Call to Order

Julia Krebs called the meeting to order and called the roll.

Background on Interstate 73

Barry Beasley stated I-73 is a highway project to connect Myrtle Beach with Detroit and the estimated cost for the South Carolina portion is $2 billion. He said the issue of compensation must be settled before the final environmental impact statement can be completed. Dr. Beasley said the preferred alternative for the highway would cross the Little Pee Dee River at the SC 917 corridor and impact 27 acres within the Little Pee Dee River Heritage Preserve. He added that Highway 917 would be rebuilt as a frontage road and impact an additional three acres.

Discussion of I-73 Compensation Proposal

John Frampton stated that the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) has never tried to block the I-73 project. He reported that he met with Buck Limehouse, Director of the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), and agreed to a 10:1 exchange at $2,500 per acre, subject to approval by the SCDNR Board and the South Carolina Budget and Control Board. Mr. Frampton stated that comparable land
values were examined and the agreed upon price is fair to all parties. He added the settlement would be deposited into the Heritage Land Trust Fund and used to acquire and protect similar habitat within the Little Pee Dee River corridor.

Campbell Coxe made a motion to approve the SCDOT offer of $2,500 per acre for compensation at a 10:1 ratio for the Little Pee Dee Heritage Preserve property. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Mr. Frampton stated the recommendation would go to the SCDNR Board on the September 28 and then to the South Carolina Budget and Control Board.

**Executive Session**

The Heritage Trust Advisory Board entered Executive Session to discuss contractual matters.

**Return to Regular Session**

HTAB returned to regular session.

**Time and Location of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at the Piedmont Forestry Center in Oconee County. A field trip will be held prior to the meeting on Wednesday, November 7.

**Adjournment**

No further business was brought before HTAB and the meeting was adjourned.

/k