

Edgefield County Advisory Council Meeting
January 22, 2008
6:00 PM, Edgefield Ext. Office

Invocation was given by Wallace Wood at 6:05 PM. After the group enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Greg Henderson the meeting was called to order by Mr. Wood, Lead Agent, with 17 people in attendance.

Mr. Wood introduced himself, welcomed the group and gave out the following handouts, noted the agenda and proceeded with the agenda outline:

Agenda Format

Minutes of the last meeting – (June 26, 2007)

Advisory Council Membership & Terms of Office

Clemson's Public Service Commitment 2008 (fact sheet)

PSA Advocates Update – Governor's Budget

Extension Office Budget Request from County Council, FY 07-08

Review of Minutes: Ernie Church, CD Extension Agent, presented the minutes to the group. The minutes were approved and second with a motion.

Advisory Council Membership & Terms of Office: Mr. Wood mentioned that the Edgefield Ext. staff was in the process of revamping/updating the advisory committee in Edgefield this year and he was pleased with the members of the committee accepting the responsibility to serve. Since this is a newly form committee, a chairman and vice chairman was nominated and elected.

Connie Boggs, Chairperson

Edgar Lamb, Vice Chairperson

Committee Reports:

Community Development – Ernie Church.

The CD committee met on November 19, 2007. General discussion on county activities and economic development and he also mentioned a topic of interests from Fred Humes concerning economic development within the county during an election year.

Livestock, Peach & General Agriculture – Greg Henderson

Livestock Committee met on October 16, 2007, this committee meets twice per year with the following program priorities:

Beef Program – quarterly meeting with programs planned to target producers. The Extension staff will coordinate some jointly meeting with, the Cattlemen's Association, Young Farmers Association, Southern States, Inc., Country Boy Farms and others.

Equine Program – will be targeting more educational programs to equine producers, etc. At this time is scheduling a meeting with specialists from CU for a meeting in the spring of 2008 with equine producers and other interested clientele.

Meat & Dairy Goat Production – would like to see a 4-Livestock group started in the county with assistance from staff (Pohlman & Campbell). He sees a need to get youth involved or interested in livestock.

Wood asked a question concerning the meat/goat interests within the county. Connie Boggs stated that she has goats (pet) and several other committee members mentioned something briefly on goats, etc.

4-H Kid Day – held at Joe Alvin Derrick's Farm in October 2007 with participation from county school (5th grader). He also mentioned Farm City and would like to see the Farm City Committee reinstated within the county and asked the committee to think about taking on that task. Connie Boggs mentioned that she is an equine/goat enthusiast and expressed some interests in attending or assisting with the activities. Several members within the group show some interests toward Agricultural Tourist.

Peach – Advisory committee in place, Chris Yonce is chairperson. The producers are represented by the Peach Council. This council works closely with specialists from Clemson UGA, and NCSU and local county extension agent. Most producers within the county and on the ridge attend statewide meetings (ex. Southeastern Peach Producers Meeting and the Georgia Peach Meeting. These are excellent meetings were they received updated information on peach studies, research, etc. Growers meetings on local level are build on specific issues of current concern rather than general update(s) as guided by advisory committee.

Peach Update Meeting - Feb. 27, 2008 – to address disease and cultural aspects of management, in year following crop failure.

Forestry and Natural Resources – Stephen Pohlman

Stephen reported that he was very pleased with the progress of the forestry and natural resources and the 4-H program in Edgefield. Gain new members within the forestry landowner association and is working on the association officers/election for next year.

Forestry – quarterly meetings with the following suggested topics:

ArborGen

Field Trip/Quail Management & Conservation Easement at Brad Thompson's Place

Carbon Trading

Wood for BioFuels –Dec. 08

Master Wildlife Series – February 19-March 11

Foodplot Tour Meeting. Stephen reported that the foodplot research is in its final stage and this is the 3rd year in the trials and he is hoping that they get the data needed but due to extreme drought conditions it's looking doubtful.

4-H

Last year at this time 4-H was a big discussion in the county with trying to start new programs, etc. At this time there are several county and action clubs within the county with monthly 4-H meetings. Looking for guest speaker if anyone would like to present a program the 4-H group in Edgefield please feel free to call him.

County 4-H Clubs/Activities

Edgefield 4-H Club – monthly every 3rd Tuesday

Shotgun Club – monthly every 2nd Sunday at Dennis Miller's Farm

Shooting Sports Week – yearly (summer month) - TBA

4H₂O Week – yearly - TBA

Wildlife Camp at Webb Center – at this time he is trying to find fund to offset price for 4-Hers who is interested in attending. The cost of the camp per participant is \$300.

4-H Monthly Program Topics: (subject to change due to speaker)

Bird Feeders, Blue Bird House (building, etc.), Wild Turkeys, Trapping, Chickens, Logging Job and Environmental Programs.

FACE Foodplots – 2007 State winner. Julia Miller, 4-Her from Edgefield County was the State winner. She received \$100 cash, a trophy and \$500 scholarship to the college of her choice.

Mr. Jeff Hughes - Youth Agriculture Camp in Laurens, SC. He stated that his children participated in this camp and how they learn job skills, responsibilities and performed daily duties, while attending the summer camp.

Ms. Willa Lanham asked about the 4-H meetings, time and ages limited. Stephen stated the ages of the 4-H attending at this time are 5-19. In the future, if at all possible and base on the participation in the county he would like to be able to divide by ages, etc, (see clubs/activities for time).

County and State Budget Report

Mr. Wood gave a brief report on county and state budget and thanks the County Administrator, John Pettigrew, for the support the Edgefield Extension Office received from county council. Clemson is working hard to rebuild the youth program in the state and is working through partnership with the counties government to hire some 4-H agents. He mentioned PSA Advocates Update and asked if anyone was interested in becoming an advocate for Edgefield County, if so please let him know. (See handout for more information on state/local budgets).

Other Business

Bill Cheatham asked for help with a Crawfish Pond. Mr. Wood will get back in touch with him with information and a contact person.

Bill Moody reported that he was please with the progress of the forest landowner association and thanks Stephen Pohlman for his efforts.

Next Meeting Date

The committee chairman and the extension staff will decide on date for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourns at 8:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Connie Boggs	WF
Bill Cheatham	WM
Joe Alvin Derrick	WM
Jeff Hughes	WM
Edgar Lamb	WM
Willa Lanham	BF
David Miller	WM
Dennis Miller	WM
Bill Moody	WM
John Pettigrew	WM
Chris Yonce	WM

CU Extension Staff – Edgefield County

Kevin Campbell
Ernie Church
Greg Henderson
Mary K. Hammonds
Stephen Pohlman
Wallace Wood

Submitted by,

Mary K. Hammonds
Adm. Assistant – Edgefield Ext. Office