

**South Carolina Mitigation Association  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 9, 2024  
Video Conference**

**I. Opening**

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Mitigation Association was called to order at 9:17 AM by Tory Grayson, the SCMA Vice President. A quorum was present.

**Attending:**

Daniel Johnson, President  
Tory Grayson, Vice President  
Allen Conger  
Monica Folk  
Adrienne Graham

Sydni Redmond  
Chris Ryan  
Ryan Smith

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Grayson motioned to approve the minutes of the December Executive Committee meeting and the December Quarterly Members Meeting, with corrections discussed. Sydni Redmond seconded the motion, which carried.

**III. Financial Report**

Mr. Grayson reviewed the draft budget. The Executive Committee noted that growing membership is the key to balancing the budget. Membership is stagnant, but expenses have increased.

Mr. Conger discussed the value of the SCMA's membership in SustainSC and the cost savings that it brings to voting members. Ms. Graham will confirm with SustainSC how many voting members take advantage of the 50% discount. Some SCMA members are members of Sustain SC regardless, and do not take advantage of the offer.

The Committee discussed the advantage of serving as a sponsor of certain conferences as opposed to assisting with the costs of attendance for Executive Committee members already going to the conference. The SCMA may lose some branding and outreach, but Ms. Redmond pointed out that she gained more from visiting others at their booths than sitting at the SCMA booth. She did bring back an extensive contact list. A question was posed about what value our membership gets from SCMA sponsorship or attendance at a conference.

Mr. Conger stated that a good use of the reserve funds in the bank is to continue to promote the association and be involved in all conversations on mitigation in SC.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to table budget discussion until the February meeting. Mr. Grayson seconded the motion, which carried.

**IV. Quarterly Meeting**

Monica Folk will contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service to request a speaker on bats for the March 20 virtual meeting.

Mr. Johnson will contact David Wilson with USACE to speak at the June 19 in-person meeting at Bronson Forest. If he is not available, Ms. Folk will ask Josh Raglin to speak. She will arrange a tour for the second part of the meeting. Ms. Graham will finalize logistics with the team there.

Bob Perry spoke with the NCERA about a joint virtual meeting on September 18. A panel with members from SC and NC would share lessons learned and successes with lobbying, legislation, and regulatory agencies. The Partnership Committee will finalize this meeting.

## **V. Member Care**

Membership invoices were sent.

Mr. Johnson will draft a list of bank sponsors, agents, surveyors, consultants, and others from RIBITS. The Executive Committee will divide the list and reach out to those with whom they have a relationship. If someone says they do not want to be a member – we will inquire and determine the reason.

## **VI. Old Business**

Mr. Johnson will work on a USACE meeting in the first quarter.

Mr. Johnson will follow up with SCDNR on the mitigation presentation to the SC DNR Board.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

**Partnership:** Ms. Redmond reported that the Committee met last week to establish their 2024 goals.

- Continue the scholarship program to increase the number of applications by contacting the environmental departments of state colleges and universities, and other scholarship programs.
- Ms. Redmond will meet with National Association of Environmental Professionals (NEAP) SC to start coordinating the joint fund-raising event.
- The Partnership Committee is discussing a new program, Young Professional Meet Ups. This program would involve younger staff in the SCMA member organizations and will encourage growth in the mitigation industry and the SCMA. Bronson Forest may be the site of the first Meet Up. Some participants may be willing to assist with the Social Media push.
- The Committee will compile a list of conference recommendations.

**Technical:** Mr. Grayson reported that the Committee is open to ideas for the Technical Committee to focus on in 2024.

**SCDOT:** Mr. Johnson will reach out to Sean Connelly to set up a meeting. The SCDOT solicitation closed on December 19, and awards are expected by January 24.

**Government Affairs:** Tara Allden is working with Annie Wilson to schedule a meeting this week.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2024, 9:00 AM

Minutes submitted by: Kristin Knight-Meng

Approved by: