

MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK
Special Purpose Meeting
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 - 10:00 am
Via WebEx

The South Carolina Conservation Bank Board (SCCB) held a special purpose meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 10:00 am via teleconference. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was posted and sent to interested parties in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Chairman Michael McShane presided at the meeting and members present included Keith Williamson, Vice-Chairman, Elliott Close, Curtis Spencer, Richmond Wilhoit, Jr., Larry Yonce; and Ex-Officio members Norman F. Pulliam, Chairman SCDNR; Russell Hubright for Dr. Walt McPhail, SC Forestry Commission Chairman; and Justin Hancock for Duane Parrish, Director SCPRT. Board Members absent were Geordy Johnson, Charles Lane, Thomas Lavender, Dr. Brent McLaurin, and Pamela S. Porter.

1) WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman McShane called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for their attendance.

2) ROLL CALL

Chairman McShane called roll and a quorum was established with 6 Board Members and 3 Ex-Officio members in attendance. Chairman McShane stated that proper public notice had been given for the meeting.

3) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. McShane opened the floor to anyone who would like to address the Board. There being no public comments, Mr. McShane called for the next agenda item.

4) FINANCIAL REPORT

The Chairman gave the Board an update on the current status of the Bank's budget request for fiscal year 2022-2023. Director West stated that the Bank currently has approximately \$508,000 available for projects following the reimbursement of a previously approved project (Saluda Rivers Connector). He mentioned that an additional reimbursement for the Jones Gap Access Tract should be received upon closing with SCPRT. Mr. Hancock confirmed that this was in process.

5) RECONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED APPLICATIONS

Chairman McShane reminded the Board that each of the projects up for consideration had been presented in detail at the previous March 30, 2022 Board Meeting. He stated that the Grants Review Committee had discussions on these projects but did not make a recommendation at that time due to budgetary confinements.

ACE Basin: St. Helena Estuary (Cummings) Ti Ti 2

The Nature Conservancy submitted an application for \$215,000 for a 1,742 acre conservation easement in Colleton County. At the March 30, 2022 Board Meeting, following the approval of the project, The Nature Conservancy requested a temporary reduction of their grant in the amount of \$20,000 in order to allow the SC Conservation Bank Board to proceed with approving the Soapstone Church application in the same amount. The Nature Conservancy included the caveat that they would request the Board consider increasing the grant by \$20,000 to the original amount of the grant request once the Bank received additional funding. Mr. McShane called for a motion to amend the ACE Basin: St. Helena Estuary (Cummings) Ti Ti 2 project by \$20,000 for a total grant award of \$215,000. Mr. Spencer made the motion, Mr. Williamson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Fishing Creek Tract

Nation Ford Land Trust submitted an application for \$125,000 for a 101 acre conservation easement in York County. Mr. McShane called for a motion to accept staff recommendation and fund the project at \$125,000. Mr. Close made the motion, Mr. Yonce seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Liberty Trail - Battle of Hobkirk's Hill (Conder Property)

SC Battleground Preservation Trust submitted an application for \$75,000 to acquire 1.72 acres in fee simple in Kershaw County. Doug Bostick spoke in favor of the project. Mr. McShane called for a motion to accept staff recommendation and fund the project at \$75,000. Mr. Williamson made the motion, Mr. Yonce seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Berkeley Orchard

City of Clemson submitted an application for \$162,500 to acquire 4.36 acres in fee simple in Pickens County. Mr. McShane called for a motion to accept staff recommendation and fund the project at \$162,500. Mr. Close made the motion, Mr. Yonce seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Piedmont Manufacturing Company YWCA

Piedmont Historical Preservation Society submitted an application for \$100,000 to acquire .70 acres in fee simple in Greenville County. The Grants Review Committee supported the staff recommendation to reduce the grant award to \$76,500 to equal 50% of the fair market value of the property. Bank staff was notified that the Greenville County Historic and Natural Resource Trust agreed to help make up the difference. Mr. McShane called for a motion to accept staff recommendation and fund the project at \$76,500. Mr. Close made the motion, Mr. Spencer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6) BOARD MEMBER OPEN DISCUSSION

All members thanked the Board and Staff for a great meeting and applauded the land trusts for their efforts.

7) TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman stated that the next scheduled Board Meeting would be held on June 8, 2022, at 10am at Table Rock State Park.

8) ADJOURN

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Williamson made the motion, Mr. Wilhoit seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.