



**Maryland
Department of Agriculture**

Office of the Secretary

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Kevin M. Atticks, Secretary
Steven A. Connelly, Deputy Secretary

Maryland Agricultural Commission

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry
mda.maryland.gov

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MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Working Minutes

January 8th, 2025

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86864646381?pwd=9SluVkKO9fDAb6EywggOpypPd6XuPY.1>

Meeting ID: 868 6464 6381 Passcode: 152442

Present:

Dr. Melissa Welsh
Janna Howley
Johnny Shockley
Frank Allnutt
Amy Crone, Vice Chair
Ann Merryman
Paula Linthicum
Chris Rhodes
Nikita Bocharov

Sean Hough
Emma Jagoz
Zach Evans
Gordon Kretser
Russel Shlagel
Dr. Marianne Bailey
Rachel Lipman
Jenell McHenry, YFAB

Absent:

Stefanie Reiser
Raj Kathuria
Kellie Hinkle

Hunter Pusey
Matthew Levi Sellers
J. Kelly Lewis, Chair
Richard Stonebraker
Dr. Darren Jarboe

MDA Staff:

Sec. Kevin Atticks
Cassie Shirk

Dr. Jennifer Trout
Harrison Palmer
Elizabeth Hoffman

Guests:

Charlotte Davis, RMC
Annika LaFave, MDEM
Matt Tefteau, RMC
Allison Roe, MARBIDCO
Stacey Kubofcik, MARBIDCO
Kelsey Keadle, Washington Co.
Dave Nemazie, UMCES
Katie Stevens, Frederick Office of Ag
Shelby Watson-Hampton, SMADC

Call to Order:

The January 2025 Maryland Agricultural Commission meeting was called to order by Amy Crone, Vice Chair at 10:05 am.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the December 2024 meeting minutes was made by Sean Hough, second by Dr. Melissa Welsh.

Presentations:

- **Dr. Jennifer Trout, State Veterinarian**

Committee Reports:

Farm Profitability & Sustainability Committee – Emma Jagoz, Chair:

- No updates.

Legislative Affairs Committee – Paula Linthicum, Chair:

- No updates.

Value Added Agriculture Committee – Amy Crone, Chair:

- Continuing to seek out case studies for success in Value Added Agriculture to compile.
- Cultivate & Craft Summit upcoming.

Committee on Watershed Strategies – Gordon Kretser, Chair:

- The committee is considering the impact of a mandate for solar development on prime agricultural land to include co-benefits, specifically the establishment and maintenance of pollinator habitat and native grasses.
 - Currently several solar sites are required to create and maintain native grasses and pollinator habitats but those regulations are not being enforced.
 - MDA met with DNR PPRP to discuss the matter after discussion during the November COWS Committee, DNR identified that the local sediment and erosion control permitting agency carries the enforcement authority and ultimately the Public Service Commission has the overarching enforcement responsibility.
 - DNR has asked that the Committee on Watershed Strategies put together a 1-page notice on how to enforce PPRP/PSC adopted/approved conditions, this could be taken up in the Committee on Watershed Strategies in congruence with the State Soil Conservation Committee and the MDA Resource Conservation program.
 - Current developments and engagements around this topic include:
 - University of Maryland Extension Agency – Wildlife Management Specialist – Luke Macaulay
 - Natural Land Stewardship at Washington College – Dan Small
 - Maryland/Delaware Pheasants Forever Chapter leaders

- USDA Hydrology & Remote Sensing Laboratory – research surrounding pollinator services and soybeans

Committee on Agricultural Literacy & Education – Hunter Pusey, Acting Chair:

- No updates.

Commodity Reports:

Ag Education- Dr. Melissa Welsh:

- Advance CTE has released a modernized National Career Clusters® Framework intended to be an industry-driven, learner-centered, and inclusive roadmap for learners to explore and prepare for good jobs across the entire world of work. The Framework has been the foundation of CTE programs nationwide for over two decades. However, a more modern and dynamic Framework was required to meet the rapidly changing world of work and the skills and knowledge learners need to navigate and enter that world.
(<https://careertech.org/career-clusters/>)
- In a significant development for the construction and agriculture industries, the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), the National FFA Organization and the National Council for Agricultural Education have officially partnered to bring industry-recognized curricula and credentials to agricultural education. This will be aligned with Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources standards.
- **UMD News:**
 - Applications to the college were up by over 200 this year – 1439 for fall 2024 and 1679 for fall 2025!
 - Acceptance letters will go out the end of January as usual so we are excited about the prospects for the coming year.
 - We welcomed our largest class in many years this fall with about 250 new students and additional students coming in January with spring admits.
 - The search for a new Dean and Director of AGNR is currently open (best consideration by January 27th)– please pass the word along and/or submit nominations if you have folks in mind!
 - Coming in the spring will be our Discovery and Innovation Night on April 10 and 100th AgDay/Maryland Day celebration on Saturday April 26th!
 - MAEF- Scholarships are open, Gro together Grants for teachers are open, Ag Literacy week- March 17-21- looking for volunteer readers, 2025 calendar is available and the Rock-In goat is ready to find a home- a few tickets are left
 - The New course AGST 435 Teacher Training for Agriculture and Environmental Literacy was officially opened online for this winter session (this was a course developed through a grant program with RMC, MAEF)

Agribusiness- Vacant:

Agritourism – Janna Howley:

- Cultivate + Craft Value Added Agriculture Summit on 1/16/2025

Aquaculture - Johnny Shockley:

- Continuing to engage with companies for mitigation credits.
- Virginia has been able to garner significant private sector investment into pay-for-performance efforts that include oyster aquaculture.
- Maryland oyster infrastructure is dated and lacks the statewide investment/ appreciation of what oysters do for the bay and environment.

At-Large Agricultural Services – Frank Allnutt:

- No report.

At-Large Agricultural Services – Stefanie Reiser:

- No report.

Bio-Fuel - Rajneesh Kathuria:

- No report.

Consumer – Kellie Hinkle:

- **Food Goals**
 - Do I resolve to be on trend or not to be on trend in 2025? Predicted food trends range from cherry martinis to no or low alcohol wine. As I dug into what is expected to go “viral” in 2025, most didn’t surprise me. Between scrolling social media and watching commercials, I have been exposed to many. I compiled the handful of food trends that the largest number of prognosticators agree on.
- Technology-AI is invading all aspects of our universe, why not what and where we eat? Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson are in a series of commercials for Agentforce. Agentforce is Salesforce’s AI agent put in place to elevate the customer experience. McConaughey sits in the rain and is served an entrée that is not to his liking. Wood Harrelson is across the street, dry and enjoying his dinner. The difference, one restaurant is using AI, one is not. We should expect AI-powered personalization in menus, apps and even restaurant experiences and immersive augmented reality will be the trends to watch in the year ahead. Be aware, drive-thru AI voices can make you spend more money. Many restaurant chains are trying to get diners back by exploring AI systems that can analyze customer preferences and dining history to provide tailored menu recommendations and customized experiences. There is already a robot that delivers the food in our favorite Indian restaurant in California, MD.
- Dumplings and Tea-Not necessarily together, but both are showing up on all the lists. Dumplings in all forms will be popular in 2025, if we agree that a dumpling is the generic term for filled little pockets of dough...wontons, pupusas, filled pasta, Pop-Tarts? Whole Foods’ food trend report emphasizes that dumplings are “ripe for fusion and unexpected mash-ups, which have continued popularity both on TikTok and restaurant menus.”
- Chai and matcha have become standard on coffee shop menus, however 2025 is expected to find tea as an ingredient beyond the hot beverage. Watch for botanical brews to be featured in bakery desserts, cocktails, concentrates and savory applications.
- Cottagecore-(new term for me) previously used to describe the COVID era aesthetic of exposed wood beams and cozy kitchens Is continuing to evolve into a growing desire for comforting, natural flavors, blending nostalgia with innovation. While the days of

Instagram-perfect sourdough loaves may be behind us, the fermentation trend is far from over. If TikTok is any indication, it's more about the discard than the loaf. Commercial sourdough is branching out beyond traditional bread, making appearances in grocery aisles as pasta, crackers, and even pizza crusts. For those with a sweet tooth, sourdough pancake and waffle mixes are bringing some of the tanginess to the breakfast table. There is a growing consumer desire to reconnect with culinary heritage and embrace authenticity and tradition. "Nearly half of global consumers value food trends that reflect their culture and diversity as important values in their diets." "Made with local ingredients, familiar flavor profiles, and prepared with traditional cooking techniques are the top 3 most important aspects in traditional food and beverages for consumers globally."

- Along the same lines is the return to honey as a sweetener, but of course it must be special. Hot honey will continue to take up more room on the shelf, while specialty honeys and honey-infused products are also a growing trend, from Ethiopian curry, ginger, and honey-infused hot sauce, to Tillamook's sea salt & honeycomb toffee flavor. The hot honey trend also reinforces the spicy dessert trend, or "swicy," the flavor combination of sweet and spicy, has been making headway in North America since 2023, but it's about to move into a whole other level on the Scoville scale.

Dairy I – Vacant:

Dairy II- Vacant:

Direct Farm Market - Amy Crone:

- Season of planning and meetings!
 - Cultivate and Craft Value Added Summit kicks off the Future Harvest Conference from 1/16-1/18
 - The Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention will be held 1/28-1/30
 - Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture Conference in February

Equine (Horse Breeding) - Ann Merryman:

- No report.

Farm Bureau - Paula Linthicum:

- MD Farm Bureau will be submitting written testimony to the MD Public Service Commission opposing the Piedmont power line.
- February 4, 2025, is Farm Bureau Day in Annapolis. Farmers across the state will meeting with legislators to discuss bills impacting agriculture.

Field Crops – Chris Rhodes:

- Grain prices are increasing as we get into the winter months.

Food Processing – Nikita Bocharov:

- No report.

Forestry – Hunter Pusey:

- **Projected Structural Deficit:** Maryland State lawmakers will be wrestling with a projected \$2.7 billion structural deficit – expenditures are outpacing revenues – during the 2025 Session of the Maryland General Assembly. The deficit will be the sword of Damocles overshadowing all budgetary and legislative policy decision-making by the 2025 Assembly.
 - Forestry is anticipating a potential reduction in its principal funding mechanism, aka, *Mel Noland Woodland Incentives Fund (“WIF”)* via the Administration’s *Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (“BRFA”)*...a clever budgetary mechanism to circumvent mandated spending and other attendant spending priorities for one fiscal year. The 2024 BRFA reduced the \$1 million statutory allocation to WIF by 50%. The remaining \$500,000 could fall to the budgetary knife in 2025..
- **Governor’s Executive Order:** On December 19, 2024, Governor Moore issued an Executive Order entitled, “Strengthening Maryland’s Business Climate to Bolster Economic Competitiveness” (see link below). The stated intent of the Executive Order: “...State government must be positioned to operationalize recommendations and execute programs and initiatives that lead to economic growth and competitiveness”.
 - <https://governor.maryland.gov/Lists/ExecutiveOrders/Attachments/75/EO%2001.01.20%2024.39%20Strengthening%20Maryland%27s%20Business%20Climate%20to%20Bolster%20Economic%20Competitiveness%20Accessible.pdf>
 - Central to this initiative – from both an agricultural and forestry perspective – will be the newly created Governor’s Economic Competitiveness Subcabinet’s focus on growth industries as duly designated by the Maryland Economic Development Commission...an advisory group to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Commerce. Both agriculture and forestry – though the same by statutory definition – are both designated as growth industries worthy of special State financial assistance. AFI is not sure how this will play out; but, we will ask for a table seat.
- **Truck Weight Bill:** The Moore Administration has introduced – via “Departmental” legislation – companion bills to authorize a special hauling permit so haulers of certain agricultural and forestry products would be able – if enacted into law – to carry substantial more weights without having to add an extra axle, aka SB 203/HB 225. AFI has been working with DOT’s State Highway Administration for the previous two years to secure the bill’s introduction in 2025.

Hemp- Matthew ‘Levi’ Sellers:

- No report.

Horticulture – Vacant:

Livestock- Sean Hough:

- No report.

Nursery I- J. Kelly Lewis:

- No report.

Nursery II- John Murphy:

- No report.

Organic Farming – Emma Jagoz:

- Resources
 - New research article released by American Society for Horticultural Science on [Soil and Nutrient Management Effects on High Tunnel Organic Leafy Greens](#)
 - News: Congressional leaders have reached a bipartisan deal on a [massive stop-gap spending bill](#) to fund the government through March 14, which includes critical wins for organic agriculture. Thanks to advocacy efforts from NOC and organic community members, the bill secures one year of level funding for essential organic programs:
 - **The Organic Certification Cost Share Program** – thousands of organic farms and businesses rely on this reimbursement to help defray the cost of organic certification.
 - **The Organic Data Initiative** – Essential for collecting data to support organic agriculture.
 - **The Organic Certification Trade and Tracking Program (OCTT)** – Provides critical technology systems for the USDA National Organic Program to enforce organic regulations and prevent fraud. These programs, vital to the success of organic farms and businesses, were at risk due to their lack of permanent baseline status (they are too small to get permanent baseline status at this time).
 - [Market ROI of Organic Transition for Vegetable Farmers webinar event](#) coming up in February hosted by Rodale
 - Also have a [free course](#) for transition to organic certification!
- Opportunities
 - [Organic Ag Research and Education Initiative grant opportunity](#) for universities open for applications – due Feb 13. University of Maryland???
 - [New Specialty Crop Program](#) (yes this includes organic!) has BIG funding available through the FSA: **DUE JAN 10** (just extended 2 more days as of Jan 6)! Do not miss this opportunity if you are eligible – essentially “free” money – payments up to \$900k
 - [Food Safety Certification program open til Jan 31](#) – funding to get certifications open!
- Challenges
 - Climate Change – and organic practices also help build resilience
 - [Toolkit for Consumers, Advocates + Policymakers](#)

Poultry I- Zach Evans:

- Poultry Updates – HPAI detected in wild birds December 30th.
 - As of January 3rd, 2025 Broiler Farm in Kent County, DE has presumptive positive test for H5 Avian Influenza (HPAI).
 - State officials have quarantined the affected farm, and birds on the property are being depopulated to prevent the spread of the disease.
 - The HPAI testing followed increased mortality observed on the farm prior to clinical signs of infection.

- Growers in the area around the location may see increased surveillance testing being conducted in the coming days to ensure there has been no flock-to-flock lateral spread of the disease.
- Poultry movement is being restricted in a control area around the affected farm, which is standard practice for any confirmed case of avian influenza on a farm. No birds from the affected flock will enter the food system.
- Testing to confirm the finding is being conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL).
- This is the first detection of the disease in a commercial poultry flock on Delmarva since a Caroline County, Md. detection in November 2023.
- Although this is a DE farm it is within 10KM of Maryland border meaning there are MD farms that will be impacted as part of the buffer/control zone.
- The Delmarva Chicken Association will be hosting Chicken Day in Annapolis on February 4th, 2025. For more details visit: [Welcome to the Delmarva Chicken Association Web Site | Delmarva Chicken Association](#)

Poultry II- Vacant:

State Grange- Richard Stonebreaker:

- No report.

Tobacco – Vacant:

Turf- Gordon Kretser:

- The USDA announced on December 10th that voting on the proposed US Natural Grass Sod Checkoff program is set to open in January 2025. Any US sod producer who produced and sold natural grass sod during the 2024 calendar year is eligible to vote in the upcoming referendum. The voting period is January 13th through February 11th.
- Maryland Turf Fun Facts:
 - There are over 12,000 licensed pesticide applicators in the state of Maryland
 - There are roughly 1,500 Maryland registered turfgrass businesses
 - The turfgrass business contributes over \$1.5 billion annually to the states economy
 - There are 1.6 million acres of maintained turfgrass making up almost 27% of Maryland landmass

University of Maryland – Dean Craig Beyrouthy | Dr. Darren Jarboe:

- The University of Maryland (UMD) transitioned to a new administrative system called Workday. The transition took place November 15.
- The University of Maryland Extension is embarking on a strategic planning process to develop a stakeholder-driven plan, granting the university's community partners an opportunity to contribute to the institution's future success. To produce a specialized strategic plan that is consistent with the broader objectives of the University of Maryland, we will prioritize strategies that will uplift our community and complement UMD initiatives.

- UME is inviting stakeholders in Maryland to join us for town hall conversations focused on the future direction of our programs. Come share your insights and help shape the strategic plan that will guide our work in the years ahead. Below is a list of the remaining Town Hall sessions. Please register at <https://extension.umd.edu/about/extension-impact/strategic-plan/>.
 - UMES Research, Extension & Teaching Farm, 10789 Stewart Neck Road, Princess Anne, MD, Noon–2 p.m., January 15
 - Wicomico County Extension Office, 28647 Old Quantico Road, Salisbury, MD, Morning, 5:30–7:30 p.m., January 15
 - Wye Research and Education Center, 124 Wye Narrows Drive, Queenstown, MD, Noon–2 p.m., January 16
 - Anne Arundel Extension Office, 97 Dairy Lane, Gambrills, MD, 5:30–7:30 p.m., January 16
 - Baltimore County Extension Office, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD, 5:30–7:30 p.m., January 21
 - Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd, West Friendship, MD 21794, 12:30–2:30 p.m., January 22
 - St. Mary's Agriculture Service Center, 26737 Radio Station Way, Leonardtown, MD, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., January 22
 - University of Maryland College Park Campus, Location TBD, College Park, MD, 9–11 a.m., January 23
- Listening sessions have already been conducted at the Maryland Farm Bureau Annual Meeting of Delegates in Cambridge, Allegany County Fairgrounds in Cumberland, and Washington County Extension Office in Boonsboro.
- Farmers are testing corn for mycotoxins and Extension agents reported high levels for some fields. The Maryland Department of Agriculture and University of Maryland Extension are collaborating to support farmers with free testing and strategies for utilization of infected corn.
- Kayla Griffith has been named acting program director for the Agricultural Nutrient Management Program. Kayla has been an ANMP faculty specialist since last November and was previously a nutrient management advisor for Anne Arundel County where she farms with her family.
- The update for AgFS Program positions is below:
 - *AgFS Extension*
 - AgFS county educator, Caroline County: Finalists were interviewed December 4
 - AgFS IPM specialist, ornamental horticulture: Ornamental horticulture team met and an industry listening session to discuss program needs took place December 3
 - AgFS local foods and entrepreneurship specialist: a second round of finalist interviews are being planned
 - AgFS county educator, Prince George's County: The position is being evaluated
- *Agricultural Nutrient Management Program*
 - Program director and faculty specialist: The position description will be revised and reposted in late fall or early spring

- Faculty specialist – training: Dr. Bill Phillips accepted the position and starts January 13
- Nutrient management advisor, Allegany County: Will be posted this month
- Nutrient management advisor, Anne Arundel County: Brooke Knauss accepted the position and starts January 13
- Nutrient management advisor, Carroll County: Lucy Hayes accepted the position and started in December
- Nutrient management advisor, Charles County: Will be reposted this month
- Nutrient management advisor, Washington County: Daniel Mendez accepted the position and started in December
- Nutrient management advisor, location TBD: Will be posted later this month
- Administrative assistant: Three finalists were interviewed November 22
- Stanton Gill passed away suddenly in October. He was a long-time ornamental horticulture IPM specialist with the Agriculture and Food Systems (AgFS) Extension Program in Maryland. Stanton's leadership of the ornamental horticulture team led to a high performing, collegial team that served Maryland, the Mid-Atlantic Region, and national horticulture industries. The team has been driving innovation through applied research and demonstration programs. Stanton always looked for ways to involve new Extension faculty members in research and educational programming, making them feel welcome and part of the AgFS Extension team. He will be missed by the AgFS Team, UME, and the ornamental horticulture industry.
- Craig Yohn, nutrient management advisor, Dorchester County and past interim ANMP program director, announced his retirement from the ANMP effective October 31, 2024. Craig provided excellent service to his farmer clientele.
- Sandy Corridon, interim program leader for 4-H Youth Development and Dr. Jeff Howard has taken over the role of interim program leader for 4-H Youth Development. Patsy Ezell, interim program leader for Family and Consumer Sciences Extension, has retired again and Dr. Lisa McCoy has stepped into the interim FCS program leader role.
- Grants
 - Kumar, H. and D. Jarboe. 2024. Maryland NRCS Irrigation Services Agreement. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. \$1,437,526.
 - Jarboe, D., H. Schug, and C. Sasscer III. 2024. Prince George's County Climate-Smart Local Producers Pilot Program Subaward. \$238,479. Part of Prince George's County Government \$3.25 million awarded by USDA Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Program.

Vegetable – Russell Shlagel:

- No report.

Veterinary – Dr. Marianne B. O'Malley:

- Large animal veterinarians have expressed concern and interest to ensure federal funding is supporting the industry as it relates to NIFA grant funding for states with officially designated shortages.
- By and large, backyard flock owners lack the understanding and awareness of biosecurity as it relates to the HPAI outbreaks.

- The public and veterinarians feel that there is not clarity regarding the status of the UMES Vet school.
- *Notes from MDA regarding backyard biosecurity & UMES Vet School:
 - As the regulatory and enforcement agency, we have certain protocols in place to look at statewide biosecurity to include requiring [registration of backyard flocks](#) so that we can disseminate information when an event occurs. Last week, our State Vet sent out an email to the 5,000+ registered premises with the attached letter on Backyard Poultry Biosecurity. On the [MDA homepage](#), we have HPAI resources listed on the left hand column as well as a rotating banner that directs people to the [Information for Backyard Flock Owners](#) page. (In fact, when you google "Maryland backyard chickens bird flu", this page is the first resource that pops up after the news link identifying the Caroline County case). There are graphics that are available for download in English and Spanish that can be posted at veterinary clinics where poultry are seen.
 - University of Maryland Extension educational info here:
 - <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/agriculture-food-systems/program-areas/animal-science/maryland-poultry/backyard-poultry/>,
 - and their video series here:
 - <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/agriculture-food-systems/program-areas/animal-science/maryland-poultry/videos/>.
 - UMES Veterinary School webpage, timeline, and FAQs:
 - <https://wwwcp.umes.edu/svm/>

Viticulture – Rachel Lipman:

- No report.

Young Farmers Advisory Board – Jenell Eck McHenry, Chair:

- The 2024 Maryland Young Farmers Survey is still live, there are postcard sized advertisements for the survey that Commission members are encouraged to share.

Maryland Department of Agriculture Staff Updates:

Secretary Kevin Atticks:

- 2025 legislative session kicks off today, January 8th. MDA has several departmental bills and will be monitoring everything that may touch agriculture.
- Sec. Atticks extended his congratulations to the several newly appointed members of the Commission.
- The Maryland's Best Expo is being held at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium today, bringing buyers, growers, and aggregators together to strengthen the industry.
- Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, USDA, and industry groups are collaborating to ensure a unified joint approach is taken in management of the HPAI outbreaks on the shore.

Deputy Secretary Steve Connelly:

- No report.

Rachel Jones, Director of Government Relations:

- No report.

Cassie Shirk, Assistant Secretary of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services:

- No report.

Hans Schmidt, Assistance Secretary of Resource Conservation:

- No report.

Michael Calkins, Assistant Secretary of Plant Industries and Pest Management:

- No report.

Martin Proulx, Value Added Agriculture Specialist:

- No report.

Jessica Hackett, Director of Communications:

- No report.

Public Comment:

- Rural Maryland Council's Welcome Breakfast will be held on Friday, January 10th sponsored by the Maryland Tech Council and the Maryland Forestry Foundation.
- Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission released 2 reports;
 - Southern Maryland Blue Catfish study
 - Southern Maryland Agriculture and Aquaculture Analysis

New Business:

- FSRC Recommendations to Maryland Ag Commission
 - Adopted in September 2024
 - "The FSRC requests that the Maryland Agricultural Commission (MAC) examine the regulatory challenges and barriers impacting **small and beginning farmers**, such as zoning, permitting, business licensing, and land use agreements. Recommendations provided by the MAC will help producers in navigate contradictory regulations, economies of scale, risks associated with non-commodity or non-traditional crops, and accessing essential resources."
- GICA Subcommittee Designees
 - The Governor's Intergovernmental Commission on Agriculture has 3 subcommittees.

- The Chair of the Maryland Agricultural Commission holds a seat on GICA and can designate a representative to engage with each of the Subcommittees.
 - Environment and Natural Resources
 - Recommended Gordon Kretser, Chair of the Committee on Watershed Strategies
 - Labor, Education and Development
 - Recommended Dr. Welsh, Agricultural Education
 - Value Added Agriculture and Agritourism
 - Recommended Janna Howley, Value Added Agriculture/Agritourism representative

Old Business:

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Meeting Adjourned at 11:18 am by Paula Linthicum, second by Sean Hough.

Respectfully Submitted by Harrison B. Palmer, Executive Secretary