



## MINUTES CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

Thursday, April 5, 2012, 9:00 a.m.

Oconee County Administrative Offices, Council Chambers, 415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691

### MEMBERS

Mr. Shea Airey, District I, Chairman  
Mr. Bob Hill, At Large Member, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Rocky Nation, District III, Secretary  
Mr. Andy Lee, District II

Mr. Marvin Prater, District IV  
Mr. Richard "Lynn" Harwell, District V  
Mr. Ed Land, At Large Member  
Ms. Elizabeth G. Hulse, Staff Liaison

The Oconee County Conservation Bank Board met in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Members present [except Mr.'s Harwell, Hill & Lee] and Elizabeth Hulse, staff liaison.

**Press:** Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [[www.oconeesc.com/council](http://www.oconeesc.com/council)]. In addition it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Carlos Galarza - Daily Journal

### Call to Order:

Mr. Airey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. noting that a quorum was present.

### Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Land made a motion, seconded by Mr. Prater, approved 4 - 0 to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2012 meeting as presented.

### Discussion & Possible Adoption of Criteria Scoring Form

Mr. Airey reviewed for those present the status of this form along with the three approved at the last meeting. The Board discussed both this form and the process in general. It was suggested that a third section potentially be added noting verification of the information provided. Lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Land made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nations, approved 4 - 0 to adopt the OCCB Criteria Scoring Form as presented.

### Old Business:

#### **OCCB Bank Account Follow-up**

##### **501[3]c Status Update**

Mr. Airey noted that he had discussed both the establishment of a bank account and the Board's need to establish itself as a 501[3]c with a colleague, Mr. Cary Hall, Esq., who noted that as the Board was created by ordinance, there was no need to establish a separate 501[3]c as any donations would be considered charitable donations according to state law. Mr. Airey noted that he also verified this information with the County Treasurer, Mr. Greg Nowell.

Discussion followed regarding electing a Treasurer. Four current members of the Board do not serve as officers. Mr. Airey asked the staff liaison to contact the four to identify both their desire to and willingness to potentially serve as Treasurer. The role of the Treasurer in part would be on a monthly basis to reconcile the bank account [once established] and to report monthly to the Board regarding account activity.

Mr. Airey also noted that Mr. Nowell stated that the county routinely uses Community First Bank in Walhalla for their accounts. The Board had no objection to establishing an account at this bank. Mr. Airey noted that establishment of a bank account will require the following information. Discussion followed with Board actions listed after each issue:

- [1] Names of Signatory's on the Account..... **Deferred to May 2012 Agenda Item for Action**
- [2] Number of Signatures for Checks ..... The Board established that two signatures would be required for all checks
- [3] Title for Account ..... Oconee County Conservation Bank Fund
- [4] Address & Phone for Board ..... Oconee County Conservation Bank  
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691  
864-718-1023
- [5] Treasurer for Board ..... **Deferred to May 2012 Agenda Item for Action**

**New Business:**

**“Trial Run” / Test Application & Criteria Sheet**

Mr. Airey opened discussion regarding how to initiate a “trail run” test for both the application process and review by the board. Discussion followed.

Mr. Land volunteered to use his 130 acre farm as the test. It was agreed that required reports would not be needed for the test to be effective.

**Flowchart Application / Review Process**

It was suggested that during the “trial run” / test that the process be flowcharted to identify areas for improvement and to establish expectations once applications begin to be received by the Board.

**Conservation Groups/Organizations**

Mr. Airey addressed an email received from Mr. Hill asking that existing conservation groups/organizations be discussed at this meeting. Mr. Land volunteered to meet with staff at the Soil & Water Conservation Office to obtain their assistance in compiling this list and to report back to the Board at a future meeting.

**Adjourn:**

Mr. Airey made a motion approved unanimously to adjourn at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Elizabeth G. Hulse  
Staff Liaison