

**Land, Water & Conservation Division  
Advisory Committee Minutes  
Dennis Building, Room 357  
Columbia, South Carolina  
Tuesday, October 15, 2013**

**CONFERENCE CALL**

<b><i>Present</i></b>	Bill Simpson	Lynn Youmans
	Larry Nates	Dr. Nadim Aziz
	Jim McLeod	Trish Hartung
	Steve Kinard	Tom Garrison
<b><i>Staff:</i></b>	Ken Rentiers	Marc Cribb
	Dorothy Phillips	

***Call to Order/Welcome:*** The **October 15, 2013** meeting was called to order by Chairman William Simpson at 10:10 a.m. In compliance with the provisions of Section 30-4-80(e) (Freedom of Information Act), notification of this meeting was posted in public places. Absent from the meeting, Oscar Stevens, Lewis Walker, Marvin Davant, Charles Broadwell, Webb Smathers and Dean Moss.

***Approval of April 23, 2013 Minutes:*** Bill Simpson made a motion to approve the April 23, 2013 Minutes and seconded by Steve Kinard, all were in favor and the motion passed.

***Deputy Director's Report:*** Ken Rentiers reported that there was a signed agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers, GA DNR and the Nature Conservancy to continue the Savannah River Basin study. Basin modeling request for proposals will begin in November. This will be used to update the state water plan and would aid in water planning to educate the public in conjunction with the agreement with Clemson University. To improve the monitoring network the Calhoun County site is near completion. Ken informed the Committee about the installment of two salt water intrusion monitoring wells, one in Dixie Plantation and Garish Landing (Charleston County)

Updated the Committee on the 2012 changes in Flood Mitigation insurance laws; Biggert-Waters Act and the affect this will have on current flood insurance and the drastic increase in flood insurance rates. Informed the Committee that Florida introduced legislation to withdraw from the national flood insurance program. Fact sheets are available to the Committee for more information.

Ken updated the committee on the Haile Gold Mine – acquisition Cook's Mountain & Goodwill Plantation in Lancaster County, and the opposition from some of Richland County because of the

possible lack of public access. DNR does not feel that public access will be a problem and how important having this as a managed property and the impact this would have on the habitat. Ken extended an invitation to the Committee to attend the November 7<sup>th</sup> Heritage Trust Advisory Board Meeting being held at Cook's Mountain.

Ken informed the Committee that funds for part-time personnel was vetoed and that we will have part-time hourly personnel to assist with the Envirothon.

**Committee Comments:** Chairman Simpson updated the Committee on the current activities and including Dr. Aziz's promotion at Clemson University. Trish Hartung wanted to know what impact the federal government close down was having on the conservation district programs (USDA). Ken informed the committee that the field staff were still able to continue their work, but were not able access their office and computers. Funds were encumbered and staff will continue to get paid and that no staff had to be furloughed.

**Executive Session:** At 10:30 a.m. Jim McLeod motioned to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues with a second by Tom Garrison. All were in favor.

At 10:45 a.m. Jim McLeod made a motion to return from Executive Session, seconded by Bill Simpson. All were in favor.

Larry Nates motioned that the Conservation District Commissioner re-appointments be approved and the motion was seconded by Steve Kinard, all were in favor. The Conservation District Commissioner re-appointments were approved as follows: Barry H. Jurs, Berkeley; Jefferson H. Wilson, Chester; Theron L. Dewitt, Darlington; Charles H. Coleman, Fairfield; William G. Henderson, Greenwood; Joe H. Ghent, Lancaster; Robert A. Boyce, Lee; Dwight E. Davis, Lexington and Thomas A. O'Neal, Marlboro. A motion for the re-appointment of Thomas E. Garrison, Anderson was made by Steve Kinard and seconded by Trish Hartung all were in favor with the exception of Tom Garrison, who abstained.

Steve Kinard made a motion that the new Conservation District Commissioners with the exception of Phyllis M. Albert, McCormick; be approved and seconded by Trish Hartung, all were in favor. The new appointments were approved and are as follows: David B. Owens, Marion and Samuel S. Williamson, Williamsburg.

Marc Cribb will draft a letter to the chairman of the McCormick Conservation District explaining why Commissioner Albert's appointment would not be forwarded to the DNR Board for approval.

***Next Meeting Date:*** Scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 6 p.m., location TBD.  
Legislative Meeting that evening.

***Adjournment:*** Motion to adjourn was made at 11:05 by Bill Simpson; all were in favor to adjourn.

Dorothy L. Phillips