

**South Carolina Mitigation Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2023
Video Conference**

I. Opening

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Mitigation Association was called to order at 9:03AM via Zoom by Daniel Johnson, the SCMA Vice President. A quorum was present.

Attending:

Daniel Johnson, Vice President
Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary
Allen Conger
Adrienne Graham

Doug Hughes
Chris Ryan
Ryan Smith

II. Approval of Minutes

Allen Conger made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 11. Chris Ryan seconded the motion, which carried.

III. Financial Report

Adrienne Graham reviewed the financials. She mentioned that the SCMA may consider moving some funds to a money market account to earn interest.

IV. Quarterly Meeting

Eric Krueger with The Nature Conservancy is confirmed to speak at the September Membership Meeting. In addition to TNC's proposed in-lieu fee (ILF) program, he may be able to speak on watershed protection and other topics. Mr. Johnson will follow up with Mr. Nelson to confirm the agenda.

V. Member Care

Ms. Graham will share a list of those that have not renewed in 2023 for the Committee to contact. Mr. Johnson will contact Open Spaces and Doug Hughes will contact Chad Johnson.

Kristin Knight-Meng participated in the NAEP-SC lunch and learn with USACE presenting the previous week but the only information shared on Sackett was that it will be released on September 1. Mr. Johnson reported that the Charleston District reported they have two times the number of permit delineations requests as any other district. They are only issuing AJDs for limited situations. Stand-alone JDs are not prioritized, but can still be submitted. A tool is out for review for ordinary high water mark identification. A rapid assessment stream flow duration tool for the Northeast and Southeast to determine stream type is out. The SQT may roll out in the fall or winter.

Brad Cary, the new Special Projects Liaison, is helping with turn-around times.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Johnson has circulated the scope of work for the lobbyist and is soliciting quotes to share before the next meeting. Capitol Consultants is one firm being solicited. Ms. Graham is not involved with any discussions in this activity.

The SCMA has been proactively involved in the SQT tool revisions but it is up to the USACE now.

The Technical Committee will prepare the response to the USACE on Site Selection Criteria. Requests for member comments will be sent again.

VII. Committee Reports

Partnership: The Clay Shoot is open for registration and sponsorship.

The conservation easement committee is ready to meet with the USACE. Mr. Nelson will follow up on a date again. The Partnership Committee discussed moving forward with working group meetings to develop a draft before meeting with the Corps. They are ready to move on this item and think there is a good chance of having a draft available by the end of the year.

The Partnership Committee discussed a new initiative to increase communications with NGOs and public groups that we see frequently commenting on mitigation public notices. There is still a lot of misinformation in these communities and the committee discussed an introductory presentation or discussions with these groups to better connect with their leadership and open up lines of communication. This would be similar to how we have approached government and land trusts in recent years.

Technical: The Committee will prepare the response on the site selection criteria response.

VIII. New Business

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 2023, 9:00 AM Minutes

submitted by: Kristin Knight-Meng

Approved by: Executive Committee, 9/12/2023