



MINUTES CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

December 13, 2022

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

MEMBERS

Mr. Andrew Smith, District II
Ms. Emily Hitchcock, Chair, At Large
Mr. Ryan Keese, Secretary, District, III
Ms. Laura Havran, Treasurer, District I

Vacant, District IV
Mr. Scuddy Walker, Vice Chairman, District V
Mr. Scott McCurry, At Large
Ms. Jennifer C. Adams, 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 [Ms. Laura Havran absent] and Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, acting as 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]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

No members of the media were present.

Call to Order

Ms. Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Keese made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCurry, approved 5 – 0, to approve the November 15, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Smith read the Treasurer's Report for Community First Bank and the Local Government Investment Pool [State Pool] and noted they are accurate as presented. He further noted the balances on the reports are as follows:

Local Government Investment Pool [State Pool] for November 2022 is \$283,166.53; Community First Bank for November 2022 is \$4041.00.

Mr. McCurry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keese, approved 5 – 0, to accept as presented the Treasurer's Report for Community First Bank for November of 2022 and the Local Government Investment Pool [State Pool] for November of 2022.

Fundraising & Public Relations Reports

Mr. Keese noted there were no updates regarding fundraising at this time.

Mr. Keese noted there were no updates regarding the Donation Report [copy filed in backup] at this time.

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Grants Status

Mr. Walker informed the Board that there have been no changes in the OCCB Grants Disbursed and Expenses chart [copy filed in backup].

Discussion Items

Status of OCCB vacant seats

Ms. Hitchcock welcomed Mr. Scott McCurry and reminded the Board that Laura Havran resigned.

Ms. Hitchcock then noted there are now two vacancies on the board and encouraged everyone to seek out new members.

Discussion and/or action regarding revision of Policy 003 Grant Procedures

Ms. Hitchcock reviewed with the Board the proposed changes to Policy 003 Grant Procedures.

Lengthy discussion followed by the Board in relation to Policy 003 Grant Procedures.

Mr. McCurry requested more time to review this policy before a vote was taken.

Ms. Hitchcock requested that the staff liaison place this item back on the agenda for the February meeting.

The Board went on to discuss the possibility of getting County Attorney, David Root, to join in at the next meeting to answer several questions in relation to the policies and enabling ordinance for OCCB.

Ms. Hitchcock directed the staff liaison to contact County Attorney, David Root, to see if he would be able to attend the February OCCB meeting.

Discussion and/or action regarding revision of Policy 005 Transfer of Property Interests

Ms. Hitchcock reviewed with the Board the revisions to Policy 005 Transfer of Property Interests.

Lengthy discussion followed by the Board related to Policy 005 Transfer of Property Interests.

Ms. Hitchcock noted that improvements are going to need to be made to Policy 005 and requested that this topic be placed on the February agenda for discussion and/or action.

Agriculture Task Force Update

Ms. Hitchcock gave an update to the Board regarding the Agriculture Task Force noting there have been some draft recommendations to be considered at the December 19, 2022 meeting.

Ms. Hitchcock noted that the election of officers will take place at the February OCCB meeting.

Mr. Smith stated he would be happy to serve as Treasurer, since Ms. Havran has resigned.

Next Meeting:

Ms. Hitchcock noted the next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 7, 2023, in the Oconee County Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691.

A video recording of this meeting is available at www.oconeesc.com. Meetings have been live-streamed beginning January 17, 2017. Brought to you by Your Oconee.

Adjourn:

Mr. Smith made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council & Staff Liaison

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