



MINUTES CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

January 7, 2014

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 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Members present [except Mr. Buddin, Mr. Prater and Mr. Cain] 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: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio

Call to Order:

Mr. Airey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lee, approved 4 – 0 to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2013 meeting as presented.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Airey noted that Mr. Prater was absent and stated that this report would be either deferred to later in the meeting if the Treasurer arrived or to the next scheduled meeting.

Donation Presentation to Conservation Bank Board

Mr. Airey recognized Mr. Eddie Martin, Oconee County Soil & Water Conservation District, who addressed the Board and presented the chair with a \$1,000 donation from Oconee Forever. Mr. Martin noted that these funds were the proceeds for the Rally in the Valley event in May 2013.



In addition, Mr. Airey noted that Mr. & Mrs. Paul Corbeil send in a donation utilizing the recently approved OCCB brochure in the amount of \$25.00.

Old Business:

Continued Discussion/Exploration regarding Potential Funding Sources

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

- Review of the Conservation Grants Website: www.conservationgrants.com
- Oconee Farm Bureau: Mr. Ables noted that he has initiated contact with this group
- Agriculture Civic Leader: Mr. Ables noted that has made contact with an agriculture civic leader
- Potential Matching / Challenges to local business, civic groups, etc.
- Oconee Forever – Rally in the Valley 2014: May 24, 2014, Caylix Farms [off Hwy.11]

New Business

Mr. Airey stated that Upstate Forever is seeking the OCCB's interest in their creation of an Oconee County profile for potentially desirable conservation locations. The profile and/or map would potentially identify important soils, wetlands, animal habitats, etc. Discussion followed.

The Board decided to further discuss the issue and ask Upstate Forever to make a presentation to the board regarding their proposal.

Establishment of 2014 Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Airey led discussion regarding the OCCB's 2014 meeting schedule.

Mr. Lee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to establish the 2014 OCCB quarterly 9:00 a.m. Tuesday meeting schedule as follows:

- April 8, 2014
- July 8, 2014
- October 7, 2014
- February 9, 2015

Adjourn:

Mr. Airey adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Staff Liaison