

County of Amherst

Public Information Officer

AMHERST COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 153 WASHINGTON STREET P. O. Box 390 AMHERST, VIRGINIA 24521 TELEPHONE (434) 946-9400 FACSIMILE (434) 946-9370

For Immediate Release

December 7, 2018

Newly Appointed Agriculture Committee

AMHERST, VA – Amherst County's newly appointed Agriculture Committee met for the first time on December 4th, 2018. The Agriculture Committee exists to assist the Board of Supervisors by providing information, advice, recommendations and reports in the areas of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry or other plant and animal based production industries found within the County. The committee consists of nine Amherst County residents, with five of them being appointed by the Board of Supervisors and four being at-large appointees. The committee members



are as followed: Scott Barnes, Jeffrey Floyd, Derek Mays, Ed Sale, Ben Walton, Chris Bryant, Tyler Parr, Jay Phaup, and Dennis Vrooman.

Jeffrey Floyd was elected chair of the Agriculture Committee. In addition, two different sub-committees were formed to help initiate plans of action, the Amherst County Fair and Farmer's Market. Ed Sale was appointed chair of the Fair's sub-committee. At its first meeting, the Agriculture committee received briefings from local leaders that will help assist them during their tenure. Dean Rodgers, County

Administrator, educated the committee about its organization structure and its authority act. Vanessa Angus, Director of Tourism briefed on the County fair and its needs for the coming year. Second Stage's operation manager, Penny Hawes, detailed the status of the County's current Farmers Market and Lori Saunders, assistant director of the EDA, briefed on Agriculture Tourism resources that are available. The Agriculture Committee's next meeting will be January 8th, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

Additional information may be obtained from Tyler Creasy at <u>stcreasy@countyofamherst.com</u> or (434) 946-9400.