

**South Carolina Mitigation Association  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 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	Tara Allden
Sydni Redmond, Treasurer	Allen Conger
Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary	Chris Ryan
Adrienne Graham	Mary Claire Martinson, Guest

**II. Approval of Previous Minutes**

Allen Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of June 14 with two corrections mentioned. Sydni Redmond seconded the motion, which carried.

**III. Financial Report**

Sydni Redmond reported the financials looked to be in order. The Association is over budget due to the SustainSC membership.

**IV. Quarterly Meeting**

The October 19 Quarterly meeting date conflicts with the SC Water Resources Conference. Will Harman had agreed to participate in the October meeting. Mr. Nelson will reach out to him to discuss a virtual presentation. If so, then the October meeting may be virtual at a date other than October 19. Mr. Nelson will email the Executive Committee after he speaks with Mr. Harman. The SCMA expects to hold a clay shoot in October as well.

**V. Member Care**

The committee approved Williams Forestry & Associates at a non-voting level. They had mistakenly been given an old form with the amount of \$250 for that level and paid that amount. The Committee agreed that given the year is half over this would be accepted as a special circumstance. Adrienne Graham will ask them to sponsor a virtual meeting.

Mr. Nelson will follow up with Southern Land and Investments and WTJIII on their outstanding membership dues. Mr. Conger will reach out to Mike Tighe with Taylors Creek. Tara Allden will speak with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein about renewing their membership.

**VI. Old Business**

No updates on the SQT workshop.

Mr. Nelson, Daniel Johnson, Jonathan Page and Tory Grayson continue to meet one to two times a month with DNR, DHEC, and the USACE on the SQT rollout. They have focused on ratios and credit conversions. USACE planned to put the debit tool, which is finalized, out the beginning of August but that has been pushed back a few months to finalize the guidelines to support the use of the tool. The credit tool is still under review and should be released late 2022 or early 2023. They are working through

preservation credits too. The cost of stream credits will have to increase to accommodate the SQT; it is not clear how much yet. More legacy credits will be required to offset impacts. SCDOT has raised a concern on if this is an appropriate tool for SC. It may cost them more for mitigation credits than budgeted. The Technical Committee is working on a conversion chart for legacy and SQT credits.

Mr. Nelson reported that Charleston County does appear to be changing the ordinance that will benefit mitigation banking. Mitigation banks that have all the state and federal permits would not have to go through the variance process in order to move forward on approved projects. The first reading will be July 12 and requires two additional reading but is expected to pass.

The SCMA is now a member of SustainSC. A call is planned for July 21 for all voting members to learn more. Ms. Graham will send an eblast to voting members about the benefits and the call.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

**Partnership:** Ms. Redmond reported Lyles Cooper is working on plans for a clay shoot fundraiser in the fall to benefit the scholarship. The scholarship review committee will begin working this week to review the scholarships. The recommendations will be provided to the Executive Committee. The Committee is open to suggestions for next year.

Please send content for the social media.

Mr. Nelson, Bob Perry, and Tucker Creed will work with the Conservation Bank on their priorities map. Mr. Nelson was invited to the Conservation Bank meeting to provide a “Mitigation Bank 101” to the Board.

**Technical Committee:** the focus remains the SQT.

**SCDOT Committee:** Weyerhaeuser won the three recent solicitations.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 9:00 AM

Minutes submitted by: Kristin Knight-Meng, Secretary

Approved by: SCMA Executive Committee 8/9/2022