

**Heritage Trust Advisory Board Meeting
Parker Annex Archaeology Center
2025 Barnwell Street, Columbia, SC 29201
Thursday, February 27, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.**

Members Present

Campbell Coxe (Chairman)
Tom Holloway
Kevin Hunter
Sonny King
Julia Krebs
Julien Springs
Jonathan Leader
Brad Sauls (for Eric Emerson)
States Clawson (for Bobby Hitt)
Tom Patton (for Scott Philips)
Ken Rentiers
Terry Hurley (for Duane Parrish)
Emily Cope (for Robert Boyles)
Jake Razor

Members Absent

William Calloway

Others Present

Austen Pickhardt
Bill Marshall
Billy Dukes
Blaik Keppler
David Lucas
Dawn Beaver
Harry Shealy
James Fowler
Jennifer Konarski
Jordan Baker
Karen Smith
Keith Bradley
Ken Prosser
Meg Gaillard
Pat Cloninger
Sean Taylor
Tom Swaynham
Travis Bennett
Van Whitehead
Willie Simmons
Hunter Young
Ashley Dale Henslee
Lalon Swaney
Skyler Yakes
Gene Johnston and 2 guests
Corbin Jenkins
Ed Saxon
Christy Everett
Gary Brown

Call to Order

Chairman Coxe called the meeting to order.

Welcome and Introduction

Chairman Coxe had everybody around the room introduce themselves.

Introduction of New Staff

Ken Rentiers introduced new staff member Keith Bradley. He serves as the new Botanist for the Heritage Trust Program.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Coxe noted that the minutes from the previous meeting had been sent to all Board members. *Mr. Springs made a motion that the Board approve the minutes of November 14, 2019, meeting as submitted. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

Items for Board Information

A) Presentation on Petroglyphs: Gene Johnston, private citizen:

Mr. Johnston makes a presentation on his thoughts of what the marks could be on the petroglyphs in the upstate at Taylor Rock and Pinnacle Mountain. Mr. Johnston suggest that the marks are cultural while SCDNR is sure that they are natural marks on the petroglyphs. Mr. Johnston showed several photos and videos of the areas with these suggested carvings. Mr. Johnston wishes to have SCDNR's help to look further into these marks and needs assistance clearing vegetation to try and prove his theory.

B) SCDNR Policy Training: Van Whitehead, Assistant Chief Counsel

Mr. Whitehead updated on the board on the changes of the SCDNR policy and informed newer board members on the SCDNR Policy.

C) Crab Bank Update: Billy Dukes, Chief of Wildlife, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries, for Lorianne Riggins.

Mr. Dukes informed the board on the tremendous progress at the crab bank. Mr. Dukes also gives a brief history lesson how the Crab Bank was formed, it was a manmade island to help sea birds have a sanctuary. Recently they have had a fundraiser to help the island, it is disappearing fast and needs more sand added to help with the sea bird population. Mr. Dukes team has helped raised enough money to help fix the issue while continuing to help the sea bird population.

D) Wateree River HP/WMA Overview: Willie Simmons, Region 3 Coordinator, and Travis Bennett, Unit 3 A Biologist, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries.

Mr. Simmons informed the board on the Wateree River HP/WMA. He explained how the floods have affected the areas and they needed major renovation, he showed before and after photos of how they have improved some of the trails. Mr. Simmons also showed photos of the benefits of controlled fire burns throughout the property. He also mentioned how the public has taken more advantage of the site since cleaning up the property through youth hunts, regular hunts, hiking, and taking advantage of the outdoors.

Items for Board Action

A) Property Acquisition for Oconee County

- a. Ken Prosser, Assistant Deputy Director of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries as for final approval of property donation of 2,700 acres adjoining Brasstown Creek Heritage Preserve in Oconee County. *Mr. Leader made a motion to approve the request, Dr. Krebs seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Lunch

Before going into Executive Session, Mr. Coxe suggested Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority (GSWSA) give their presentation. GSWSA is asking for SCDNR's help and approval to build a 36" water line along the Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve. This new water line is to help with the growing population in Horry County.

- B) 36" Water Line Installation for Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority (GSWSA):
Corbin Jenkins, Goodwyn Mills, and Cawood Inc.

Executive Session

Mr. King made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss items B, C, D, E, and F. Mr. States seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

- C) Property Acquisition in Pickens County: Ken Prosser, Assistant Deputy Director, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries
D) Potential Property Acquisition in Greenville County: Ken Prosser, Assistant Deputy Director, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries
E) Potential Property Acquisition (680 acres) in Lexington County: Sean G. Taylor, Senior SCDNR Archaeologist, Land, Water, & Conservation
F) Potential Property Acquisition (100 acres) in Lexington County: Sean G. Taylor, Senior SCDNR Archaeologist, Land, Water, & Conservation

Open Session

Mr. Leader made a motion that the Board return to public session, and to let the record reflect that no action was taken in Executive Session. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

36" Water Line Installation for Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority (GSWSA):

Mr. King made a motion to move forward with GSWSA's request. Dr. Krebs seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Property Acquisition in Pickens County:

Dr. Krebs made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board, subject to standard due diligence, recommend to the SCDNR Board final approval of the acquisition of approximately 12 acres adjoining Wadakoe Mountain Heritage Preserve in Pickens County to be dedicated as a heritage preserve and place in the corpus of the SC Heritage Trust. Mr. King seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Potential Property Acquisition in Greenville County:

Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommend that the SCDNR Board grant preliminary approval to investigate a potential property acquisition of approximately 17 acres east of Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve in Greenville County, that would be dedicated as a heritage preserve and placed into the corpus of the SC Heritage Trust, and the expenditure of up to \$20,000 in Heritage Trust funds to conduct due diligence activities. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Potential Property Acquisition (680 acres) in Lexington County:

Dr. Krebs made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommend that the SCDNR Board grant preliminary approval to investigate a potential property acquisition of approximately 680 acres adjoining SCDNR's Congaree Creek Heritage Preserve in Lexington County to be dedicated as a heritage preserve and placed in the corpus of the SC Heritage Trust, and the expenditure of up to \$200,000 of Heritage Trust funds to conduct due diligence activities. Mr. King seconded the motion and the motion carries unanimously.

Potential Property Acquisition (100 acres) in Lexington County:

Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommend that the SCDNR Board grant preliminary approval to investigate a potential property acquisition of approximately 100 acres west of Congaree Creek Heritage Preserve in Lexington County, that would be dedicated as a heritage preserve and placed into the corpus of the SC Heritage Trust, and the expenditure of up to \$20,000 in Heritage Trust funds to conduct due diligence activities. Mr. Springs seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Other Items

Mr. Rentiers distributed the latest financial statement and commented on its growth. He also gave thanks to his staff.

Time and Place of the May 14, 2020 Board Meeting

The May Board meeting will be held at Edisto.

Adjournment

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

*Respectfully Submitted,
Jordan Baker
Administrative Assistant
SC Department of Natural Resources
Land, Water and Conservation Division*