooke Lierman
Joanna Kille, representing Treasurer Dereck E. Davis
Deborah Herr Cornwell, representing Secretary Rebecca Flora, Maryland Department of Planning
Gilbert "Buddy" Bowling
Elizabeth Hill
Joseph Wood

Trustees Absent:

Catherine Cosgrove
Gary Dell
J. Bruce Yerkes

Others Participating:

Michelle Cable, MALPF Executive Director
Chana Turner, MALPF Administrator
Sarel Cousins, MALPF Administrator
Kim Hoxter, MALPF Monitoring, Enforcement and Database Coordinator
Patrick Martyn, Assistant Attorney General, Department of General Services
Renee Dyson, Assistant Attorney General, Department of General Services
Mike Steadman, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Maryland Department of Agriculture
Cherelle Miles, MALPF fiscal temp
Megan Benjamin, Baltimore County Program Administrator
Will Goldman, Cecil County Program Administrator
Kathleen Seay, Charles County staff
Bill Gorski, Anne Arundel County staff
Donna Landis-Smith, Queen Anne's County Program Administrator
Jennifer David, Calvert County Program Administrator
Summer Roen, Calvert County staff
Mike Scheffel, Montgomery County Program Administrator
Fatimah Hasan, Prince George's County Soil Conservation District staff
Ben Zito, Wicomico County Program Administrator
Jennifer Wilson, Harford County staff
Shannon O'Neil, Frederick County staff
Beth Ahalt, Frederick County staff
Lee Vosters, Cecil County landowner
Thomas Foley, Cecil County landowner
Will Lefort, Department of General Services Appraiser
Julie Enger, Department of General Services Appraiser
Joe Caterino, RES

Mr. Allen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. via internet and telephone conference call. Ms. Cable stated the names of the participants on the conference call, for the record, and asked anyone that was not named to identify themselves.

MALPF Board Open Meeting Minutes January 24, 2023

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Open Minutes from November 22, 2022.

Motion #1: To approve minutes from November 22, 2022.

Motion: Bowling Second: Kille
Status: Approved

II. ADDITION / DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS

N/A

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Cable informed the Board that the Legislature is in session, reminding Board members that if they decide to contact any members or provide any testimony, it is as a private citizen and not an official position as a MALPF Board member. Ms. Cable informed the Board that Governor Moore included almost \$95 million for MALPF in the FY23 Capital Budget. Ms. Cable also informed the Board that Kevin Atticks, the newly appointed Secretary of Agriculture, planned to join the meeting at some point to introduce himself and say a few words.

Ms. Cable asked the county staff that were on the call whether anyone had any announcements to make; there were none.

Ms. Cable shared that Chana Turner has been promoted to the Lead Administrator position, which had been vacant since Diane Chasse's departure from MALPF.

Ms. Cable reminded the Board that all the non-state employees are required to complete the annual ethics disclosure form by April, and to let her know if any assistance is needed.

Ms. Cable asked all participants to keep themselves muted, and when unmuted, to clearly state their names before asking a question, or making a motion, etc. She reminded the Board members that when motions were made, Board members only needed to state their names if they were voting in opposition to the motion, rather than saying "aye" to vote in favor of a motion.

IV. EASEMENT AMENDMENTS

- A. ST. MARY'S COUNTY
1. 18-94-02Ae SUB#2 Philip H. Dorsey III Revocable Trust ~42.94 acres
Donna J. Dorsey Trust

Request – St. Mary's County:

Request for reimbursement, for the payback amount previously paid to the Foundation for the Robert Dorsey child lot.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval per the criteria specified in Article – Agriculture Section 2-505(c)(5).

Ms. Cousins introduced the item.

Motion #2: To approve the reimbursement request, as presented.

Motion: Bowling Second: Wood
Status: Approved

MALPF Board Open Meeting Minutes January 24, 2023

A. pursuant and subject to compliance with MALPF's Water Resource Easement Overlays Policy as approved April 28, 2020; and

B. if approved, subject to the landowner signing and returning a copy of the approval letter within 30 days of the date of the approval letter, acknowledging and agreeing to the terms and conditions stated therein.

Ms. Turner introduced the item. Ms. O'Neil, Ms. Ahalt, and Mr. Caterino were available to address the Board. Ms. Turner informed the Board that the staff memo incorrectly stated that the overlay easement would affect ~47.68 acres, comprising about 18.5% of the property. Ms. Turner clarified that project would affect ~39 acres, comprising about 15% of the farm.

Motion #5: To approve the Stream Restoration and Wetland Restoration Overlay Easement request, totaling ~47.68 acres, incorporating staff recommendations, as presented.

Motion: Wood Second: Kille
Status: Approved

V. NEW AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION EASEMENT PETITIONS:

N/A

VI. PROGRAM POLICY

A. Montgomery County Recertification

Recommendation:

Montgomery County's land preservation program complies with the requirements under COMAR 34.03.03; therefore, MDP and MALPF staff recommend, and MDP has approved, recertification for Fiscal Years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2028).

Ms. Cousins presented the item. Ms. Herr-Cornwell provided the Department of Planning's agreement and recommended approval. Mr. Scheffel, Montgomery County Program Administrator, was available to address the Board.

Motion #6: To approve Re-Certification Request from Montgomery County land preservation program under COMAR 34.03.03.

Motion: Goodall Second: Wood
Status: Approved

B. Matching Funds Participation Request – FY23

Ms. Cable introduced the request of matching funds.

Motion #7: To approve the matching funds request.

Motion: Herr-Cornwell Second: Hill
Status: Approved

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. FY 2023 Quarterly Inspection Report

Ms. Hoxter provided the Board with the quarterly inspection report.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Allen asked for a motion for adjournment of the meeting to move into a closed session, pursuant to the applicable provisions of General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b): (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

