Call to Order

Campbell Coxe called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and requested they introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Coxe asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions to the minutes from the May 7, 2009, meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. Dr. King made a motion that the Board approve the minutes of the May 7, 2009, meeting, as submitted. Mr. Rasor seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
Updates and Comments

Ken Rentiers invited Board members to the Woodbury dedication ceremony in Marion County on November 13, 2009. He reported that on June 16, 2009, Representative Funderburk introduced legislation to amend the State Code of Laws by adding Section 16-11-780 so as to provide that it is unlawful to willfully, knowingly, or maliciously enter upon the posted lands of another or the State and investigate, disturb, or excavate a prehistoric or historic site for the purpose of discovering, uncovering, moving, removing, or attempting to remove an archaeological resource; to provide penalties and civil remedies; and to provide exceptions. Mr. Rentiers explained that the legislation would give all state lands the same protection as Heritage Trust lands regarding cultural resources. He added the bill was referred to the Ways and Means Committee and appears to have wide support.

Mr. Rentiers reminded the Board that the Kolb site exhibit is at the Hartsville Museum through November 14, 2009.

Region 2 Preserve Management Update

Johnny Stowe, DNR wildlife biologist, gave a brief overview of management activities in Region 2. Specifically, he discussed Forty Acre Rock Heritage Preserve (HP), the Kolb site archaeological dig at Great Pee Dee HP, Red-cockaded woodpecker clusters and prescribed burning on various preserves, herbicide work at Longleaf Pine HP, and the restoration of Schweinitz’s sunflowers on Rock Hill Blackjacks HP.

Woods Bay Heritage Preserve Management Plan

Mr. Stowe presented the management plan for Woods Bay Heritage Preserve and noted the 470-acre tract contains a relatively-intact, large Carolina Bay with cypress/gum swamp and pocosin natural community. He reported that restoration of longleaf pine had been completed on about 100 acres of the preserve.

Segars-McKinnon Heritage Preserve Management Plan

Mr. Stowe presented the management plan for Segars-McKinnon Heritage Preserve and stated the initial purchase of the 795-acre preserve occurred in 1993. He noted the most prominent feature of the preserve is Black Creek, a blackwater stream that begins near the North Carolina state line and empties into the Great Pee Dee River. Mr. Stowe added that the preserve also features a longleaf pine ecosystem.

Little Pee Dee River State Park Bay Heritage Preserve

Mr. Stowe presented the management plan and reported the preserve encompasses 301 acres in Dillon County and was purchased in 1991. He stated that a pocosin-dominated Carolina Bay of approximately 115 acres is found on the property and added that management objectives include maintaining the integrity of the bay and restoring the longleaf pine sandhill ecosystem.
Dr. Krebs made a motion that the Board approve all three management plans as presented. Dr. King seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**Revision of Cheraw State Park Registration Agreement**

Irvin Pitts reported this registration agreement was completed between the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources in 1986 and protects an 11-acre tract in Chesterfield County. He stated the agreement has been updated to conform to current management philosophies and noted the language regarding the Sweet pitcher plant is not correct.

Dr. King made a motion that the last sentence of paragraph 4 be stricken from the agreement and the document be redistributed to the Board members for approval at a later date. Mr. Rasor seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Review of the Mount Pleasant Easement**

Mr. Rentiers reported that state law requires conservation easements granted by governmental bodies to other entities be approved by the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. He explained that The Mount Pleasant Waterworks proposes to grant such an easement to The Mount Pleasant Open Space Foundation. Mr. Rentiers noted that the property comprises approximately 6.5 acres of highlands and approximately 50.84 acres of wetlands, and contains significant natural and ecological resources.

Dr. Krebs made a motion to approve the easement as presented. Dr. King seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Heritage Trust Budget Update**

Ken Rentiers updated the Board on the budget and noted some improvement in the documentary stamp tax revenue. He thanked Breck Carmichael and Tim Ivey for their efforts in reducing budget expenses concerning management activities. Mr. Ivey stated that he transferred 65 percent of his Heritage Trust management staff from state Heritage Trust funds to federal Wildlife Restoration funds. Chairman Coxe stated that we are not out of the woods yet and cautioned staff to remain conservative with overall budgets.

**Project Updates**

Mr. Rentiers reported that the Lighthouse Inlet acquisition project in Charleston County had been completed.

**2010 Meeting Dates**

Chairman Coxe announced that meeting dates for 2010 are February 4, May 6, August 5, and November 4. He stated that Board members will be notified of details before each meeting and
noted that on-site visits to the preserves have been enjoyed in the past and hopefully they can continue in the future.

Executive Session

At this time, Dr. King made a motion that the Board hold an Executive Session to discuss contractual and legal matters. Mr. Rentiers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Return to Regular Session

Dr. King made a motion that the Board return to regular session and noted that no actions were taken in Executive Session. Mr. Hamer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rasor made the following motion: The Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommends to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Board that placement of Target Road follow staff recommendations, based upon plans drawn at the direction of staff for the reconstruction of a portion of Target Road at the Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve in Horry County. It is further recommended that the DNR lawyers vigorously defend this recommendation in ongoing litigation. DNR should protect the integrity of the Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve and all heritage preserves to the greatest extent possible. Finally, the Heritage Trust Advisory Board hereby approves the expenditure of an additional $10,000 from the Heritage Trust Fund for legal fees in the event existing approved funds are insufficient for these purposes. Dr. King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Krebs made a motion to approve the use of funds for a property acquisition in Newberry County. Dr. King seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned.