

Minutes
Take Palmetto Pride Where You Live Commission
Rembert C. Dennis Building, Room 335
1000 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC
October 5, 2017 10:00 am

The meeting of the Litter Commission was held at 10:00 am, October 5, 2017, in room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, SC. Notice of the date, time and location of the meeting was posted.

Members in Attendance:

Alvin Taylor, Agency Director of SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) & Litter Commission Chairman presided the meeting. Commission members present included Ike Gray - Department of Corrections (DOC), Jarrod Bruder – Sheriff’s Association (SA), Allen Hutto – Department of Transportation (DOT), Sarah Lyles – PalmettoPride (PP), Mallory Biering – Keep SC Beautiful (KSCB), Josh Rhodes – Association of Counties (AC), Tigerron Wells – Municipal Association of SC (MASC), Tonya Kohn – Court Administration (CA). Staff members of the Department of Natural Resources included Valerie Shannon, Mike Sabaka and Amanda Stroud; Staff member from PalmettoPride included Scott Morgan; and Jamie Nelson from the South Carolina Litter Control Association.

Members Not in Attendance:

Deborah Parker, Department of Probation, Parole & Pardon Services

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Taylor at 10:07 am.

II. Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the minutes by Allen Hutto, seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Old Business

A. Community Service Forms

Sarah Lyles asked to amend the community service forms to include litter control officers. The list in question was an oversight error with electronic distribution. Valerie Shannon stated the list will be emailed again.

Comments from the Commission members:

S. Lyles: Beaufort and Aiken counties are assigning roads to individuals and litter control officers endorse the cleaned sites. Individuals are non-monitored for performing the work just when the work is completed.

A. Taylor: This process (community service) needs to be clear and easy as possible for the judges; the courts still need signature from a supervising agency the work has been completed.

T. Wells: Is the support of the Commission needed for non-supervised community service?

J. Rhodes: If there is mandatory supervision, many county judges will assign litter pick-up.

T. Kohn: Replacing the requirement of mandating supervision with verifying the work can be done.

J. Bruder: Clarification of needs to be communicated about being unsupervised

T. Kohn: A memo can be sent out to the judges to clarify that community service can be unmonitored if the work is verified as complete. Recommendation for Valerie Shannon & CA to help draft the verbiage for redistribution.

B. Strategic Planning

A. Hutto: Expanding current MOU to include secondary highways. What are the issues concerning inmates in rural communities? Some magistrates assign clean-ups on rural roads but are not coordinated with DOT mowing schedule.

New Business

- A. T. Wells: Update on plastic bag legislation includes Isle of Palms, Beaufort and Horry. Charleston looking to join the movement. Proposed legislation against legislation is sponsored by Rep. Benefield.
- B. S. Lyles: Discussions with Department of Education mandating litter curriculum. To mandate litter curriculum would require legislative actions. Local requirements depend on school district. Rep. Cobb-Hunter wants to change the culture surrounding littering; having a statewide curriculum can help. Louisiana has new legislation – V. Shannon will forward electronic copy of Louisiana’s bill requiring statewide curriculum for review and possible duplication for South Carolina. Individual county/school district maybe available if statewide is not.
- C. J. Rhodes: Proposed legislation - Counties do not have authority to tax residents for litter clean-up of lots/properties AC hopes to push a proposal in upcoming legislative session allowing such sanctions.
- D. A. Hutto: MOU - The requirement of a MOU has proven difficult to achieve since not all agencies are in agreement of what needs to be included and what will be required for each signature.

IV. Comments

S. Lyles & J. Nelson: Reviewing litter bills to allow judges to determine fines for littering up to 15lbs.; use existing laws to define illegal dumping and increasing fines. Included will be illegal dumping of harvested animals with the support of SCDNR. House bill 3924 to be forwarded to M. Sabaka for review.

J. Rhodes: Rep. Cobb-Hunter was guest speaker at annual conference and would like to see pilot program for counties to address litter on rural roads.

Mallory Biering replaces Sherryl Jenkins for Keep South Carolina Beautiful

Tonya Kohn replaces Roslyn Frierson for Court Administration

J. Bruder: Discussions with Senator Alexander and is interested in suspending driver's license for littering; a more realistic approach would involve losing points.

M. Biering: Offered assistance to DOT with the MOU component.

Action Items

- V. Shannon to distribute Louisiana education bill to members
- S. Lyles to forward H3924 to Mike Sabaka
- V. Shannon & T. Kohn to draft verbiage for clarification concerning supervision during court ordered litter pickup.
- J. Rhodes will meet with Department of Education representative to establish education legislation
- A. Taylor & A. Hutto to discuss MOU feasibility

V. Time and location of next meeting

Schedule meeting before legislative session to discuss legislation for statewide education bill and review litter bill.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 am