

Name: Agricultural Advisory Board

Authorization: Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance

Function: The function of the Agricultural Advisory Board shall be to promote agricultural values and the general welfare of the county and more specifically, increase identity and pride in the agricultural community and its way of life; encourage the economic and financial health of agriculture, horticulture and forestry; and increase protection from non-farm development and other negative impacts on properly managed farms.

Number of Members: The Advisory Board shall consist of no less than seven (7) members appointed by the Board of Commissioners.

Qualifications: Membership Requirements

1. Each Advisory Board member, except those serving in an *ex officio* capacity, shall be a Granville County resident and landowner.
2. At least seven of the members shall be actively engaged in farming, horticulture and/or forestry. Of the members actively engaged in farming, horticulture and/or forestry there shall be at least one such member from each Voluntary Agricultural Region in Granville County. This determination shall be made without reference to *ex officio* members.
3. The members actively engaged in farming, horticulture and/or forestry as well as other members, shall be selected for appointment by the Board of Commissioners from the names of individuals submitted to the Board of Commissioners by the Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, the County Office of North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the U.S. Farm Service Agency County Committee, nonprofit agricultural organizations, conservation organizations, agribusiness, horticultural businesses, forestry businesses, and the public at large.
4. Additional members may be appointed to the Board in an *ex officio* capacity from the Soil and Water Conservation District Board, North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the U.S. Farm Service Agency, or other agencies, as deemed necessary by the Board of Commissioners. Members serving in an *ex officio* capacity shall neither vote nor count toward quorum requirements.
5. Should any Granville County Commission District boundary be modified during the term of any Advisory Board member, in such a way that they no longer represent the Region for which they were originally appointed, that Advisory Board member shall continue to serve the Commission District for which they were first appointed for the remainder of their term.

Length of Term: The initial board is to consist of three appointees for terms of one year; two appointees for terms of two years; and two appointees for terms of three years. Thereafter, all appointments are to be for terms of three years, with reappointment permitted. Members may serve two consecutive terms.

Meeting Schedule: Meetings of the Advisory Board shall be held at the call of the chairperson and at such other times as the Advisory Board may specify in its rules of procedure or upon the request of at least a majority of the Advisory Board Membership. A meeting shall be held at least annually and notice of any meetings to the members shall be in writing, unless otherwise agreed to by all Advisory Board members. Meeting dates and times shall be posted as far in advance as possible on the door of the meeting site and by advertisement in local newspapers or by other means of public dissemination of the meeting dates as may be agreed upon by at least a majority of the Advisory Board Membership. All meetings shall be open to the public.

Compensation: The *per diem* compensation, if any, of the members of the Advisory Board may be fixed by the Board of Commissioners and funds may be appropriated to the Advisory Board to perform its duties.