

**Land, Water & Conservation Division
Advisory Committee Minutes
Dennis Building, Room 357
Columbia, South Carolina
Tuesday, February 17, 2015**

Present	Bill Simpson	Webb Smathers
	Larry Nates	Dean Moss
	Trish Hartung	Marvin Davant
	Jim McLeod	Tom Garrison

Staff:	Ken Rentiers	Marc Cribb
	Dorothy Phillips	

Call to Order/Welcome: The **February 17, 2015 Conference Call** meeting was called to order by Chairman William Simpson at 10:10 a.m. In compliance with the provisions of Section 30-4-80(e) (Freedom of Information Act), notification of this meeting was posted in public places. Mr. Simpson noted that he enjoyed receiving Mark Malsick's weather updates, "he makes it fun to read".

Approval of September 2, 2014 Minutes: Marvin Davant made a motion to approve the September 2, 2014 Minutes and seconded by Webb Smathers, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Deputy Director's Report: Ken Rentiers reported that 2014 was a good and busy year for LWC. Updates on the water assessment project: Saluda Basin is the pilot basin; presentations have been made at the Clemson Water Conference, outlining what the model will do and what information that would be needed from withdrawers and permittees. Clemson will be the stakeholder facilitator. The first stakeholder meeting is scheduled for May. Ken informed the committee that he will be giving a presentation on this at the Conservation Partnership Conference next week in Columbia. He also informed the committee that there will be basin advisory councils formed that would be a great opportunity for conservation districts participation with local knowledge.

Expansion of the ground watering monitor network has been increased up to 134 wells, an increase of 20 additional wells in the past year. Three core holes were drilled in 2014, in Calhoun, Georgetown and Chesterfield Counties. This will decrease some of the gaps in the collection of data. Salt water intrusion monitoring; 8 wells equipped with new instruments to monitor saltwater intrusion. Geological mapping; 434 square miles of mapping was completed in 2014, partnering with the College of Charleston to do offshore map of Folly Beach area to be used by the Corp of Engineers. Additional projects include: Bureau of Offshore Management – data base for offshore sand deposits; automated weather station on Sassafras Mountain that will give real time mountain data; 28

communities were upgraded to new flood insurance maps and 9 new communities joined the flood insurance program. Conservation Districts Program has added new employee, Chris Workman.

Conservation Districts Report: Marc Cribb briefed the Committee on the annual meeting of Conservation Districts Partnership at the Columbia Marriott high lighting conference items: waters of the US, EPA rules being considered in Washington; soil health – 2015 International Year of Soils being promoted along with NRCS. 2014 election follow-up: 92 commissioners were elected, including 20 new commissioners; and 10 new appointed commissioners in 2014. Renewal of 3 contribution agreements contracts with NRCS.

Committee Comments: Jim McLeod informed the Committee that he received email from Duke Power Company concerning the final water quality permit from DHEC has been approved for the relicensing of the Catawba dams. He pointed out that of interest to DNR that there is a 50 year license awarded by FERC – Duke has planned to put \$3mil up for state agencies to purchase additional land for conservation and recreation practices, a total of 13 dams will be relicensed.

Executive Session: At 1:25 p.m. Dean Moss made a motion to go into Executive Session and was seconded by Jim McLeod for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. All were in favor.

At 1:35 p.m. Trish Hartung made a motion to return from Executive Session, all were in favor.

Chairman Simpson asked for a motion that the Conservation District Commissioner re-appointments and new appointments be approved and Dean Moss made the motion and was seconded by Tom Garrison, all were in favor. The Conservation District Commissioner re-appointments were approved as follows: Henry L. Nicholson, Bamberg; Rebecca H. Davis, Barnwell; William S. Simpson, Charleston; William H. Griggs, Chesterfield; I.M. Benton, Colleton; C.M. Dantzler, Jasper; W. Gordon Wells, Jasper; E. Michael O'Tuell, Marlboro; H. Heath Hill, Richland; Jason R. Price, Saluda; Ronnie Bullard, Spartanburg; Norris Fowler, Union and Jayne D. Carsten, Williamsburg. The new appointments were approved and are as follows: Jimmy D. Poston, Florence; Richard B. Sansbury, Florence; Richard S. Dogan, Greenville and Jefferson B. Laney, Richland.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made at 1:50 p.m. all were in favor to adjourn.

Dorothy L. Phillips