

**South Carolina Mitigation Association  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2022  
Video Conference**

**I. Opening**

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Mitigation Association was called to order at 9:02 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	
Adrienne Graham	
Mary Claire Martinson	

**II. Approval of Previous Minutes**

Chris Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes of August 9. Sydni Redmond seconded the motion, which carried.

**III. Financial Report**

Ms. Redmond reported that everything looks good with the financial reports.

**IV. Quarterly Meeting**

Mr. Nelson reported that Will Harman is confirmed for the October 12 virtual meeting. His presentation will be more of an overview and the driving factors on creating the SQT and the SQT in SC, and not focused on the small details. The attendees should be able to understand the reasoning behind it. He asked that committee chairs be prepared to provide brief updates.

Adrienne Graham is looking for a venue for December's Charleston meeting. Committee members should send any recommendations to her. The Committee agreed not to hold a Christmas social following the December quarterly meeting since we will have just held the Clay Shoot in November.

**V. Member Care**

Mr. Nelson asked all Committee members to encourage contacts to join and sponsor the meetings and the Clay Shoot. Ms. Graham will send a new A/R after the next bank statement around September 16. Mr. Nelson will reach out to the outstanding past members.

**VI. Old Business**

Tory Grayson reported on the DNR/DHEC/USACE meeting. The SCMA Technical Committee presented the methodology used for the recommended ratio for the debit calculator. The USACE was very receptive and felt like they could explain this clearly to permittees. There is more work to do in the approximate increase in the cost of the SQT bank compared to the cost of the SOP bank. The ratio seems to be 1 SQT credit equates to 12 (possible 10) SOP credits. The goal is to avoid a situation where bankers avoid new banks because of the SQT. Daniel Johnson also mentioned they are working on the preservation brackets as well.

The next meeting is October and the roll out for the debit tool will be late fall but may be pushed back again. David Wilson continues to request examples and how to present these.

Mr. Grayson will send Ms. Graham language to send membership on a small permittee-responsible mitigation (PRM) in the Upstate that can be used for a comparison.

Mr. Nelson will contact Amanda Heath at the USACE to get back to the larger mitigation discussions focused on timeliness and response time, new hires, and other matters.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

**Partnership:** Ms. Redmond reported the SCMA Inaugural Clay Shoot is progressing. Two teams and two sponsors have committed. She encouraged everyone to sign up and spread the word. Kip Dillihay is working with Sustain SC to distributed information on the SCMA Clay Shoot.

An eblast is going out to outside contractors aimed at sponsorships for meetings and the Clay Shoot.

We will purchase pens for giveaways.

Mr. Nelson reported that he and Bob Perry will present a Mitigation 101 to the Conservation Bank in December and the SC Land Trust Network in March.

**Technical Committee:** Mr. Grayson reported that the Technical Committee has been focused on the SQT, but if there are other issues members would like reviewed, please let him know.

Mr. Nelson noted that Susan Davis retired, and Maggie Jamison has replaced her at SCDNR. Recent comments from DNR seem to be going away from the simplification the USACE was striving for, particularly around wetland hydro data. Mr. Nelson hopes to have more information in a few weeks, but it may be necessary to remind DNR and the USACE on why we look more at the draw down effect of ditches, etc. Mr. Grayson is experiencing the same issues. Mr. Grayson is also looking at regionalizing some of the factors associated with the collateral effect associated with SC. The USACE is non-committal on investing in this. Mr. Grayson will bring this up to the USACE.

**SCDOT Committee:** Mr. Nelson noted the notes from the August meeting were posted. Two more solicitations are expected this year; one is open now. The SCDOT Mitigation Dashboard is up and running and is updated regularly. The next meeting is October 11. Ms. Graham will send a reminder to the members in advance.

## **New Business**

Mr. Ryan commented that Travis Hughes of the USACE is leaving on temporary detail working with the South Atlantic district to coordinate personal transfer among districts to alleviate workloads. Amanda Health is currently filling the role, but they are looking for a replacement. This may affect the roll out of the SQT as well.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 9:00 AM

Minutes submitted by: Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary

Approved by: Executive Committee, October 11, 2022