

Rivers/Flooding issues being addressed in Pee Dee and Santee River areas and issues being brought to DNR Board with specifics. Also, Bill Marshall has updated the Black Scenic River Plan; and upcoming Beach Sweep, River Sweep scheduled has been canceled this year to be rescheduled again next year.

Conservation Districts Report; Tyler Brown:

Conservation Districts in SC have shown and continue to show flexibility and resourcefulness during these unusual times and continue to work hard as usual finding new ways to share information and do educational presentations. Some Districts have hosted and presented virtually while some events are held in-person with strict guidelines. DNR offered each Conservation District Personal Protection Equipment of 10 cloth face masks and staff mailed to Districts.

SC Farmers and Landowners have done/continue to do great work in Soil and Water Conservation efforts and continue to produce as usual throughout the pandemic. Thanks to them that we did not have any food security issues.

Chief Matt Lohr (NRCS) announced his resignation and Kevin Norton is serving as Acting Chief.

Strategic Planning Meeting this year has been postponed and a new date to meet in person for this is to be determined.

Partnership Conference Meeting in February is being discussed and the committee is leaning towards postponing for a year; decision is forthcoming, and we will keep everyone posted. In the meantime, the Business Meeting portion will be held virtually.

State Appropriations to Conservation Districts funding is being processed by Districts submitting a single request which will result in 2 equal payments of \$7,500.00 to be disbursed to each District. They will receive 1 check the initial round, which has begun and 1 check in the next round, which begins in January. Per Ken Rentiers, this full amount is not guaranteed but we are hopeful/planning for it to be as stated. There is a slight chance that additional cuts to the budget may minimally decrease the amount, but the cut should not be far from the current level of funding for this appropriation.

Watersheds: Chris Workman has been steady working on Dam Inspections and other watershed projects and does great work staying in close touch with Watershed issues and information sharing throughout our watershed districts.

Envirothon Competition: Brooke Myres put together a great program with little notice of the cancellation of this year's event. The Virtual Envirothon Challenge was hosted online and was very successful with great participation.

Federal Funded Programs, which fund our Field Staff are ongoing and a new pilot program for Feral Swine Eradication is underway in Newberry and Hampton Counties.

Chairman: Any questions/further/additional discussion before we move to business on the agenda?

Some members briefly discussed the Federal Land, Water and Conservation Bill/Law with questions to Ken Rentiers on if DNR/LWC will apply for/claim any of these dollars. Ken answered that our Fish and Wildlife Service will receive a portion of it. Also asked if this money/funding is permanent, to which Ken responded, yes. Also questions as to what specifically this money will be used for and Ken says likely Restoration Projects and Land Acquisitions.

Chairman: Any further discussion? Hearing none, called on Ken/Tyler to review the letter from SCACD President concerning their recommendation for the DNR Board to appoint a new member of the LWC Advisory Committee to fill the position available due to Mr. Broadwell's resignation.

- **Agenda item VI: For Committee Action**
- **(A) LWC Advisory Committee Member Appointment -**

Tyler Brown directed members to their copy of the letter referred to above in which the SCACD together recommends Mrs. Diane Edwins of Berkeley County to be appointed to fill the vacant position (Area 4 / includes Counties of: Dillon, Horry, Marion, Florence, Williamsburg, Georgetown, Berkeley, Clarendon, and Sumter).

Committee Members discussed and agreed that this recommendation is a great one for many reasons including her extensive dedication and work in the area of Soil and Water Conservation and her proven leadership in Conservation Districts.

Chairman: Is there a motion to forward Mrs. Diane Edwins' name and accompanying information to the DNR Board for their consideration of her appointment at their next meeting?

Motion was made by Tom Garrison and Seconded by Patricia Hartung to make the Committee's recommendation to the DNR Board in favor of the approval of the appointment of Ms. Edwins at the next DNR Board Meeting. With all in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

- **(B) Conservation District Commissioner Appointments –**

Tyler Brown directed members to their copy of the spreadsheet listing current nominees for consideration as Appointees and/or Re-appointees to serve as Conservation District Commissioners. With complete package of entire applications on each nominee having been provided in advance, are there any questions or concerns?

Chairman: Any further discussion, or questions/concerns? Hearing none, is there a motion to approve the entire list?

Motion was made by Tom Garrison and Seconded by Patricia Hartung to approve the entire list for DNR's Board to consider final approval of nominees for appointment and re-appointment at the next meeting. With all in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

- **Agenda item VIII: Comments: Chairman Simpson** noted that the hurricane had little or no impact in Charleston from what he can tell; asked if others had anything to note and hearing none, the meeting was **Adjourned** at 10:42am.