

**Minutes**  
**Heritage Trust Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Parker Annex Archaeology Center**  
**2025 Barnwell Street**  
**Columbia, SC 29201**  
**Thursday, August 12, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Members Present**

Campbell Coxe (Chairman)  
Emily Cope (for Robert Boyles)  
Jake Rasor (for Norman Pulliam)  
Jonathan Leader  
Julien Springs  
Ken Rentiers  
Kevin Hunter  
Meredith Nichter (for Amy Bartow-Melia)  
Norris Thigpen (for Harry Lightsey)  
Rob Keck  
Russell Hubright (for Scott Philips)  
Sonny King  
States Clawson (retiring member)  
Terry Hurley (for Duane Parish)  
Tom Holloway

**Others Present**

Bill Marshall  
Billy Dukes  
Blaik Keppler  
Dawn Beaver  
Jordan Baker  
Keith Bradley  
Ken Prosser  
Sean Taylor  
Van Whitehead

**Members Absent**

Julia Krebs  
Brad Sauls (for Eric Emerson)

**Call to Order**

Chairman Coxe called the meeting to order.

**Welcome and Introduction**

Chairman Coxe gave a warm welcome to everyone attending and introduced himself to new members.

**Roll Call of Attendance**

Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves for the roll call.

**Recognition of States Clawson, SC Department of Commerce**

Chairman Coxe took a moment to recognize States Clawson and his retirement. Both Chairman Coxe and Ken Rentiers thanked Mr. Clawson for everything he has done for the Board.

**Introduction of Norris Thigpen, SC Department of Commerce, and Rob Keck, Gubernatorial Appointee, District 3**

Chairman Coxe gave a quick introduction of Norris Thigpen and Rob Keck. Both Mr. Thigpen and Mr. Keck mentioned their backgrounds and their enthusiasm for being on the Board.

**Public Comment Period**

Chairman Coxe asked if anyone wanted to speak during this time. No comment was made.

**Approval of Minutes from May 13, 2021**

Chairman Coxe noted that the minutes from the previous meeting had been sent to all Board Members. *Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board approve the minutes from the May 13, 2021, meeting as submitted with one name being fixed due to misspelling. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**Items for Board Action**

**Potential Conflict of Interest Statement**

*Chairman Coxe read the “Potential Conflict of Interest Statement” before going over the Items for Board Action.*

**Enter Executive Session**

*Mr. Leader made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session pursuant to S.C. Code Section 30-4-70(A)(2) to discuss property acquisitions related to Items A, B, and C. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.*

**A) Potential Property Acquisition in Horry County:** Preliminary Approval, Cartwheel Bay Heritage Preserve/WMA: Ken Prosser, Assistant Deputy Director, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries

**B) Potential Property Acquisition in Horry County:** Preliminary Approval, Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve/WMA: Ken Prosser, Assistant Deputy Director, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries

**C) Potential Property Donation in Charleston County:** Preliminary Approval, Fort Lamar Heritage Preserve: Sean Taylor, Senior Archaeologist, Land, Water and Conservation

**Open Session**

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

**Motions on Items for Action**

**A) Potential Property Acquisition in Horry County: Preliminary Approval, Cartwheel Bay Heritage Preserve/WMA**

*Mr. Springs made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board, upon recommendation of SCDNR staff, recommend that the SCDNR Board grant preliminary approval to investigate the potential purchase of approximately 418 acres adjoining Cartwheel Bay Heritage Preserve/WMA in Horry 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 sue diligence activities. Mr. King seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**B) Potential Property Acquisition in Horry County: Preliminary Approval, Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve/WMA**

*Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board, upon the recommendation of SCDNR staff, recommend that the SCDNR Board grant preliminary approval to investigate the potential purchase of approximately 1,660 acres adjoining the Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve/WMA in Horry 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. Hunter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**C) Potential Property Acquisition in Charleston County: Preliminary Approval, Fort Lamar Heritage Preserve**

*Mr. Leader made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommend that the SCDNR Board grant preliminary approval to investigate the potential property donation of approximately 7.62 acres adjacent to the western property line of Fort Lamar Heritage Preserve in Charleston 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 of Heritage Trust funds to conduct due diligence activities. Mr. King seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**D) Heritage Preserve Management Program Budget FY23: Billy Dukes, Chief of Wildlife, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division**

*Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board approve the Heritage Preserve Management Program Budget FY23 as presented. Mr. Leader seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**E) Coastal Preserves Program Budget FY23: Blaik Keppler, Director: Coastal Reserves and Outreach / Manager: ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve, Marine Division**

*Mr. Springs made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board approve the Coastal Preserves Program Budget FY23 as presented. Mr. King seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**F) Habitat Protection Program Budget FY23: Bill Marshall, Program Manager / Keith Bradley, Botanist, Land, Water and Conservation Division**

*Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board approve the Habitat Protection Program Budget FY23 as presented. Mr. Leader seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**G) Cultural Preserve Management Program Budget FY23: Sean Taylor, Senior Archaeologist, Land, Water and Conservation Division**

*Mr. Leader made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board approve the Cultural Preserve Management Program Budget FY23 as presented. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

**Items for Board Information**

**A) Cultural Preserve Management Program Update: Sean Taylor, Senior Archaeologist, Land, Water and Conservation Division**

Sean Taylor gave a brief update of the Cultural Preserve Management Program. They have been heavily working on rebuilding and stabilizing Poinsett Bridge. Mr. Taylor and his team are

working closely with engineers on the stabilization of the bridge and working on creating a better public access. Poinsett Bridge was built in 1820, located in the upstate in Greenville County. Many people come to visit the bridge that was once part of the road from Columbia, SC to the mountains. Mr. Taylor showed some photos of their recent trip, these photos showed the hard work of his team and showed how much the bridge has eroded over the years. Mr. Taylor mentioned Karen Smith had been working “World Engraved”, a digital resource that is available to help create a better understanding of pottery found in Southern Appalachian, this includes Swift Creek Pottery. Mr. Taylor mentioned the upcoming Pockoy trip for their continued work in Edisto. They are still working on ring 1 and ring 2. Along with Pockoy Mr. Taylor announced that Meg Gaillard’s intern program with 20 people had just ended.

**Other Items**

Mr. Rentiers took a moment to thank staff for their continued hard work and mentioned that there were lots of upcoming projects that he was very excited about. He also mentioned a thanks for the new Board Members for attending and is looking forward to working with them in the future.

**Time and Place of the November 11, 2021 Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board would normally be held Thursday, November 11, 2021. Since this is a State holiday, an alternate was selected. The next meeting will be held on November 4, 2021 and will most likely be held at Parker Annex.

**Adjournment**

*Having no further business to discuss, Mr. King made a motion that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board be adjourned. Mr. Keck seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

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