RMC Agriculture Committee Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2026
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Zoom Teleconference
Minutes

Participants: Chair Matthew Teffeau, Cassie Shirk, Harrison Palmer, Grace Leatherman, Steve McHenry, Josh Bollinger, Nancy Nunn

RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Megan D'Arcy, Leeza DeCheubel

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chair Matthew Teffeau, who welcomed attendees and facilitated introductions.

The group then received a presentation from Josh Bollinger regarding the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology and the Maryland Climate-Smart Agriculture: Roadmap to Resilience. The presentation provided an overview of the Roadmap to Resilience and its focus on supporting climate-smart agricultural practices and building resilience within Maryland's agricultural sector. Members had an opportunity to discuss the information presented and consider its relevance to the work of the group.

Ms. Davis, Executive Director of the Rural Maryland Council (RMC), provided an overview of the Rural Health Transformation Plan (RHTP) and information related to the Maryland State Office of Rural Health. The discussion addressed the plan's focus on strengthening rural health and responding to the needs of Maryland's rural communities. Members discussed the potential implications of the plan for rural communities and the opportunities it may provide to support rural health initiatives.

Ms. Davis also discussed the anticipated RHTP grant cycle and the RMC's role in the process. The RMC will be part of the grant cycle as the plan moves forward, providing an opportunity for the Council to participate in the process and help connect the grant activities with the needs and priorities of Maryland's rural communities. Members discussed the anticipated grant process and the RMC's involvement, and had an opportunity to ask questions and provide input regarding the plan and its implementation.

The Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming (LEEF) item was deferred.

Harrison Palmer, representing the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), provided updates regarding GICA. Members received the updates and discussed related matters as appropriate.

The Chair then opened the floor for other business and additional items. Members had an opportunity to raise matters not otherwise included on the agenda.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

The next meeting is tentatively anticipated for the end of March. The specific date and time will be determined and communicated at a later date.