



**York County
Health & Environmental Protection
Committee
Minutes
December 8, 2025**

Regular Meeting

**York County Government Center
3rd Floor Conference Room
6 South Congress Street
York, South Carolina 29745**

6:00 PM

Call to Order

Chairman, Andy Litten

Also in attendance were Council members Watts Huckabee and Debi Cloninger.

County Manager, Josh Edwards, Assistant County Manager, Tom Couch, Parks and Recreation Director, Katherine Jones and County Attorney, Michael Kendree were also in attendance.

Order of Business

1. Committee to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2025 Health & Environmental Protection Committee meeting.

Motion to approve

Passed **Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0**

MOVANT: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

SECOND: Debi Cloninger

AYES: Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

2. Report on preliminary scope of work for a long-range Parks Master Plan.

(6:01pm) Tom Couch, Assistant County Manager, provided a presentation overview of the preliminary scope of work for a long-range Parks Masterplan.

Mr. Couch reported that the purpose of a long-range park and recreation masterplan is to develop a unified, long-term plan that coordinates York County with its municipalities, school districts, and nonprofit partners.

Key Objectives:

- Evaluate recreation assets - municipal, school district, and non-profit
- Create shared level-of-service standards across rural and urban communities

- Understand needs driven by rapid growth
- Strengthen partnerships to avoid duplication and expand service reach
- Prioritize investments that deliver regional impact and equitable access.
- Develop a realistic, countywide capital improvement plan with cost-sharing options.

Major Tasks:

- Project kickoff and management
- Countywide asset inventory
- Demographic and growth forecasting
- Regional vision and strategy framework
- Facility, program and partnership recommendations
- 20-year capital improvement plan (regional priorities)
- Implementation roadmap and intergovernmental coordination framework
- Final masterplan and adoption support

Deliverables:

- Countywide asset map and GIS layers
- Vision and strategic goals
- Facility and program recommendations
- Regional 20-year CIP
- Implementation strategy
- Final plan plus executive summary
- Estimated project duration between 9 and 12 months

Staff and Management is requesting that the Committee advise if they would like staff to proceed with a 10-20 year Capital Improvement plan.

The Committee supported staff to begin preliminary work to evaluate the project and report back to the committee with cost estimates based on a broad scope of work. However, no official action was taken.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 20th, 2026 at 4:30pm.

3. Report on current due-diligence in forming a Parks Foundation.

Katherine Jones, Parks and Recreation Director, provided an overview of the history, purpose and next steps of the county-wide Parks Foundation.

Staff learned that there is a National Association of Park Foundations (NAPF), an association that is dedicated exclusively to building the capacity of park foundations and friends groups and offers a wide variety of benefits.

Staff recommends that York County join NAPF to have access to the benefits and offerings as it

pertains to establishing and operating a parks foundation.

The committee is in favor of the county joining the NAPF and moving forward with a York County Parks Foundation. However, no formal action was taken.

Staff will report back to the Committee in the next several months with the draft bylaws and research the structure of the Foundation of the Carolinas.

Executive Session

Matters for consideration following Executive Session

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn.

Passed **Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0**

MOVANT: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

SECOND: Debi Cloninger

AYES: Andy Litten, Debi Cloninger, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None



Karen M. Brogdon, Clerk to Council