



OCONEE COUNTY
CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
c/o Clerk to Council

Treasurer's Report

Community First Bank Account: *****183

Period Ending: February 28, 2013

DEPOSITS

Opening Balance	\$ 1,200.00
Deposit	\$ 0.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 1,200.00

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures	\$ 0.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 0.00

BALANCE IN ACCOUNT

AS OF PERIOD ENDING DATE	\$ 1,200.00
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Report Submitted by:

Oconee County Conservation Bank Board Treasurer



**OCONEE COUNTY
CONSERVATION BANK BOARD**

415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
c/o Clerk to Council

Treasurer's Report

Community First Bank Account: *****183

Period Ending: January 31, 2013

DEPOSITS

Opening Balance	\$ 1,200.00
Deposit	\$ 0.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 1,200.00

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures	\$ 0.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 0.00

BALANCE IN ACCOUNT

AS OF PERIOD ENDING DATE **\$ 1,200.00**

Report Submitted by: _____

Mr. Ed Land
Oconee County Conservation Bank Board Treasurer



OCONEE COUNTY
CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
c/o Clerk to Council

Treasurer's Report

Community First Bank Account: *****183

Period Ending: December 31, 2012

DEPOSITS

Opening Balance		\$ 0.00
Deposit	12/19/2012	\$ 1,200.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS		\$ 1,200.00

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures		\$ 0.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS		\$ 0.00

BALANCE IN ACCOUNT
AS OF PERIOD ENDING DATE

\$ 1,200.00

Report Submitted by:

Mr. Ed Land
Oconee County Conservation Bank Board Treasurer

The Oconee County Conservation Bank

A New Vehicle to Save Oconee's Natural Resources and Heritage

By Shea B. Airey

Cheochee Valley, Tamassee, South Carolina

"Awe inspiring mountain vistas in Oconee County, as shown, may be preserved for future generations with the grants provided by the Oconee County Conservation Bank. Watersheds, historic sites, wildlife habitat and prime agricultural lands also stand to benefit."

Born out of grassroots efforts from local citizens, the Oconee County Conservation Bank was established in the summer of 2011 by Ordinance of Oconee County Council. The Conservation Bank's mission is simple but incredibly important, providing grants to encourage and enable landowners to conserve farm lands, scenic areas, historic sites and wildlife habitats. The program is completely voluntary and only Oconee landowners interested in conserving their own land may apply.

The Conservation Bank is critical. According to Clemson University Studies, Oconee County is expected to see rapid growth over the coming decades. While growth can certainly be positive for the County, we stand to lose the wildlife habitat, farming heritage, beautiful landscapes and important natural areas that make up the very heart and soul of our area if we do not act to conserve the most important places before it is too late. Providing grants to interested, conservation-minded landowners helps such individuals overcome the up-front costs associated with conserving such special places (including surveys, appraisals and tax work), and we all benefit enormously.

As chair of the Conservation Bank, I am incredibly grateful for the attention, dedication and support I have received from other Conservation Bank board members, all local citizens whom have worked diligently with me over the last year to establish a working application and review process so that grants may be awarded. Thanks to their hard work and progress, the Conservation Bank is slated to begin taking applications from interested landowners on January 1, 2013, with the inaugural application period slated to end on June 30, 2013. Applications will be reviewed and grants awarded during the second half of the 2013 calendar year.

If you have followed the creation of the Conservation Bank, you will remember that the Oconee County Council established the bank with no initial funding. Thus, the Conservation Bank board's next major puzzle is designing and establishing a method to fund the Conservation Bank so that grants may be awarded to deserving landowners. While no concrete method has been adopted or proposed to County Council for approval, recent discussions at Conservation Bank meetings have centered on the possibility of funding the Bank



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Lake Conestee Nature Park

By Dr. Dave Hargett, Director, Conestee Foundation

Lake Conestee Nature Park encompasses more than 400 acres of forests, wetlands, and bottomlands along the Reedy River. This woodland oasis and its namesake, the former Lake Conestee, are home to a remarkable diversity of wildlife, as well as more than 186 species of birds. This birding hotspot is so special that, in 2018, the National Audubon Society designated Lake Conestee Nature Park as an Important Bird Area of Global Significance.

A perfect place for families and kids young and old to experience nature – just six miles south of downtown Greenville and two miles from I-85 – the park is located between the former Greenville Municipal Stadium (now Conestee Park) and the Village of Conestee. The park includes nearly three miles of the Reedy River and boasts a network of over ten miles of boardwalks and trails, including over four miles of the Greenville Hospital System (GHS) Swamp Rabbit Trail. Grab your walking shoes and binoculars or hop on your bike and discover this incredible natural wonderland.

Get a kid outdoors at Lake Conestee Nature Park! Keep an eye out for our family and kid-friendly events at LCNP on every 1st Saturday of the month. Entrances at Conestee Park, Mauldin Road, opposite Ridge Road, Greenville; Spawco Drive, Conestee; and 601 York Shoals Road, Greenville. Phone: 864-277-2004.

LCNP is owned and operated by the Conestee Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The Foundation depends upon and appreciates the generous support of the patrons of Lake Conestee Nature Park and those who value its sanctuary and refuge for wildlife and humans alike.

Please be a friend (contributions are welcome) and come see us at: www.conesteeperk.com and on Facebook search for Lake Conestee.



Check It Out!

New FOLKS Website . . . and Ben's Blog

New members on FOLKS board of directors suggested that its website needed to be updated and streamlined. With the tremendous amount of useful information on the website, people easily became lost. Please take a few moments and appreciate the changes. The new website sports a clean new look, is easily navigable and more interesting. One new feature is Ben's Blog. Excited about having his own space for photos and missives, Ben will be blogging. Sign up for RSS feed, and you will be notified of new blogs. It's difficult keeping up with Ben, but this is one way. ❖



Friends Of Lake Keowee Society
4065 Keowee School Road
Seneca SC 29672
864-882-3655

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Cont'd from p. 1

may utilize Lake Keowee more in the winter months allowing the two reservoirs to recharge. However, the amounts withdrawn from Lake Keowee never exceed specified levels as agreed upon in the contract with Duke Energy. Recently, and in partnership with Duke Energy and Seneca Light and Water, an Interim Low Inflow Protocol (ILIP) was created that further establishes flow regimes. The provisions outlined in the collaborative ILIP demonstrate Greenville Water's commitment to a sound water management strategy. The agreement sets guidelines for operations of Lakes Keowee and Jocassee.

In addition to nearly 500,000 citizens of the Upstate, Greenville Water provides wholesale water to 15 Utilities including Pickens County Water Authority, Six Mile Water District and the City of Pickens. The contract with Duke Energy specifies a third of the water withdrawn from Lake Keowee is to be made available to serve Pickens County residents.

According to the Executive Director of the Pickens County Water Authority Steve Jewsbury: "The agreement with Greenville Water allows us to serve the community's water needs and support the future growth of Pickens County."

For Greenville Water, access to Lake Keowee is an important part of meeting the region's water needs. Under the Duke Energy contract, starting in 2010, Greenville Water was allowed to withdraw an average daily amount of 60 MGD. ❖

with a mix of private donations and, perhaps, a portion of the County's revenues from sales of recycled products.

The Board has been especially interested in our discussion of recycling revenues because this funding method would provide all local residents a triple incentive to recycle. First, we all benefit environmentally by keeping this waste outside of a landfill and off of our beautiful lands, waterways and roads. Second, we all benefit financially because all non-recycled waste in the County requires expensive taxpayer funded trucking and disposal at an out-of-state landfill. Third, by supporting the Conservation Bank every time we recycle, County residents would know that each trip to the Marine Convenience Center means they are directly supporting the conservation of important natural habitats, farms, historic sites and scenic areas in the County. I call that a win-Win-WIN.

Please feel free to attend Conservation Bank meetings: public meetings that are held the first Thursday of each month at the County offices in Walhalla.

The Conservation Bank is currently accepting private donations, the first of which in the amount of \$1200.00 was received from local conservation group Oconee Forever at our December meeting. If you would like to donate to the Oconee County Conservation Bank or provide a comment, the Conservation Bank's contact address is:

Oconee County Conservation Bank

Attn: Elizabeth G. Hulse, CCC

415 South Pine Street, Walhalla SC 29691

Application forms and an explanation of the application process are available online at: <http://www.oconeesc.com/Council/CommitteeAgendas/Minutes/ConservationBankBoard.aspx>

I am certain that, as discussions regarding the Conservation Bank continue, the board will require the active and vocal backing of local residents to ensure this valuable program reaches its true, enduring potential. For the sake of preserving the natural beauty, environmental integrity and true heart and soul of Oconee County for our children and grandchildren, we look forward to your invaluable support.

Shea B. Airey is chairman of the Oconee County Conservation Bank and local attorney practicing in the fields of Estate Planning and Real Property. Shea resides with his wife and daughter in the beautiful Cheokes Valley of Tamassee.



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FDIC www.BRBWal.com




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Dam completely fails over a 2.8 hour period. The likelihood of such a failure is extremely remote, but FERC requires these worst-case scenarios be used for emergency planning purposes. This is really a scenario with conservatism over conservatism. The effect was, as would be expected, a disaster. The modeling software followed the failure of the dam, showed water rising to a maximum height of 40 feet and depicted the time the water reached various areas of Lake Keowee. All dams were overtopped and failed in downstream order. Members of the audience were able to give their address to Lisa Simmering at the computer, and she was able to tell them when and how high the water would reach.

Scott Klein emphasized the importance of such exercises. A system is in place for those who sign up to get immediate notification of any emergency disaster and instructions of what to do. This program is called AlertOconee. The Oconee County Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications/E-911 Division, in partnership with Oconee County Emergency Services and Twenty First Century Communication, Inc. has maintained a regional notification system that will be able to send telephone notifications to residents and businesses within Oconee County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or disaster. This System, called AlertOconee, will be used by emergency response personnel to notify those homes and businesses at risk with information on the event and/or actions (such as evacuation) they are asked to take.


The system utilizes land line telephone numbers but you may enter your VoIP (Voice over IP), cellular telephone or email addresses by going to www.alertoconee.com. Each number and/or email provided will be added to the regional database. You will receive a confirming email message to the address entered once you have successfully registered. For our members in Pickens County, please go to: <http://www.co.pickens.sc.us/>. In the middle of the home page under Pickens County News, you will find "Register your Phone Number for Emergency Notifications."

Please note that the information contained in this article deals with Duke Energy and FERC with regard to FERC-required dam management protocols. We plan to have an article later concerning how Oconee Nuclear Station is protected against an external flood type event.



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IN RE: Oconee County Council


The Oconee County Conservation
Bank Board - Meeting March 7, 2013

BEFORE ME the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State and County above named, this day personally came before me, Jerry Edwards, who being first duly sworn according to law, says that he is the Publisher of THE JOURNAL, a newspaper published Tuesday through Saturday in Seneca, SC and distributed in Oconee County, Pickens County and the Pendleton area of Anderson County and the notice (of which the annexed is a true copy) was inserted in said paper on January 11, 2013 and the rate charged therefore is not in excess of the regular rates charged private individuals for similar insertions.



Jerry Edwards
Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
11th day of January A.D. 2013.



Jennifer A. White
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: 05/18/2014

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The entire contents of these units will be sold via public auction on

LEGALS

The Oconee County Conservation Bank Board will meet on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 414 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act notice of each meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda will be posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, Walhalla, SC, and on the County Council website (www.oconee.com/ocouncil).

PHOSCOPE

ARIES (March 21-Apr) when dealing with so influence your future. motion to quit or to take care of your hee ***

TAURUS (April 20-M) the things that make friends or traveling to your peace of mind & the stars. *****

GEMINI (May 21-Jun) finances in order. Do if you invest wisely. A speed and the amount determine your financial reality. ***

CANCER (June 21-Jul) in both your home at concerns and your pl the feedback required action must be avoid ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) meet with your shown the opportunity to m you the right of pass to victory. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept) image, looks and the offer. You can measure fine-tune your skills be planned for late in *****

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Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:34 AM
To: Beth Hulse, classadmgr@upstatetoday.com
Subject: Conservation Bank March 2013
Attachments: 011013 - Conservation Bank 030713-MEETING.doc

Please run at your earliest convenience.
Thanks.

Elizabeth G. Hulse

Clerk to County Council

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Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:34 AM
To: Andrew; Beth Hulse; Chad Dorsett; Greenville News (localnews@greenvillenews.com); Kevin; LaDonna Becker (ladonna@dailyjm.com); Norman Cannada (ncannada@upstatetoday.com); Ray Chandler; Westminster News / Keowee Courier (westnews@bellsouth.net); WGOG (dickmangrum@wgog.com); WSPA TV - Channel 7 (assignmentdesk@wspa.com)
Subject: March 7, 2013 Conservation Bank Board Meeting

The **Oconee County Conservation Bank Board** will meet on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691.

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Elizabeth G. Hulse

Clerk to County Council

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