

A public meeting, the last of three this week focusing on ways to preserve Moore County's working lands and promote the agricultural economy, is scheduled for Thursday. The Working Lands Protection Plan was developed after extensive research involving statistical analysis, published reports, surveys and interviews with local producers. Business operators, residents and agricultural support personnel although a working lands protection plan exists in draft form, county commissioners withheld approval until more voluminous public comment was made available. Having a working lands protection plan in place can help the county qualify for increased funding to implement preservation strategies. The original land use plan was last updated ten years ago after 18 months and 28 meetings. Thursday Evening's public meeting conducted by Planning Board Chairman Robert Hayter will be held in the Robbins Elementary School Auditorium from 6 to 8. The draft plan is available on the county's website.