North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee

September 7, 2022

Main Agriculture Building - Hall of Fame Room, 2 W. Edenton Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

Conference Call Number: 984-204-1487, 435 446 434#

Attendees:
Committee members present:

- Weston McCorkle, NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
- Rick Long, Interim Assistant Secretary, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Jeff Michael, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
- Kyle Briggs, Executive Director, NC Wildlife Resources Commission
- Robert Bardon, College of Natural Resources, NCSU
- Chester Lowder, Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison

Other Attendees: Janine McLawhorn, Nancy Richardson, Jonathan Lanier, Mary Lou Addor, Sabrina Shaffer, Veronica Jamison, David Smith, Joe Austin, Rodney Woolard, Tom Potter, Christian Vose, Sarah Weavil, Marty Korneek, Denise Evans, and Steve Woodson.

Weston McCorkle was sitting in for Commissioner Steve Troxler due to his recovery from surgery. Weston McCorkle completed roll call and approved the June 22, 2022, meeting minutes. Cameron Ingram moved to approve Chester Lowder seconded the meeting minutes.

Reading of Ethics Reminder ETHICS REMINDER: Under the State Government Ethics Act, the chairman is required to remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest or appearances of conflicts of interest. If you have any conflict or appearance of conflict of interest with respect to any item on the agenda, please state this for the record and refrain from inappropriate participation on that item.

Evan Davis reported for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services. Davis gave update of current contracts which total 3,638.95 acres. Davis then reported on the Military Partnership Agricultural Conservation Easements since July 2016 which is a total of 9,477.435 acres and a total of 16 easements recorded. Davis reported the balance of the MOU with NCMAC and the upcoming 10 million of request. Davis then went on to report on the new position in ADFP Coordinator Program I that is open at this time.

Rick Long was the new point of contact for the Military Affairs Commission. He reported that Ariel Aponte moved over to work for Elizabeth State University. Long reported on the additional information and efforts such as the Governor Office Senior Advisors, Energy Resiliency Efforts, NC Defense Summit, NC Hall of Firsts Nomination Window, Timbermill Wind Project (onshore) Public Hearing, Childcare, Coast Guard Birthday and Galley Renaming Event, Session Legislative Efforts, and the Sentinel Landscape.

Cameron Ingram reported on the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission with a total of 18 landowners adding up to 2,532 acres in the open toolbox area of Sentinel Landscape area.

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Ingram reported on the ongoing DOD Coastal Club Fish Conservation. He also stated they started working with MOTSU and a recovery plan with the new season coming. Ingram reported that they are working with the College of Natural Resources and the assistance of forestry land retention.

Jeff Michaels reports on the upcoming annual report for 2021-2022. He reports on the Legislative report stating the proposed 20 million and over 20,000 acres and water/fund. The other big Nature heritage program with conservation partnerships. He spoke on their ranking systems. He also spoke on the inventory of 6,300 acre in Sentinel with state agency land &water fund. He spoke on the 195 applications this time and last only having 108. He also gave a projected budget for this upcoming year.

Chester Lowder gave his update saying he was hopeful with a positive partnership with dialogue.

Mary Lou gave her report on the Long Leaf pine.

Evan Davis gave an update on the Farming in NC that we are losing farmland at a rapid rate. He reported on the AG land study that was projected for 2040.

McCorkle reported on the fact that Agriculture was number one, Military was second and Forestry was third. He stated he was happy to be a part of the efforts with providing conservation efforts throughout the state.

Meeting is Adjourned 2:18 pm.