

**Minutes from the 116th meeting of the
South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Council**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Chris Page called the 116th meeting of the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Council to order on March 18, 2014 at 10:08 am. The meeting was held in room 335 of the Dennis building at 1000 Assembly Street, Columbia, S.C. This meeting was open to the public and ample notice had been provided according to Section 30-4-80 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Attendance:

Council members in attendance included: Chris Page with the Department of Natural Resources: Land, Water and Conservation Division; Larry McCord with Santee Cooper Public Service Authority; Bob Perry with the Department of Natural Resources: Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division; Marc Cribb with the Department of Natural Resources: Land, Water and Conservation Division; Jeannie Eidson with the South Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Control; Stan Hutto with South Carolina Parks and Recreation Tourism; and David Wannamaker with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Guests in attendance included: Eddie Gleaton with the Goat Island Boat Club (GIBC); Debra Gleaton with the GIBC; Dale Cozart with the GIBC; Betty Cozart with the GIBC; Carl Cagle with the GIBC; Carolyn Cagle with the GIBC; Kris Blesie with the GIBC; Todd Horton with SePro Corporation; Casey Moorer with the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society; Wanda Johnson with the GIBC; Robert Hook, Lake

Murray homeowner; Ann Kelley with the GIBC; Alfred Kelly with the GIBC; J Miller with the GIBC; Mike Paladeis with the GIBC; Winston Hinds with the GIBC; Chip Davis with Santee Cooper; Michael Hook with the SCDNR LWC; Daniel Hood with the SCDNR LWC; Hal White with the GIBC; and Cathy White with the GIBC.

2. Review of the 115th Meeting Minutes

Chairman Page brought the minutes of the 115th meeting before the board for review. After a brief review period, Bob Perry moved that the minutes of the 115th meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Council be approved as written. Marc Cribb seconded Mr. Perry's motion and Chairman Page called for any discussion on the motion. Larry McCord stated that he would like to have pg 5 section D of item 3 in the last sentence of the first paragraph changed to include Santee Cooper along with SCDNR. Mr. McCord stated that he would like to have the responsibility for implementation of an adaptive stocking plan shared by Santee Cooper and SCDNR as opposed to being the sole responsibility of the SCDNR. Mr. Page called for any other discussion concerning the motion on the table. No other discussion was brought before the board. Mr. Page called for a vote on the motion to approve the 115th meeting minutes with the minor change suggested by Mr. McCord. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Call for Public Comments

Chairman Page called for Mr. Alfred Kelly, who requested time to address the board prior to the meeting. Mr. Kelly took the floor and introduced himself as a realtor, Lake Marion homeowner, and member of the Goat Island Boat Club. Mr. Kelly began by thanking Santee Cooper and SCDNR for all of their hard work put towards improving the

Santee Cooper lakes for all lake users. Mr. Kelly shared weigh in results from a recent Lake Marion fishing tournament and expressed his belief that the quality of the fish being caught in the Santee Cooper lakes would not be possible without the work conducted by Santee Cooper and the SCDNR to maintain and improve the system. Mr. Kelly also mentioned an increase in real estate values around the Santee Cooper lakes. Mr. Kelly stated that the increase would not have been possible if Santee Cooper and SCDNR had not worked so diligently to remove hydrilla infestations. Mr. Kelly finished his statements by addressing the members of the board and cooperating organizations in appreciation of all of their hard work. Mr. McCord thanked Mr. Kelly for his kind statements and mentioned that Santee Cooper's mission falls directly in line with Mr. Kelly's noted improvements. Mr. Page added that he would like to encourage members of the public to share their thoughts, and in particular, any thoughts for improvements which might be considered "out of the box thinking".

4. 2014 South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Plan Comments and Revisions.

Chairman Page called for a review of the 2014 South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Plan comments and revisions. Mr. Page stated that 14 comments were submitted; 11 in the form of email and 3 by mail. Mr. McCord addressed Mr. Page and the board to inquire whether a comment sent from a married couple counted as one comment or two. Mr. Page clarified that a married couple which sent two differing comments would be counted as two and a couple sending the same comment would be counted as a single comment. The board briefly reviewed the list of public comments.

Mr. McCord addressed the public to reiterate that the large influx of water from rain and release from Lake Wateree has appeared to have moved or killed much of the

hyacinth in upper Lake Marion. Mr. McCord shared his observations that harsh winters, like that seen from 2013-2014, have a possibility of greatly reducing hyacinth populations. Mr. Page agreed with Mr. McCord's belief that harsh winters can negatively impact hyacinth populations.

Mr. Page addressed the board and the public to remind everyone that the 2014 plan was released for public review, and a 30 day period for public comments was allowed. No comments concerning the changes for Lake Murray were received. Mrs. Eidson stated that she would make a minor change to the last sentence of the response section of the 2014 comments so that it reads "our goal is to return to maintenance mode". Mr. Perry moved that the 2014 South Carolina Aquatic Management Plan comments and response be amended to include Mrs. Eidson's correction and approved. Mr. McCord seconded that motion. Mr. Page called for any discussion and none was brought before the board. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

5. Old Business

Mr. Page called for any old business to be brought before the board. Mr. Perry moved to suspend the one dollar carp fee imposed by SCDNR. Jeannie Eidson seconded the motion. Mr. Page called for any discussion. A brief discussion of the restrictions of use imposed on the carp fee funds and Leo Rose's efforts to amend the language to allow for more liberal applications of the carp fee funds. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. New Business

Mr. Page called for any new business to be brought before the board. Mr. McCord discussed progress towards implementing the Florida "Lakeville" education

program discussed at previous board meetings. Mr. McCord shared that a meeting had taken place between North Carolina, South Carolina, Santee Cooper, and Duke to discuss the course of action required to begin implementation of the Florida education program “Lakeville” in North and South Carolina schools. Mr. McCord stated that a search of North and South Carolina curriculums had shown that Lakeville’s teaching objectives fell within the standards for North and South Carolina public education programs. Mr. McCord said that funds are being solicited from the Aquatic Plant Management Society to cover the travel and meal expenses for one teacher from North Carolina and one teacher from South Carolina to travel to Florida for a training program. Mr. Page indicated that SCDNR Aquatic Nuisance Species staff would be willing to take training courses for expanding the education program into South Carolina schools. Mr. Page showed an interest in developing workshops for South Carolina teachers, which would train them to teach the importance of invasive species management and prevention through the Florida based education program. Mr. Page called for any additional new business and none was brought before the board.

7. Adjourned

Bob Perry moved that the 116th meeting of the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Council be adjourned. Larry McCord seconded Mr. Perry’s motion. Chairman Page called for discussion on the motion and none was brought before the board. The motion to adjourn the 116th meeting passed by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 10:47am.