



MINUTES CONSERVATION BANK BOARD

August 8, 2017

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

MEMBERS

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

Ms. Frances Rundlett
Mr. Richard Cain
VACANT
Ms. Katie D. Smith, 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 Mr. Shea Airey, Ms. Jennifer Moss, Ms. Frances Rundlett, Mr. Frank Ables, Mr. Richard Cain & Mr. Marvin Prater and Katie D. Smith, 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.

No members of the media were present.

Call to Order:

Mr. Shea Airey, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Moss made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables approved 6 – 0, to approve the minutes from June 8 2017 meetings as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Prater noted that the Treasurer's Reports as presented are accurate. Mr. Prater made a motion, approved unanimously to accept as presented the Treasurer's Reports for April, May, June and July 2017.

Discussion and/or action regarding Powell Property, Moore Property & Morris Property

Mr. Airey noted the board had spent the first three to four years getting the process ready in advance of funding and have done a lot of leg work. He further noted he wanted to make sure the process was being correctly. The Board had established the first six months of the year [January thru June] they will accept applications and the second half of the year [July thru December] they will review applications. At this point, the Board has received three applications from Powell, Moore & Morris to review. If applications are received during the second half of the year, these would be next year applications.

Regarding the properties that are in the review stage now, the Board realizes there were some emergency requests but will get defined in the way the future applications are handled. Mr. Airey noted there is a criteria worksheet and evaluation criteria scoring form [copies filed with these

minutes] that is meant to match the landowner's application for funding. The process and scoring is similar to what the State uses to score the applications. Discussion followed.

Mr. Airey suggested scheduling a review of each of these at successive meetings but prior to the meetings each member of the Board should review the properties and complete the scoring sheets on their own. Once completed, the scoring forms can be used at the next meeting and discussions can follow regarding the properties. Mr. Airey further noted there would possibly be three additional meetings, one meeting dedicated to each of the properties, by the end of the year. Discussion followed.

Regarding the Morris property, Mr. Airey noted he has known Ms. Morris for a number of years. He noted he would participate in the discussion but would not participate in the grading or scoring due to a possible conflict of interest.

Mr. Airey further noted members of the board would need to visit the properties. He noted it would be appropriate to visit the properties and then to complete the scoring sheets and have tentative scores for each property. Additionally, visiting the property does not guarantee approval but part of the process. Discussion continued.

Ms. Rundlett asked if possible to revise the process so that applications could be accepted year round. Mr. Airey noted applications are accepted year round but will be reviewed depending on when they are turned in. The Board established they will accept applications year round but the second half of the year [July thru December] they will review applications. Mr. Airey noted the time table is the exact same one the State uses.

New Business:

Mr. Airey noted the signature cards at Community First Bank had his name and Mr. Rocky Nation as signers. Mr. Airey noted the Chair and Secretary should be the signers on the account. Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Prater, approved 6 – 0, for Mr. Shea Airey and Ms. Jennifer Moss to be the check signers on the account at Community First Bank.

Mr. Cain asked how long he would need to keep the information such as agendas. He noted he had ones from 2013. The Clerk noted there are copies of agendas and backup on file if needed.

Old Business:

None at this meeting.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Monday, September 18, 2017 at the Oconee County Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691.

Adjourn:

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moss, approved 6 – 0, to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council & Staff Liaison