

Land, Water & Conservation Division: Advisory Committee Minutes

Zoom

June 4, 2024, 10:00 AM

Present:

Dean Moss

Jim McLeod

Webb Smathers

Diane Edwins

Larry Nates

Will Glenn

DNR Exec & Staff:

Ken Rentiers, Tyler Brown, Brooke Myres, Jordan Baker

Call to Order/Welcome: The June 4, 2024, meeting was called to order by Mr. Moss, who welcomed and thanked all for attending.

Approval of the minutes from April 3, 2024. Motion made by Mrs. Edwins, 2nd by Mr. Glenn; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

Following the invocation and approval of minutes, Ken Rentiers provided a Deputy Director’s report.

Deputy Director’s Report; Ken Rentiers:

Mr. Rentiers gave the committee a brief update. He informed the committee that the Conservation Districts program will be getting two positions to fill this year to grow their team. He also gave a brief update on the split of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, letting the committee know that next month, our Hydrology and Aquatic Nuisance programs will officially start working at the Department of Environmental Services.

With a quorum present, the LWC Advisory Committee proceeded with commissioner appointments. The appointment list was distributed.

Conservation District Commissioner Appointments:

Ken Rentiers: There are five total. Two new appointments, Joshua Johnson in Calhoun County and Elizabeth Bernat in Charleston County, and three reappointments, Landis Hiers in Bamberg County, Alton Jeffords in Darlington County, and John Rivers in Sumter County.

Chair: Any questions about appointments? No comment was made

Approval of New Appointments. Motion was made by Mr. McLeod, 2nd by Mr. Nates; - no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

Approval of Reappointments. Motion was made by Mr. McLeod, 2nd by Mr. Nates; - no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

There is no executive session.

Comments:

Larry Nates: Spoke to the committee about seeing Mr. John Parris recently and spoke about his passion for conservation.

Dean Moss: Spoke to the committee about the fantastic efforts Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District has made with reaching out and helping African American farmers in the area. He is impressed by the district's hard work and passion for conservation.

Jim McLeod: Made some recommendations for the ongoing research on Snow Island, suggesting different ideas to help with funding this project.

Meeting dates were presented to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned. ***Motion was made by Mr. McLeod, 2nd by Mrs. Edwin; - no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.***