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**South Carolina House of Representatives**

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

Thursday, February 22, 2018  
30 minutes after adjournment of the House  
Blatt Room 110

#### **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 Chair Bruce W. Bannister on Thursday, February 22, 2018, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building. The following other members of the Subcommittee were present for either all or a portion of the meeting: Representative Mandy Powers Norrell and Representative Robert L. Ridgeway III.

#### **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 Ridgeway makes a motion to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2018 meeting. A roll call vote is held, and the motion passes.

Rep. Ridgeway’s motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2018 meeting:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Collins			✓ (absent)
Rep. Norrell	✓		
Rep. Ridgeway	✓		
Rep. Bannister	✓		

**Public Testimony regarding the Commission for Minority Affairs (CMA)**

- I. Chair Bannister states before hearing agency testimony, there are three constituents who have asked to address the Subcommittee.
- II. Chair Bannister reminds the constituents and agency personnel who were sworn in during prior meetings that they remain under oath.
- III. Chief Michelle Mitchum testifies her tribe is receiving retaliation measures since the October 2017 meeting. She testifies that the CMA Native American Coordinator and the Executive Director advised the advisory committee there would not be a celebration of Native American Awareness Heritage Day. She states that she has spoken with the Wassamasaw and Etiwan Tribes, and they explained that the dispute between the tribes was caused by CMA. After continuously asking for email updates, Chief Mitchum has yet to receive any updates. Further, she testifies about many other issues that she has had with the Commission.
- IV. Chief Louie Chavis addresses the subcommittee and testifies to more issues with the Commission. He has issues with land acquisitions and the blatant disregard for the Native American people. He testifies that he has been approached by the Commission since the start of the study with claims of “intimidation.” He states there are no rules or guidelines to go by.
- V. Ms. Lisa McQueen-Starling addresses the subcommittee and testifies to the issues her tribe has experienced. She reads several quotes from the “United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” She testifies her hope was to work alongside CMA to develop a plan and strategy to pull their people out of poverty and to redress issues that have historically affected the community. She testifies that she filed that petition five years ago.

## Discussion of the Commission for Minority Affairs (CMA)

- I. CMA Director Thomas Smith provides opening comments, then provides testimony regarding the agency's following performance measures:
  - a. Statistical Reports
  - b. Statistical Surveys
  - c. Technical Assistance, Capacity Building and Outreach Service
  - d. Training-External
  - e. Training-Internal
  - f. Research Partnerships
  - g. Internal Planning Events
  
- II. Ms. Marcy Hayden, Native American Affairs Coordinator, provides testimony regarding the agency's following performance measures:
  - a. Other Agency Reports and Documents
  - b. Public Policy
  - c. Events and Workshops
  
- III. Ms. Lauretha Whaley, Administrative Manager, provides testimony regarding the agency's following performance measure:
  - a. Funds Collected, Grants and other Agency Funded Partnerships
  
- IV. Members ask questions, which different agency representatives answer. Question topics include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Public Surveys
  - b. Bill tracking
  - c. Grants
  - d. Outreach
  - e. Training
  - f. Events
  
- V. Chair Bannister provides closing comments.
  
- VI. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.