



MINUTES CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

August 9, 2016

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

MEMBERS

Mr. Shea Airey, Chairman
Ms. Jennifer Moss, Secretary
Mr. Marvin Prater, Treasurer
Mr. Frank Ables

Mr. Bill Smith, [term ends 2016]
Mr. Richard Cain, [term ends 2018]
Mr. Jason Davis
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. Smith] and Elizabeth G. Hulse, 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.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 at this meeting.

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. Prater, approved 5 – 0 to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2016 meeting as presented.

Mr. Cain arrived just after the approval of minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Prater noted that the Treasurer's Reports as presented are accurate. Ms. Moss made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 6 – 0 to accept as presented the Treasurer's Reports for January, February, March, April, May and June 2016.

New Business

Discussion re: Presentation by OCCB Chair to Council

Mr. Airey led discussion regarding his upcoming presentation [copy filed with these minutes] to County Council regarding the history and future of the OCCB. Discussion followed.

Mr. Ables recommended that a representative from the OCCB also appear before Council after the first of the year for two reasons; new Council members will be seated in Districts IV and V, and it will be closer to their Strategic Planning Retreat and the beginning of the budget cycle.

OCCB Bank Account Bank Relocation Discussion

Mr. Airey led discussion regarding an email from the Treasurer's office [copy filed with these minutes] asking the OCCB to designate if the bank account will remain at Community First Bank or be moved to TD Bank. Discussion followed.

Ms. Moss made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 6 – 0 to keep the Oconee County Conservation Bank Board bank account at Community First Bank.

Old Business:

Grant Administrator's Written Recommendation re: Grants for Funding OCCB

Mr. Airey led discussion noting that he had conversations with Ms. Sharon DeRitter, Oconee County Grant Administrator, and that a written report was not ready for this meeting but her work is ongoing with a focus on seeking grants related to clean water, agricultural farm lands, etc. He noted that a report will be forthcoming from Ms. DeRitter at a future meeting.

No further action was taken on this matter at this meeting.

Continued Discussion/Exploration regarding Alternate Funding Sources

Mr. Airey led discussion regarding various options for fund raising to include but not limited to the following areas:

- Approaching the Wild Turkey Foundation to identify interest in funding
- Continued approaches to Foundations for grants to the board
- Use of anticipated Duke donation [\$600,000] to leverage to create endowment to enable Board to become sustainable utilizing interest funds for annual operations/grants.

Additionally, Mr. Airey asked members to seek out interested community groups and organizations to provide the board with a letter of support for the boards' activities and identify if they are willing to partner or grant match, etc.

Next Meeting:

Mr. Airey noted that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room and not Chambers as it is Election Day and chambers will be utilized by Registration & Elections for set up for election result tabulation.

Adjourn:

Mr. Airey adjourned the meeting, approved unanimously, at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council & Staff Liaison