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# Legislative Oversight Committee



South Carolina House of Representatives

William K. (Bill) Bowers Raye Felder Phyllis J. Henderson Mia S. McLeod Ralph W. Norman Robert L. Ridgeway III James E. Smith, Jr. Edward R. Tallon Sr. Robert Q. Williams

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Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resources and Regulatory
Subcommittee Meeting
Monday, October 31, 2016
9:30 a.m.
Room 108 - Blatt Building

## **Archived Video Available**

I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.8, S.C. ETV was allowed access for streaming the Subcommittee meeting. You may access archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<a href="http://www.scstatehouse.gov">http://www.scstatehouse.gov</a>) and click on "Committee Postings and Reports," then under House Standing Committees click on "Legislative Oversight". Lastly, click on "Video Archives" for a listing of archived videos for the Legislative Oversight Committee.

#### **Minutes**

I. House Rule 4.5 requires the standing committees of the House to prepare and make available for public inspection, in compliance with Section 30-4-90, the minutes of full committee meetings. House Rule 4.5 further provides that such minutes need not be verbatim accounts of such meetings. It is the practice of the House Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes, which are not verbatim accounts of such meetings, for its Subcommittee meetings.

#### Attendance

I. The Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resource and Regulatory Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order by Subcommittee Chair Phyllis J. Henderson on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 in Room 108 of the Blatt Building, Columbia, South Carolina. The following Subcommittee Members were present: Subcommittee Chair Henderson, Representative Robert L. Ridgeway III, and Representative Ralph W. Norman.

## **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

I. Subcommittee Chair Henderson submitted proposed minutes from the Committee's previous meeting, September 19, 2016. Representative Ridgeway moved to approve the minutes. A roll call vote was held, and all present voted in favor of approval.

Rep. Ridgeway's Motion to Approve the Minutes from the September 19, 2016 Meeting	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Phyllis Henderson	✓		
Rep. Ralph Norman	✓		
Rep. Robert Ridgeway	✓		
Rep. Samuel Rivers			Not Present

### Discussion of the Study of the State Transportation Infrastructure Bank (STIB)

I. Subcommittee Chair Henderson provided an update on the SCTIB. In May, the Legislative Audit Council released its' comprehensive audit of SCTIB. Subcommittee Chair Henderson stated that she and Representative Norman had some additional questions for the SCTIB so they are not yet ready to complete the study. Representative Norman asked for additional questions to be submitted to the SCTIB. Chair Henderson moved that members submit any additional questions to STIB. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Chair Henderson's Motion to Submit Additional Questions to STIB:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Phyllis Henderson	✓		
Rep. Ralph Norman	✓		
Rep. Robert Ridgeway	✓		
Rep. Samuel Rivers			Not Present

## Discussion of the Study of the Department of Agriculture

- II. Commissioner Weathers explained to the Subcommittee the ways Hurricane Matthew effected the Department of Agriculture and the state.
- III. Commissioner Weathers gave an overview of the various commodity boards, and the structure and history of the Department of Agriculture.

IV. Commissioner Weathers testified about the Department's reliance upon a legal opinion issued by the Attorney General in it procurement practices relating to commodity boards. He testified about possible legislative changes that could be made in light of the state's agricultural situation.

Commissioner Weathers answered questions about topics such as:

- a. The makeup of the Commission of Agriculture, and the process by which commissioners are appointed;
- b. The nature of the staff employed by the agency that work with the commodity boards; and
- c. The fees assessed by the commodity boards.
- V. Representative Norman requested access to audits of the commodity boards and information on the agency's paid staff that worked with the boards.
- VI. The meeting was adjourned.