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Education and Cultural Subcommittee

April 26, 2016

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 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 Education and Cultural Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Representative Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, in Room 108 of the Blatt Building. The following members of the Subcommittee were present: Representative Gary E. Clary, Representative Jefferson, and Representative Tommy M. Stringer.

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 Clary moved to approve the minutes from the Subcommittee’s previous meeting on March 15, 2016. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed.

Rep. Clary’s motion to approve the minutes from March 15, 2016:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Clary	✓		
Rep. Jefferson	✓		
Rep. Stringer	✓		
Rep. Smith			✓

Discussion of the Department of Archives and History

- I. All present from the Department of Archives and History who wished to testify on behalf of the agency before the Subcommittee were sworn in. Those agency representatives were: Eric Emerson (Director) and Steven Tuttle (Deputy Director for Archives and Records Management).
- II. Committee staff provided an overview of the oversight process as it related to the Department.
- III. Representative Jefferson explained that the purpose of the meeting was for the Subcommittee to ensure that the Department had a clear understanding of the oversight process, and that the agency intended to share information about the oversight process and a public survey conducted by the Committee with the agency’s employees and others.
- IV. Director Emerson provided a brief overview of the Department to the Subcommittee.

Representative Jefferson asked for an explanation of the way in which the Department’s operations are funded. Director Emerson testified that the Department is funded through a combination of state funds, federal funds, and revenue generated by the Department.

Representative Clary asked for an overview of the Department’s financial situation in light of the budget cuts after the 2008 economic downturn. Director Emerson testified that the Department had rented portions of its building space to other state agencies in an effort to mitigate its financial liability. He testified that the Department had rebounded to some extent by using carry-over funds to cover the agency’s expenditures, and that while the agency had been “top heavy” in the past, it is now more lean and nimble.

Representative Clary asked for an estimated date on which the Department’s financial recovery began following the budget cuts of 2010 and 2011. Director Emerson testified that the rebuilding process at the Department probably began in 2013.

Representative Stringer suggested that the Subcommittee arrange to tour the Department's facilities at some point in the future. Representative Clary agreed with the suggestion.

- V. There begin no further business, the meeting was adjourned.