

**PERTAINING TO THE CREATION OF THE LAND PRESERVATION  
ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland (hereinafter, the "Board of County Commissioners") has, upon its own initiative and with the advice and recommendation of numerous boards, commissions, committees, and bureaus, undertaken many programs to support agriculture and the preservation of land;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners established the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board pursuant to Md. Ann. Code, Agriculture Art., §2-504.1 principally to advise on the purchases of easements and promote preservation of agriculture within the County;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners' efforts have resulted in the preservation of over 30,000 acres of land within the County;

**WHEREAS**, the economic, environmental, and public health benefits that open space and agricultural preservation has provided Calvert County has been and continues to be substantial;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners desire to continue to take reasonable steps to ensure that the controllable impacts upon the quality of life for County residents are positive; and

**WHEREAS**, to that end, the Board of County Commissioners desire to augment the work of the Calvert County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board and others, and expound upon the subject matter where advice can be provided the Board of County Commissioners on preservation of land and quality of life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners that there shall be a Land Preservation Advisory Task Force with the following:

**1. Authority.**

- A. The Board of County Commissioners hereby establishes Land Preservation Advisory Task Force and vests authority within that group to:
  1. Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners on business and programs, policies and initiatives affecting the preservation of land, rural character, and quality of life;
  2. Actively pursue input from the agricultural community to promote retention and expansion of existing agricultural businesses and agricultural tourism, and assist the County in an overall balance of agricultural preservation and sustainable, controlled growth within the County;
  3. Actively work to achieve the goals of sound and sustainable agricultural development while recognizing the need to respect the natural resources, beauty, and environment of Calvert County;
- B. The Commission shall have no authority to supervise or direct County staff other than its liaison, the Rural Planner III within the Department of Planning & Zoning.
- C. The Commission shall have no authority to hire its own employees or independent contractors.

**2. Duration.** The task force shall sunset June 30, 2021, unless further extended by the Board of County Commissioners.

**3. Membership.**

- A. The Land Preservation Advisory Task Force shall consist of five (5) voting members and four (4) alternates for a total of nine (9) members as follows:
1. One member of the Calvert County Farm Bureau;
  2. One member of the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board;
  3. One member of a land trust holding property or easements within Calvert County;
  4. One member actively engaged in agriculture;
  5. Alternate;
- B. The members shall provide a fair representation from all three voting districts of Calvert County.
- C. Members shall be appointed for three-year terms and no task force member shall be eligible to serve more than three (3) consecutive full terms. Upon creation of the task force, each member shall be assigned a term of up to three-year to stagger appointments. This shall only apply if the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force is extended.
- D. Upon motion passed by majority vote, the Commission may choose to include additional *ex officio*, non-voting members.

**4. Officers.** The Land Preservation Advisory Task Force shall elect by majority vote the both the Chair and Vice-Chair from among its membership.

- A. Duties and Responsibilities of the Chairperson include:
1. Provide leadership to the task force in carrying out its purposes;
  2. Serve as the official voice/spokesperson for the task force;
  3. Develop agendas and preside over task force meetings;
  4. Sign documents approved by a majority of the task force that require the signature of a task force official;
  5. Put motions to a vote and announce the results of the vote; and
  6. Present a report to the Board of County Commissioners to document the achievements of the task force.
- B. Duties and Responsibilities of the Vice-Chairperson include performing the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in her/his absence, and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all restrictions governing the Chairperson.

**5. Compensation.** Members shall serve without compensation.**6. Resignation.** Any member of the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force may resign at any time by providing written notice to the Board of County Commissioners.**7. Removal.**

- A. The Board of County Commissioners retains the authority to remove any member on its own initiative or based on recommendation of a majority vote of the Land Preservation



Advisory Task Force, when, in its discretion, the best interest of the community or task force would not be served by continued membership.

- B. The Chairperson shall notify the Board of County Commissioners if a member of the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force misses three (3) scheduled meetings in any twelve (12) month period without an excused absence. The Board of County Commissioners shall remove and replace such member.

## 8. Rules and Support

- A. Land Preservation Advisory Task Force members shall abide by and fully comply with the Calvert County Code of Ethics, as amended from time to time.
- B. No task force member shall cast a vote on any matter where a conflict of interest exists.
- C. In any instance where the determination of a conflict of interest is uncertain, the Commission may request a determination of conflict of interest from the Calvert County Ethics Commission.
- D. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members.
- E. The Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning shall provide support personnel as may be required by the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force. The Calvert County Attorney's Office shall provide legal support to Land Preservation Advisory Task Force.
- F. The Board of County Commissioners shall provide such meeting space, supplies, and equipment as may be required by the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force to perform its duties.
- G. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised*, unless they are inconsistent with the approved Rules or this Resolution.
- H. There shall be one vote per task force member. The Chair is entitled to vote on any item before the Commission unless precluded by operation of the Calvert County Code of Ethics.
- I. A tie vote for and against a motion means that a motion fails.

## 9. Meetings

- A. The Land Preservation Advisory Task Force shall meet not less than once a month.
- B. Notice of all meetings of the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force shall be in accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act.
- C. The regular meetings of the Commission shall be held at a place, on dates and at times decided by the Department of Planning & Zoning staff.
- D. The task force may meet in special meetings at the call of the Chair, or the Vice-Chair in the absence of the Chair, or at the request of two-thirds of the Board members.
- E. Matters considered at a Special Meeting are limited to the purpose and agenda contained in the notice of the meeting.
- F. Adequate notice of all Special Meetings will be provided to all task force members.

- G. All meetings are open to the public, except that the task force may meet in closed session or adjourn an open session to meet in a closed session in accordance with the Maryland Annotated Code, General Provisions Article, § 3-305, as amended from time to time.
- H. Any meeting of the task force may be conducted by telephone conference call provided that task force members and the public are given at least three-day notice prior to the meeting and a full duplex telephone system is used with provision for a location where the public who may wish to observe the meeting may listen to the entirety of the meeting as it is occurring.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that the Land Preservation Advisory Task Force shall provide an interim report to the Board of County Commissioners not later than December 1, 2020, and its final report and recommendations on or before July 1, 2021;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that, in the event any portion of this Resolution is found to be unconstitutional, illegal, null or void, it is the intent of the Board of County Commissioners to sever only the invalid portion or provision, and that the remainder of the Resolution shall be enforceable and valid.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that the foregoing recitals are adopted as if fully rewritten herein.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that this Resolution shall be effective upon recordation without publication of a fair summary.

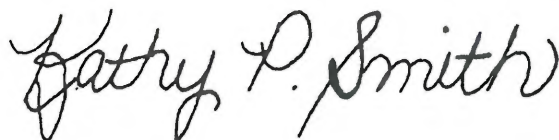
**DONE**, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020 by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland.

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Absent/Abstain: 0

Received for Record: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
 at 3:40 o'clock P M. Same day  
 recorded in Liber KPS No. 61  
 Folio 69 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
 ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION.




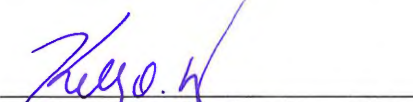
Signatures on following page


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ATTEST:

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND**

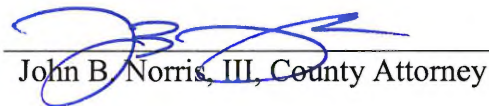
  
Maureen Frederick, Acting Clerk

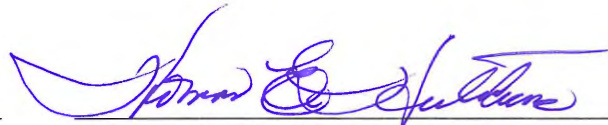
  
Kelly D. McConkey, President

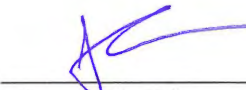
  
Mike Hart, Vice-President

  
Earl F. Hance

Approved for form and legal  
sufficiency:

  
John B. Norris, III, County Attorney

  
Thomas E. Hutchins

  
Steven R. Weems