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**South Carolina House of Representatives**

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### **Economic Development, Transportation, and Natural Resources Subcommittee**

Thursday, December 5, 2019

10:00 am

Blatt Room 410

#### **Archived Video Available**

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

#### **Attendance**

- I. The Economic Development, Transportation, and Natural Resources Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chairman William M. (Bill) Hixon, on Thursday, December 5, 2019, in Room 410 of the Blatt Building. The following members of the Subcommittee were present for either all or a portion of the meeting: Chairman Hixon, Representative Hewitt, Representative Pendarvis, and Representative Powers-Norrell.

## Minutes

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not have to be verbatim accounts of meetings. It is the practice of the Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes for its subcommittee meetings.
- II. Representative Hixon makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the prior Subcommittee meeting.

Rep. Hixon's motion to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2019 meeting:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis			Not Present
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

## Discussion of the S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority

- I. Chairman Hixon explains the purpose of the meeting is to hear a summary of the findings from the State Inspector General's Office related to the allegations the Subcommittee referred to their office. Chairman Hixon notes the Subcommittee received the written summary of the findings on November 8, and it is included in the meeting packet beginning on page 9.
  - II. Chairman Hixon swears in the following representatives from the State Inspector General's Office:
    - a. Ms. Bessie Watson; and
    - b. Mr. Leslie Wiser.
- Chairman Hixon reminds personnel who were sworn in during prior meetings that they remain under oath anytime they are with the Subcommittee or Committee.
- III. State Inspector General Lamkin provides a summary of his office's findings. Subcommittee members ask questions which State Inspector General Lamkin answers.
  - IV. Ms. Karen Wingo, Director of State Human Resources, Department of Administration provides testimony on personnel settlements. Subcommittee members ask questions that Ms. Wingo answers.

V. Subcommittee members ask questions that Ms. Bonita Shropshire, Executive Director, S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority, and other agency personnel answer.

VI. Members make various motions during the meeting which are listed below.

Rep. Norrell-Powers' motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that Division of State Human Resources implement the State Inspector General's recommendation to consider the possibility of updating state Human Resource regulations related to personnel settlements to clarify the types of agreements that require review including consideration of providing guidance on obtaining outside counsel. The division should report its conclusions to the Committee within six months after approval of the full Committee's report:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

Rep. Hewitt's motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority allow the Office of the State Inspector General to conduct an independent, anonymous employee climate survey and report the results to the Committee by March 2020:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

Rep. Pendarvis' motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority take advantage of management training offered by the S.C. Department of Administration, such as the Certified Public Manager Program, for its executive leadership:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

Rep. Hewitt's motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority implement the State Inspector General's recommendation to develop, with the approval of its board, a policy regarding minimum cash reserves for bond debt service, operations, and emergency funds:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell			Not present

Rep. Hewitt's motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority implement the State Inspector General's recommendation to adopt an appropriate reporting structure that allows direct interaction between the agency's internal auditor and its governing board:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

Rep. Hewitt's motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority implement the State Inspector General's recommendation to revise its management structure to reduce the executive director's span of control and clarify division responsibilities:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

Rep. Powers-Norrell's motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority consider the issues discussed during the Subcommittee study related to property management and crime at affordable housing properties, and present recommendations for possible solutions by January 10, 2020:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

Rep. Pendarvis' motion that the Subcommittee Study include a recommendation that S.C. Housing and Finance Development Authority post email addresses for Commissioners on its website:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Hewitt	✓		
Rep. Hixon	✓		
Rep. Pendarvis	✓		
Rep. Powers-Norrell	✓		

VII. The meeting is adjourned.