

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
MARCH 19, 2024**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on March 19, 2024, at 6:25 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room A201, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present:	Mark A. Letson, Chairman	Darlene Fox, Interim County Manager
	Todd Bryson, Vice Chair	Megan N. Silver, Interim County Attorney Rep. (Via Zoom)
	Mark Jones, Commissioner	Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to the Board
	Tom Stribling, Commissioner	
Absent:	John W. Smith, Commissioner	

Chairman Letson called the public hearing to order and stated the purpose of the public hearing was to receive public input on the proposed amendments to the Agricultural District Ordinance.

Michael Poston, Planning Director, stated the Planning Department was assisting the Soil and Water Conservation Staff with amendments to the Agricultural District Ordinance to reflect recent changes in the North Carolina General Statutes.

He presented the proposed amendments to the Agricultural District Ordinance:

(a) Article 3. Purpose. 3.1(c) *Decrease the likelihood of legal disputes, such a nuisance actions between farm owners and their neighbors. Increase protection from nuisance suits as a result of the requirement for notice of the presence of working farms in county land records; and*

(b) Article 7. Certification and Qualification of Farmland. 7.1(a) It must [be] actively engaged in *bona fide farm purposes agriculture* as the word is defined in G.S. 106-743.4(a) and G.S. 160D-903106-581.1 and...

(c) Article 7. Certification and Qualification of Farmland. 7.1(c) ...county land use regulations. *This agreement must be approved by the Agricultural Advisory Board.*

(d) Article 14. Land Use Review. 14.1 ...of the proposed development *as measured from the property line of any enrolled tract.*

The Agricultural Advisory Board reviewed the proposed amendments and recommended the Board of Commissioners consider adoption of the amendments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

There being no public comment, Commissioner Jones moved to adjourn the public hearing. Commissioner Stribling seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk

Mark A. Letson, Chairman