

**SCDNR Land, Water and Conservation Advisory Committee Minutes**

**SCDNR Office & Zoom  
5 Geology Road  
Columbia, SC 29212**

**Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 10:00 AM**

***Present:***

Dean Moss  
Diane Edwins  
Hope Blackley  
James McLeod

Larry Nates  
Marvin Davant  
Patricia Hartung  
Tom Garrison

Webb Smathers  
Will Glenn

***DNR Exec & Staff:***

Brooke Myres  
Tyler Brown

Jordan Baker

Robert Clark

**Call to Order/Welcome:** The January 6, 2026, meeting was called to order by Tyler Brown, who welcomed and thanked all for attending.

Following the call to order, the invocation was given, and guests were introduced to the committee. Tyler Brown introduced Robert Clak, who is the GIS Manager in the Land, Water, and Conservation Division at SCDNR.

**Election of LWC Advisory Committee Chair:**

Following Bill Simpson's retirement, the committee was asked to come together to select the next Chair and Vice Chair. After discussion, it was decided that Will Glenn will serve as the new Chair and Dean Moss will serve as Vice Chair.

***Motion made for Will Glen to serve as Chairman for the Land, Water and Conservation Advisory Committee by Ms. Hartung, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dean Moss; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.***

***Motion made for Dean Moss to serve as Vice Chairman for the Land, Water and Conservation Advisory Committee by Dr. Smathers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Hartung; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.***

**Approval of Minutes**

***Motion was made to approve the August 26, 2025 Minutes by Ms. Hartung, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Edwins – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.***

**Deputy Director's Report; Tyler Brown:**

Mr. Brown gave the Deputy Director's report on behalf of Deputy Director Ken Rentiers. Mr. Brown informed the committee that the legislative session will begin next Tuesday. There is a big budget request this year, but we are hopeful to move forward with the request. On the request is more weather stations, for support for flood mapping, as well the Conservation District Technical Assistance Program. Overall our top ask in retention funding to help support and keep our outstanding staff. In the Legislative sessions, there will be a discussion with the WaterSC on the drought laws, and there will be a discussion on recommendations for those laws with the Drought Committee. WaterSC has released the state water plan. Mr. Brown took the time to thank Mr. Moss for his time and dedication to help create this state water plan.

**Executive Session:**

*Motion was made for the LWC Advisory Committee to enter Executive Session by Mr. Glenn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Hartung; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.*

*Motion was made for the LWC Advisory Committee to return to regular session by Ms. Hartung, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Mr. Nates; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed. No actions were taken during executive session.*

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

**Conservation District Commissioner Appointments:**

*Approval of New Appointments. Motion was made by Ms. Hartung, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Smathers; no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.*

*Approval of Reappointments. Motion was made by Ms. Hartung, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Smathers; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.*

*Approval of Commissioner Emeritus. Motion was made by Ms. Hartung, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Smathers; – no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.*

**2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule:**

Ms. Myres presented to the committee a list of upcoming dates to meet in 2026. The meetings would still be at 10 AM and will also offer a hybrid option for members who cannot attend in person. In December, the committee will need to conduct its FIOA training. Below are the proposed dates:

- Tuesday, March 10, 2026
- Tuesday, June 9, 2026
- Tuesday, September 29, 2026
- Tuesday, December 1, 2026

**Comments:**

During the closing comments, no comment was made.

This meeting was adjourned. *Motion was made by Mr. McLeod, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Hartung; - no further discussion – all in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.*