

**MINUTES  
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD  
TELECONFERENCE MEETING  
REMBERT C. DENNIS BUILDING, ROOM 357  
RICHLAND COUNTY  
NOVEMBER 3, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Julia Krebs (Acting Chair)  
Sonny King  
Jake Rasor  
Kevin Hunter  
Steve Tully  
Julien Springs  
Ken Rentiers  
Eric Emerson  
States Clawson  
Darryl Jones (for Gene Kodama)  
Terry Hurley (for Duane Parrish)  
Breck Carmichael (for Alvin Taylor)

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ken Prosser  
Sean Taylor  
Meg Gaillard  
Bob Perry  
Lorianne Riggin  
Van Whitehead  
Scott Speares  
Bert Pittman  
Harry Shealy  
Kay Daniels  
Debbie Winslow  
Jennifer Konarski

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

Campbell Coxe (Chair)  
Dave Cicimurri (for William Calloway)  
Jonathan Leader

**Call to Order**

In Chairman Coxe's absence, Board member Dr. Julia Krebs called the meeting to order and a roll call of attendance was taken.

**Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Krebs asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions to the minutes from the August 4, 2016, meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB). *Dr. King made a motion that the Board approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016, meeting, as submitted. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

## **DOT Mitigation Project in Aiken County**

Bob Perry, Director of Environmental Programs for DNR, stated the agency was approached by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) about mitigation needed for the replacement of an existing two-lane bridge on State Road 126 in Aiken County. He then introduced Lorianne Riffin, staff project manager, to explain the proposal.

Mrs. Riffin reported this activity would result in required compensatory mitigation and to fulfill this need, SCDOT proposed acquiring the Jackson Tract and donating it to SCDNR. The tract comprises 118.54 acres adjacent to Henderson Heritage Preserve and borders Bridge Creek, a perennial stream and wetland complex that runs through the Preserve. After the property is acquired, it would be dedicated as a Heritage Preserve and placed into the corpus of the Heritage Trust. Mrs. Riffin noted the acquisition would increase the acreage of Henderson Heritage Preserve to approximately 600 acres.

Currently, the site is predominantly mixed deciduous and evergreen forest focused on silviculture with minor agriculture practices and one structure. There is a powerline easement held by Santee Cooper that is 150 feet wide and 1,437 feet long through a portion of the tract.

The mitigation for impacts to waters of the United States will:

- Remove three earthen dams on Bridge Creek, a perennial stream and wetland complex that runs through the Preserve, and restore the stream channel (approximately 3800 linear feet).
- Reestablish connectivity of two unnamed tributaries to Bridge Creek.
- Enhance riparian and wetland vegetation.

The addition of this property may also enhance the protection of bog spicebush, a state plant species of concern found within the existing Preserve. The overall restoration work will result in approximately 5600 linear feet of stream restored, 16 acres of wetlands enhancement and 3 acres of wetlands preserved. These activities will improve water quality and aquatic species movement within Bridge Creek and the unnamed tributaries.

*Mr. Rasor made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board approve the acquisition, by donation from the South Carolina Department of Transportation, of the Jackson Tract, a 118.54 acre property in Aiken County to be protected under the Heritage Trust Act and incorporated into the Heritage Trust Program as part of the adjacent Henderson Heritage Preserve, conditional upon the success*

*of all due diligence and approval by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Springs seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

### **Bond Debt Retirement**

Mr. Rentiers stated the Board owed Mr. Scott Speares, DNR Assistant Deputy Director of Outreach and Support Services, a huge debt of thanks for all the work he has done on this bond retirement. He commended the way the staff and the Board has managed monies to allow Heritage Trust to be in the position to make this payoff.

Mr. Speares reported the estimated balance due to redeem the outstanding bond is \$8,150,000 and the State Treasurer's Office is currently holding \$6,438,798.33, plus accruing interest in escrow. Therefore, the DNR Board will need to approve the transfer of approximately \$1,711,201.67 from Heritage Trust to complete bond redemption. Based on recent Heritage Trust revenue and anticipated future income, Mr. Speares stated there will be sufficient funds in Heritage Trust to cover other outstanding obligations and foreseeable anticipated capital or operating needs.

*Mr. Hunter made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommend that the DNR Board pursue early debt retirement of the Heritage Trust Revenue Bond, Series 2006. Mr. Tully seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.*

### **Updates and Comments**

Ken Rentiers, DNR Deputy Director of Land, Water & Conservation Division, reported to the Board that revenue for October was not available for distribution at the meeting. As soon as it becomes available, he will email it to them. Overall, revenues continue to increase.

Sean Taylor, Heritage Trust archaeologist, said staff had examined four cultural properties that were affected from Hurricane Matthew and found no significant damage. Green's Shell Enclosure, South Bluff, Altamaha, and Fort Frederick Heritage Preserves incurred mostly fallen tree limbs, which will be removed.

Mr. Taylor reported the search for a building to house the archaeological staff and equipment is ongoing. The owners of the armory building in West Columbia stated they were not interested in selling. He is working with a real estate developer to locate other sites and hopes to have something more definite to report at the next meeting.

Mr. Rentiers stated Botany Bay Heritage Preserve/Wildlife Management Area did incur some major beach erosion. He flew over most of the coastal heritage preserve properties and said many areas suffered erosion and loss of sea turtle habitat. Mr. Rentiers noted the coastal properties are still being accessed.

Mr. Rentiers stated the Flood Mitigation staff, which is within the Land, Water and Conservation Division, has been on the ground and flying in the helicopter assessing damage from Hurricane Matthew in the following counties: Florence, Marion, Sumter, Horry, Georgetown, Beaufort, Jasper, Allendale, Colleton, and Charleston. He said there are varied amounts of destruction in all of them. As more information comes in, a brief will be sent out to keep the Board informed.

### **Time and Location of Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board will be held Thursday, February 2, 2017. It was proposed to have the meeting in Beaufort at a location to be determined.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, *Mr. Carmichael made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tully seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.*