

**South Carolina Mitigation Association
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2022
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.

Attending:

Ross Nelson, President	Allen Conger
Daniel Johnson, Vice President	Tommy Cousins
Sydni Redmond, Treasurer	Doug Hughes
Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary	Chris Ryan
Tara Alden	Ryan Smith
Adrienne Graham	

II. Approval of Previous Minutes

Allen Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of April 12, 2022. Tara Alden seconded the motion, which carried.

III. Financial Report

Sydni Redmond noted membership is down. Adrienne Graham has emailed reminders to all of those companies outstanding on the A/R.

IV. Quarterly Meeting

Mr. Nelson approved the Hold Harmless agreement for ReWa (Renewable Water Resources).

Daniel Johnson will present an SQT update. At that point membership can develop its position related to the SQT and develop a strategy and plan for agencies as the SQT is rolled out. Mr. Nelson and Kristin Knight-Meng will identify conservation and land trusts for a roundtable.

V. Member Care

Mr. Conger presented the information below:

- Allow traditional land trust and other similar non-profits involved in SC or nationally to submit non-voting applications to the Executive Committee. If requested by the applicant the Executive Committee may consider waiving the membership fee of \$400, reducing the fee, or allowing a member company to sponsor the membership.
- Allow land trusts, even if non-profits, involved in the credit delivery process to become a non-voting or voting member.

Tommy Cousins made a motion to accept this model. Mr. Conger seconded the motion, which carried.

Mr. Nelson met with Ethel Bunch of SustainSC. She is very good at garnering support for the association. He will discuss membership/sponsorship packages that will benefit our voting members. Doug Hughes noted the networking opportunities with SustainSC are valuable. The Executive Committee generally agreed that the SCMA should have a voice in SustainSC, especially on banking. Mr. Nelson will circulate more information.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Johnson will invite EPR to the June meeting to discuss SQT. Members may decide if they would like a full workshop. EPR and River Mechanics have generally agreed to a one-day virtual workshop.

VII. Committee Reports

Partnership: Ms. Redmond reported the Partnership Committee recommends sponsoring a booth at the SC Water Resources Conference in October in Columbia. The cost is \$1500 and includes two registrations. The Executive Committee approved. Ms. Redmond will ask if members may receive a registration discount. The Partnership Committee will work towards having a technical brochure for this event.

The SCMA scholarship is open; please encourage all relevant students to apply. Eblasts will continue to go out until the deadline. The Committee is researching a Clay Shoot as a fund raiser for the fall.

The Conservation Bank will meet June 8 in Pickens. A SCMA Executive Committee member should attend. Mr. Nelson will attend.

Ms. Redmond reminded everyone of the SCMA's social media presence. Please send information for a highlight of your company too.

Technical: Mr. Johnson reported on the on-going discussions on the SQT. The USACE is open to some changes. There is another meeting in May. The USACE is working on a structure on balancing legacy and new credits. Mr. Nelson noted that the DNR and the USACE have done a good job in engaging the SCMA, especially the Technical Committee, in this process. The SQT is happening, but the agencies are engaging stakeholders in to correct deficiencies and issued in measurements and implementations. However, it will probably be rolled out without the functional pyramid included in the tool. It is imperative that the SCMA stay involved to ensure the best possible outcome. The next meeting is May 17.

SCDOT: There is no updated on the anticipated solicitations. Mr. Johnson noted that the SCDOT is waiting on the public notice before commenting on the SQT.

VIII. New Business

Mr. Nelson has the latest version of the Op-ed piece and will review and distribute to the Committee. However, there is and continues to be a great deal of misinformation on the functions and importance of banks. He requested that the Executive Committee to review the amendment that Charleston County has proposed. It needs significant changes but if correctly drafted it could be a model for other counties to use moving forward. Mr. Nelson noted that he is always careful to distinguish his position as a private business from his role as president of the SCMA.

Mr. Nelson can edit the Charleston County proposed ordinance for approval by the Executive Committee. This may then be circulated to other counties and the Office of Resiliency as a model.

Mr. Nelson reported that the House of Representatives non-binding resolution stating the House encourages DHEC not to issue permits dredging any critical areas of salt marsh and tidal waters for monetization of public lands. The State Port Authority became aware of this and the perception that it may be against the port. Capitol Consultants reported on this and will continue to monitor this type of thing. Members should always let Ms. Graham know of any issues such as this.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 9:00 AM

Minutes submitted by: Kristin Knight-Meng

Approved by: