## BYLAWS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

- 1. MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board ("Board") is: to promote the preservation and permanent protection of agricultural land and woodland in Anne Arundel County ("County") by offering information and assistance to the agricultural community.
  - 2. PURPOSES: The purposes of the Board are:
- (1) to advise the County concerning the establishment of County agricultural districts and purchases of easements by the County;
- (2) to assist the County government in reviewing the status of County agricultural districts and land under easement;
- (3) to advise the County concerning County priorities for agricultural and woodland preservation;
- (4) to promote preservation of agriculture within the County by fostering such activities as a farmers' market and by offering information and assistance to farmers concerning establishment of County agricultural districts and the purchase of easements;
- (5) to make recommendations to the County Executive concerning budget and appropriation requests;
- (6) to recommend the delineation of areas of productive agricultural land in the County;
- (7) to recommend procedures concerning the determination of values of easements;
- (8) to review and make recommendations to the County concerning proposed regulations for State and County agricultural districts;

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- (9) to prepare and review recommendations to the County concerning County policies and programs for agricultural and woodland preservation;
- (10) to seek the advice of and cooperate with the Agricultural Extension Service, the Soil Conservation District and the State foresters in carrying out its responsibilities; and
- (11) to perform other, duties as may be assigned by the County Council or County Executive.
- 3. MEMBERSHIP: There shall be five (5) members of the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the County Executive, three (3) of whom shall be owner-operator of commercial farms who earn fifty (50) percent or more of their income from farming.
- 4. TERM: The term of each member shall be five (5) years. At the expiration of a member's term, a member shall continue to serve until a replacement is appointed. A member appointed to fill a portion of an unexpired term shall serve that portion of the unexpired term unless reappointed. A member may serve no more than two (2) consecutive full terms.
- 5. RESIGNATION/REMOVAL: A member may resign by submitting a written resignation to the County Executive. Failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without excuse shall constitute a resignation from the Board. The County Executive may remove a member at any time, with or without cause, upon written notification to the member.
- 6. CHAIR: A chairperson shall be appointed by the County Executive and shall serve at the discretion of the County Executive. The Chair shall preside at and conduct all meetings of the Board; serve as the representative of the Board in meetings and discussions with other organizations and agencies; ensure the Board's compliance with the Maryland Open

Meetings Act; and perform all duties otherwise assigned by the County Executive. By majority vote, the Board shall select a Vice Chair, who will perform the functions of Chair in the absence of the Chair.

- 7. SECRETARY: By majority vote, the Board shall appoint a Secretary, who shall serve at the discretion of the Board. The Secretary shall keep accurate records and minutes of all meetings of the Board that comply with the Maryland Open Meetings Act and relevant provisions of the County Code; make available minutes of the previous meeting and distribute them to the Board members and to the County's Boards and Commissions Officer in advance of each meeting; cause to be delivered all notices of meetings to the Board members and to the County's Boards and Commissions Officer; maintain the minutes and a current listing, with contact information, of the members of the Board; and serve as the records custodian for the Board under the provisions of the Maryland Public Information Act.
- 8. MEETINGS: The Board shall meet at least quarterly. The Board shall comply with all requirements of the Maryland Open Meetings Act. Notices of meetings shall be in writing and delivered to members and to the County's Boards and Commissions Officer at least 10 days before the day of the meeting. Written notice of meetings may be delivered by electronic transmission. Failure of notice to any member shall not invalidate the meeting or any action taken at the meeting.
- 9. QUORUM: a quorum shall consist of a simple majority or fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the members present.
- 10. TELEPHONE AND ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION: Members may participate in meetings and vote on matters discussed therein by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment if all persons participating in the meeting can hear each

other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence of the Member at the meeting.

11. COMMITTEES: The Board may create committees, and the Chair may appoint Members to chair and serve on those committees.

12. ANNUAL REPORT: The Board shall provide a report to the County Executive by January 31 of each year that describes its activities and fulfillment of its mission statement and purposes during the prior calendar year, as well as its recommendations for the succeeding calendar year.

13. COMPENSATION: Members shall serve without compensation.

14. AMENDMENTS: Provisions of these bylaws that are not controlled by State or County law, State or County regulation, or County Executive Order may be amended by a simple majority vote of the Members present and entitled to vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present. Any proposed amendment must be submitted to the members in writing with written notice of the meeting to decide on the proposed amendment at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting date.

Adopted by the Board this  $\frac{22}{4}$  day of  $\frac{MAPCh}{4}$ , 2018.

Name: Maureon V. Heinbuch

Title: Chair

I, the undersigned, being Secretary of the Corporation, hereby certify that the above is a true, complete and accurate copy of the Bylaws adopted by the Board.

Name: William Gorski

Title: Secretary