

**South Carolina Mitigation Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2023
Video Conference**

I. Opening

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Mitigation Association was called to order at 9:04AM via Zoom by Ross Nelson, the SCMA President. A quorum was present.

Attending:

Ross Nelson, President

Sydni Redmond, Treasurer

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 May. Chris Ryan seconded the motion, which carried.

III. Financial Report

Ms. Redmond reported the association is in a good financial position. Mr. Conger will follow up with Mike Tighe (Eagle House) and Joe Richardson (Richardson Construction) on their 2023 membership. Ms. Redmond will follow up with Carolina Wetlands.

IV. Quarterly Meeting

Mr. Nelson reported about 28 were registered for the meeting on June 14. Mr. Jack Smith and Stan Barnett will lead a discussion on the Sackett Decision. The USFWS may present on the Northern Long-Eared Bats at a future meeting.

V. Member Care

Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Nelson reported that he, Tory Grayson, Bob Perry, Daniel Johnson and Chris Muckenfuss met with Jordan Jessop, David Wilson, Amanda Health and Brad Carey of the USACE. The USACE acknowledged delays in the bank approval process and highlighted several bottlenecks within Special Projects and the Office of Counsel which is tied up with more than normal lawsuits.

The SCMA will coordinate a working group from the SCMA, land trusts and the office of Counsel to update the draft Conservation Easement template.

The SCMA will also facilitate the development of a LTM checklist and requirements. The USACE is working on its own checklists for site selection and will share an internal document showing areas that need improvement with the SCMA USACE committee.

The USACE has not determined when the SQT will be placed on public notice.

In response to requests to pursue lobbying to educate legislators on the importance of the mitigation industry in SC, Daniel Johnson will lead a committee to put together a scope of work for lobbyists.

Dough Hughes and Ryan Smith volunteered to serve on the Committee. Adrienne Graham will contact Mr. Johnson.

The Executive Committee will discuss if the retention of lobbyists will require an increase in dues. This may be discussed at Septembers Member Meeting.

VII. Committee Reports

Partnership: Ms. Redmond requested volunteers for the scholarship review committee. The awards will be announced by August 1. Registration for the clay shoot is open. Emails will go out soon to the contacts Ms. Redmond made at the National Mitigation Conference. Lyles Cooper will assist in organizing the SCMA group to review the conservation easement template.

Technical Committee: No update

SCDOT Committee: Mr. Nelson will contact the SCDOT to arrange a meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 11, 9:00 AM

Approved by: Executive Committee, July 11, 2023