

2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202 (803) 576-2083

Minutes January 27, 2014

Attendance:

Members present: Carol Kososki, Gary Atkinson, John Grego, Glenice Pearson, Ann Furr, Mildred Myers, Margaret DuBard, Becky Bailey

Absent: Virginia Sanders, Sam Holland

Vacant: District 9

Others present:

James B. Atkins (Buddy), Conservation Department Nancy Stone-Collum, Conservation Department Chanda Cooper, Conservation Department Ken Driggers, Contract Legal Counsel

Chair Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 4:00pm at the Greenhill Parish Clubhouse following a Commission retreat.

Minutes

Ann Furr moved and Gary Atkinson seconded approval of the November 25, 2013 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Budget

Having reviewed the proposed FY15 budget during the retreat, there were no recommendations for change. Buddy Atkins explained the need for a new vehicle for the Conservation Department. The rough terrain for easement visits is not easily accomplished with the station wagon nor does it get good gas mileage. The County has Ford Escapes under contract; this small SUV can be purchased for approximately \$25,000 with unexpended FY14 funds. Gary moved and Ann seconded a motion to approve spending up to \$25,000 for the purchase of a new vehicle. The motion was approved unanimously. After the purchase of a vehicle, approximately \$120,000 will remain in Professional Services.

Retreat Action Items

A recommendation from the retreat discussion on best utilization of the conservation survey data and results was to hire a public relations firm to publicize the survey's findings, brand the RCCC, and market RCCC programs. Becky Bailey moved to use unexpended funds in FY14 Professional Services to hire an advertising/marketing firm. Gary made a substitute motion to

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have staff draft a Request for Qualifications. Becky seconded and the motion was approved with one abstention - Glenice Pearson who expressed the need for more information about the survey before she could support funding a public relations firm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 pm.

Submitted by Nancy Stone-Collum Conservation Coordinator