

**South Carolina Mitigation Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023
Video Conference**

I. Opening

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Mitigation Association was called to order at 9:00 AM via Zoom by Ross Nelson, the SCMA President. A quorum was present.

Attending:

Ross Nelson, President	Allen Conger
Daniel Johnson, Vice President	Tory Grayson
Sydni Redmond, Treasurer	Chris Ryan
Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary	Ryan Smith
Tara Allden	
Adrienne Graham	

II. Approval of Previous Minutes

Sydni Redmond made a motion to approve the minutes of December 13. Chris Ryan seconded the motion, which carried.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the December Quarterly Meeting minutes. Tory Grayson seconded the motion, which carried.

III. Financial Report

Ms. Redmond reported the association is in a good financial position.

IV. Quarterly Meeting

The March 15 meeting will be at Cypress Preserve. Pee Dee Land Trust will provide lunch. Attendees may kayak for \$85 per person or use bicycles at no cost after the meeting.

David Wilson, USACE, will be invited to speak on SQT. Nat Ball should be invited as well.

Daniel Johnson will reach out to Justin Hammonds of the Savannah District on lessons learned in credit conversions with the SQT.

V. Member Care

Membership renewals have all gone out. Mr. Nelson encourage the Executive Committee to continue to recruit new members.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Nelson will continue to push for dates for the regular SCMA – USACE meeting.

VII. Committee Reports

Partnership: Ms. Redmond reported that the Committee updating the scholarship information to reflect up state two awards of \$1000 to \$2500. The Committee is working on a clay shoot survey to better plan this year's event. There was a great deal of discussion on public notice of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) of SC In-Lieu Fee (ILF) program.

Technical Committee: Tory Grayson reported that the Committee met the previous week and are working on 2023 goals, which will include the SQT and wetlands hydrology. The Committee is also very concerned about the ILF program. Responses are due by 1/31. Mr. Grayson stated he would like to ensure that the site selection process be in line with the SCMA goals; it has been witnessed that in several other USACE districts ILF programs fail because they undercharged for mitigation and would not pay for the full mitigation project for what the ILF project charged for the credits; and it is important that the mitigation hierarchy continues to be honored. Allen Conger added he is concerned if the amount of time regulatory agencies must spend on these small mitigation projects is warranted. TNC may be developing this independent of other experts in the industry in SC. Mr. Nelson will reach out to TNC to invite them to meet with the SCMA to discuss the program.

The Executive Committee agreed voting members should be invited to participate in a conversation about this public notice. Non-voting members may submit comments. The virtual meeting will be held on January 17 at 2:00. Adrienne Graham will send an eblast with a link to the public notice and registration for a Zoom meeting.

Mr. Nelson and Tara Allden will assist with example ILF instruments to post on the website. These may also be downloaded from RIBITS.

SCDOT Committee: Mr. Nelson will coordinate this year's meetings with Sean Connolly. The SCDOT will issue a state-wide solicitation for mitigation credits and engage the SCMA to assist with the language.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 9:00 AM

Minutes submitted by: Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary

Approved by: