



MINUTES CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

July 9, 2013 ~ ~ 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. Andy Lee, District II, Vice Chairman
Mr. Rocky Nation, District III, Secretary
Mr. Marvin Prater, District IV

Mr. Frank Ables, District V
Mr. Glenn Buddin, At Large Member [term ends 2016]
Mr. Richard Cain, At Large Member [term ends 2014]
Ms. Elizabeth G. Hulse, Staff Liaison

The Oconee County Conservation Bank Board [OCCB] met in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Members present and Ms. 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.oconeese.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: None

Call to Order:

Mr. Airey called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nation, approved 6 – 0 to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2013 meeting as presented.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Airey recognized Mr. Prater was presented Treasurer's Reports for December 2012, January 2013, February 2013, March 2013, April 2013, May 2013 and two reports for June 2013. Discussion followed.

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Buddin, approved 7 – 0 to accept the Treasurer's Reports as listed above as accurate as presented.

Old Business:

Discussion regarding Application Cycle

Mr. Airey stated that the period for accepting applications in 2013 has ended; noting that no applications were received. Discussion followed regarding the cycle for 2014.

Mr. Prater made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lee, approved 7 – 0 to establish the 2014 application cycle as follows: acceptance of applications January through June, and review and evaluation of applications July through December.

Duke Energy / Keowee-Toxaway Relicensing / Proposed Donation to Bank

Mr. Airey recognized Mr. Art Holbrooks, Strategic Planner & Special Projects for the County, who addressed the Board utilizing a PowerPoint presentation and a handout [copies filed with these minutes] regarding Duke Energy's Keowee-Toxaway Relicensing; specifically addressing Duke's

proposal for a donation to the OCCB in the amount of \$600,000. Discussion followed. No action was taken on this matter. Mr. Airey thanked Mr. Holbrooks for his informative presentation.

Discussion regarding Funding Sources

Mr. Airey led discussions regarding potential alternative funding sources for the OCCB to include:

- Identification of environmental / conservation groups where an OCCB member could present/speak
- Work with the Soil & Water Conservation District more closely to tie in with their donors and/or events
- Possible establishment of a “Friends of the Conservation Bank” that would help to fund raise; potentially charge dues, etc.
- Develop a support letter from OCCB members to assist with solicitation of funds for the bank
- Explore match programs that might include a county match

Mr. Prater stated that he would contact the Soil & Water Conservation District to meet with them to explore options for working together.

Mr. Nation stated that would continue to follow up with the Army Corp of Engineers to identify if the OCCB could be identified for donation for mitigation funds.

Mr. Airey asked all members to continue to think of ways to get the message out regarding the OCCB.

New & Other Business

None at this meeting.

Next Meeting:

Mr. Airey noted the next meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2013 [the day after Labor Day] and polled the members if all could attend. It was unanimously agreed to move the September meeting to Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.

Adjourn:

Mr. Airey adjourned the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Staff Liaison