

Rutherford BARN (Building Agricultural Relationships Now)  
Board Meeting – January 15, 2020 10:30 am, Cooperative Extension  
Meeting Agenda

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Brandon Higgins Called the Meeting to Order.

Board Members Present: Brandon Higgins, Wendy Shumaker, Amy Bridges, Tiffany Rigell, Danielle Jones, Steve Govus, Stephanie Rzonca, Bob Young, Bill Coxe

Others Present: David Hislop, Jenna Bailey, Beverly Aiken

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

November 13, 2019 - Stephanie was absent; will need to get notes/recording from someone present

**3. OFFICER REPORTS**

Treasurer's report

Wendy Shumaker delivered the treasurer's report. Taxes & other paperwork will be completed by the deadline and the accounts are in good shape for the coming year. We are keeping expenditures very low and only purchasing the necessities.

Officer reports

David Hislop reported that the Food Network Subcommittee (subcommittee of BARN created to address food insecurity in Rutherford County.) met in November and Bob presented an idea to start raising private funds to purchase locally grown food to distribute to food pantries. The Food Network Subcommittee will begin working on that effort as their first action item. Fundraising will start soon for that effort.

Stephanie Rzonca reported that the information from the Rutherford Food Assessment is being turned into an informative brochure or "zine" with the facts and figures of food insecurity here in the County that were reported in the Rutherford Food Assessment.

David Hislop presented updates on his Food Systems work. He attended the regional Food Council Gathering and the national Community Food Systems Conference and got a lot of information from those conferences. David will be having a conversation with Abby from Mountain Wise for a double up food bucks for SNAP benefits at the farmers market. David is starting the WNC Nonprofit Pathways leadership program. David will be attending the WNC Food Insecurity Planning initiative, as he was invited by Abby from Mountain Wise. David will also be going to the NC Agritourism Conference and that conference will be funded by the TDA. The TDA is also discussing a program for connecting visitors with local produce via their lodging. David is also going to be applying for a smaller grant and the group had a discussion of what that grant should be for and the need for a website came out as the next thing that BARN should pursue.

Marketing Report

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Jenna Bailey presented the marketing report. Facebook likes and reach have gone up, along with Instagram. On Instagram, over 400 new people have followed the Instagram page. The bi-weekly newsletter has a higher open rate, and that higher rate seems to correspond with the shorter newsletter with less frequency. There have been newspaper articles, including first page coverage on the Winter Market.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

##### Market Manager Contract Approval

Bob Young made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the terms David Hislop's employment contract to protect his privacy.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

Wendy Shumaker made a motion to approve the contract with David Hislop for managing the market as the Food Systems Coordinator. Bob Young Seconded.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

##### 2020 Budget

Brandon Higgins distributed the budget for 2020 (Appendix A). 20,000 from RHI and leftover money from the Health Department is in the account as of January 1 and that pays David Hislop's salary. In the general fund are the vendor fees from 2019 and projected vendor fees from this year which is projected to be \$5700. The County's contribution is \$10,000. The Community Health Council contributed \$1,000 for printing fees. The general fund balance for BARN is \$14,034. The Manager's Salary, part-time SNAP employee is budgeted at \$3,000. We will not be getting porta-potties for the year. Insurance costs are set. Money is set aside for marketing, printing, and music & culinary events through the year.

Stephanie Rzonca proposed that we create a subcommittee for Fundraising. Bob Young offered to participate in that as well. Brandon Higgins suggested we follow that up next meeting.

Amy Bridges made a motion to approve the budget for 2020. Wendy Shumaker seconded.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

##### 2020 Annual Meeting

- Date & agenda

Saturday, March 7 1:00pm

- Policy & procedures for electing new board members
- Announcement by mail

This discussion will be at our next meeting on February 12 at noon.

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**6. ADJOURN**

Next meeting will be held February 12 at noon at the Soil & Water Office at 500 West St. Spindale.

Appendix A - Budget 2020

RHI		\$ 19,500.00
Community health council (salary)		\$ 4,980.00
Vendor Fees	\$ 5,794.00	(2019fees:\$3294.83 + 2020fees: \$2500 )
County Contribution	\$ 10,000.00	
Community health council (literature )	\$ 950.00	
General Fund	\$ 1,434.80	
CEFS	\$ 199.58	
manager salary		\$ (24,000.00)
Part Time SNAP employee	\$ (3,000.00)	
utilities	\$ (400.00)	(no port-a-potty for 2020)
insurance	\$ (675.00)	
supplies / printing	\$ (2,500.00)	
Music/ entertainment	\$ (3,000.00)	
Marketing	\$ (8,000.00)	(april-dec)
SNAP Expenses	\$ (800.00)	
	\$ 3.38	\$ 480.00