

AGENDA
North Carolina Land and Water Fund
Acquisition Committee Meeting
September 30, 2025, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Ross Conference Room
Nature Research Center, 4th Floor
121 West Jones Street, NC 27603

This meeting will also be available to the public by teleconference. Please contact Terri Murray at teresa.murray@dncr.nc.gov or 919-707-9400 to request a meeting invitation/call-in number for the meeting.

Committee Members:

Ann Browning (Chair), Jimmy Broughton, Mike Rusher, Darrel Williams, John Wilson, David Womack

COMMENCEMENT

1) Call to Order (Chair – Ann Browning)

a) Welcome

b) Roll call

c) Compliance with General Statute § 138A-15

General Statute § 138A-15 mandates that the Chair inquire as to whether any Trustee knows of any conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to matters on the agenda. If any Trustee knows of a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest, please state so at this time.

d) Please put cell phones on vibrate or turn off, and if you are a guest joining remotely, please mute your audio and turn off your video unless you are called upon to speak

e) Revisions, additions, and adoption of the agenda

f) Approval of committee meeting minutes from August 13, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public is invited to make comments to the Board (Chair – Ann Browning)

The NCLWF policy manual states that comments shall be limited to subjects of business falling within the jurisdiction of the NCLWF. The NCLWF welcomes public comments on general issues. Comments will not be allowed on individual projects before the NCLWF for funding during the regular meeting. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person.

BUSINESS

1) Donation Mini-Grant Program Allocation (Marissa Hartzler) – Staff will review the Donation Mini-Grant Program and recommend an allocation for October 1, 2025, through the 2026 funding meeting.

2) Review of 2025 Cycle Applications (Marissa Hartzler, Hannah Bowen, Isaac Merson, Damon Hearne) – Staff will review applications and answer questions and the committee will develop funding recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

**North Carolina Land and Water Fund
Acquisition Committee Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2025**

The meeting was held via Teams with a physical location on the 4th floor of the Nature Research Center located at 121 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC in room 4508. All Committee Members in attendance were on Teams, and the Teams link was provided to guest attendees.

Committee Members present: Ann Browning (Chair), Jimmy Broughton, John Wilson, Darrel Williams, David Womack

Committee Members not present: Amy Grissom

Additional Board Members present: Terry Sharpe

Staff present: Will Summer, Marissa Hartzler, Steve Bevington, Christina Benton, Donna Morris, Damon Hearne, Justin Mercer, Ginny King, Zoe Hansen Burnet

Visitors present: Michelle Mound, Tar River Land Conservancy

Call to Order (Amy Grissom, Chair)

Meeting was called to order by Ann Browning, Chair, at 1:02 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Compliance with General Statute § 138A-15
 - a. No conflicts of interest were noted.
3. Revisions, Additions and Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Will Summer noted that Jimmy Broughton is now the Vice Chair and will serve on the Acquisition Committee.
 - b. **Motion** to approve the agenda was made by David Womack, seconded by Darrel Williams, and unanimously approved.
 - c. **Motion** to approve the committee meeting minutes from May 1, 2025, was made by Darrel Williams, seconded by David Womack, and unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Update (Will Summer)

Will Summer provided an update on changes to Trustee appointments and staffing.

Public Comments

No requests for public comment.

Business

- 1) **Program Manager's update** (Marissa Hartzler)
 - a. Staff presented an update on closings since last report and current open contracts.
- 2) **2024-062 TRLC Edwards Tract Proposed Budget Amendment** (Marissa Hartzler)
 - a. **Motion** to recommend amending the grant contract's matching resources to allow for the substitution of NC Great Trails State grant funds in lieu of NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program funds as presented was made by Darrel Williams, seconded by David Womack, and unanimously approved.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 1:49 p.m. was made by Jimmy Broughton, seconded by David Womack, and unanimously approved.

Action Item**Staff members:** Marissa Hartzler

Agenda Item 1) Donation Mini-Grant Program Allocation

Each year, the Acquisition Committee is asked to set the allocation of funds for the Donation Mini-Grant (DMG) Program. The allocation will be used to administratively fund DMG applications from October 1, 2025, through the 2026 funding meeting. These funds are used on an as-needed basis and are drawn from license plate revenue and returned grant funds, similar to provisional funding.

Staff recommendation:

Recommend to the board funding up to \$500,000 in Donation Mini-Grants from license plate revenue and/or returned grant funds through the 2026 funding meeting and via administrative approval delegated to the NCLWF Board of Trustees Chair.

Committee actions needed:

Approve, amend, or deny the staff recommendation and make a recommendation to the board.

Action Item

Staff members: Marissa Hartzler, Hannah Bowen, Isaac Merson, Damon Hearne

Agenda Item 2) Review of 2025 Cycle Applications

The Acquisition Committee will review the 2025 applications for acquisition projects and make funding recommendations. 76 applications for land acquisition projects have been ranked by staff for the Acquisition Committee to review.

Each trustee was given application review materials via Airtable with application scores and links to applications, project summaries, and PowerPoint presentations.

Presentations will be given by staff during the Committee Meeting.

Committee actions needed:

- 1) Recommendation to full board of a prioritized list of applications to be funded from the currently available funds, including which project(s) will receive the military buffer funds.
- 2) Recommendation to full board of a prioritized list of applications to be funded as additional funds become available from license plate fees, funds currently encumbered to projects that may become unencumbered before July 1, 2026, and additional appropriated funds.