

Beachfront Jurisdictional Line Stakeholder Workgroup

Committee Member Biographies

Mr. C.W. "Rocky" Browder III – Town of Hilton Head Island

Mr. Browder has served as an Environmental Planner in the Developmental Review and Zoning Division at the Town of Hilton Head Island since 2011. Prior to working for the Town of Hilton Head, Mr. Browder worked as a private consultant for Sligh Environmental Consultants (2006-2011). From 1989-2006, Mr. Browder worked for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (S.C. DHEC OCRM), formerly the South Carolina Coastal Council, as a Marine Geologist, Regional Permit Administrator, and Senior Planner. Mr. Browder received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Geology and a Master of Public Administration degree from the College of Charleston.

Ms. Blanche Brown – DeBordieu Colony Community Association

General Manager of DeBordieu Colony since October, 2000, Ms. Brown has extensive experience in local, state and federal beachfront management issues, as well as in marketing and management. She oversees the day-to-day operations of DeBordieu Colony, a community of 1,220 properties with a \$3 million operating budget. In this role she is responsible for interacting with all federal, state and county legal, environmental and regulatory agencies. She has been the project manager for two beach restoration projects and two canal dredging projects in DeBordieu Colony. Ms. Brown's career in marketing began in Cincinnati, OH when she joined Cincinnati Microwave, where she held several marketing positions, including the promotion and sale of Escort and Passport Radar detectors as well as early satellite television systems. After receiving her MBA from Xavier University, she accepted the position of Marketing Communications Director for Chemtronics, Inc., an Atlanta-based manufacturer of ultra-pure specialty chemicals and products utilized in the electronics, telecommunications and critical environment markets. Ms. Brown serves on the Board of the SC Beach Advocates Foundation, is a graduate of Leadership Georgetown and is a member of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. She is an active member of the Community Associations Institute as a Professional Community Association Manager (PCAM) for a Large Scale Community and serves as the Chair for the Legal Action Committee for the South Carolina Chapter.

Ms. Emily Cedzo – Coastal Conservation League

As the Land, Water & Wildlife Program Director at the Coastal Conservation League, Ms. Cedzo works on conservation issues related to wetlands, beaches, water quality and withdrawal, and wildlife habitat. Prior to her time at the Conservation League, Ms. Cedzo worked with Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, North Carolina Sierra Club, and North Carolina Sea Grant. Ms. Cedzo obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies from the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and a Master of Environmental Management degree and certificate in Community-Based Environmental Management from Duke University's Nicholas School.

Mr. Ray E. Chandler – Chandler and Jennings

Mr. Chandler, partner at Chandler and Jennings, practiced law in South Carolina as a trial litigator until present. He served as President of DeBordieu Colony Community Association for 2 years and was appointed Chairman of the Board of Patriots Point Development Authority by Governor Haley in 2012. Mr. Chandler was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the Order of the Palmetto. He served on Active duty in the U.S. Army from January 1972 until January 1976 as a Captain in the Judge Advocate Generals Corps. Mr. Chandler graduated from Abbeville High School in 1964. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from The Citadel in 1968 and a J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1971.

Mayor Jane S. Darby – Town of Edisto Beach

Mayor Jane Darby serves as Mayor of the Town of Edisto Beach and has been a coastal stakeholder since 1996. Mayor Darby is a veteran of various coastal storms including Hurricanes Floyd, Bonnie, Charlie, Joaquin, Hermine, Julia, Matthew, and Irma. Additionally, Mayor Darby is President of the Association of South Carolina Mayors, serves on the Legislative Board of the Municipal Association of South Carolina, and is a member of the South Carolina Beach Advocates.

Ms. April Donnelly, J.D. – The Nature Conservancy

Ms. Donnelly joined the South Carolina Chapter of The Nature Conservancy as the Director of Government Relations in 2012 after 10 years of federal service inside the beltway with NOAA. During her time with NOAA, April served as a member of the George W. Bush Administrative team, and worked directly with federal ocean & coastal resource management programs as the legislative affairs liaison with Congressional committee and member offices. After 2009, Ms. Donnelly remained with NOAA for another three years as the senior policy advisor to the Director of the NOAA Office of Integrated Ocean Observing Systems. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from James Madison University, and a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law, where she worked extensively on legal research and writing with the Sea Grant Law Center. In her role with The Nature Conservancy, Ms. Donnelly covers select state and federal policy and legislation impacting natural resources, including land acquisitions, coastal & marine resource protection, freshwater planning and forest management practice (e.g. controlled burning, longleaf pine restoration).

Mr. Josh Eagle, J.D. – University of South Carolina School of Law

Mr. Eagle is the Solomon Blatt Professor of Law and the Director of the Coastal Law Field Lab at the University of South Carolina. He is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University (Bachelor of Arts), Colorado State University (Master of Science, Forest Sciences), and Georgetown University (Juris Doctor), and he began his legal career at the United States Department of Justice. Professor Eagle has published on a wide range of topics, including coastal land use, fisheries, public lands, conservation easements, and endangered species. He has been named an Atlantic Fellow in Public Policy, a Fulbright Scholar, and an international research scholar at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies.

Mr. Bill Eiser – Eiser Coastal Consulting

Since January 2016, Mr. Eiser has provided consulting services and expert witness testimony related to beach erosion issues, beachfront jurisdictional lines, and the beachfront permitting process in South Carolina as president of Eiser Coastal Consulting. Mr. Eiser has over 30 years of professional experience in coastal zone management in South Carolina. From 1989 - 2015, he worked as a regulatory project manager at DHEC OCRM. In this capacity he periodically revised the positions of the baseline and setback line, reviewed beachfront permit applications for projects such as residential construction and beach renourishment, and wrote a series of Annual State of the Beaches reports. He is extremely familiar with OCRM's regulatory programs and permitting requirements for beachfront construction. From 1984 - 1989, Mr. Eiser worked at Coastal Science and Engineering, where he served as project manager for numerous shoreline assessment and beach erosion studies, including establishment of the first interim baselines and setback lines in 1988. Mr. Eiser received Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Marine Science from the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Jean Ellis, Ph.D. – University of South Carolina Department of Geography

Dr. Ellis is a faculty member in the Department of Geography at the University of South Carolina (USC) with a research focus on coastal processes. Prior to working at USC, Dr. Ellis was at NASA and was a NOAA Knauss Fellow. Specifically, Dr. Ellis studies the coastal zone from a field- and remote sensing-based perspective and is most well-known for conducting field-based experiments that integrate novel instrumentation to ascertain the fundamentals of wind-blown sand to link micro- to macro-scale processes. Dr. Ellis has also been investigating the impacts of the post-storm South Carolina beach-dune systems with her students.

Mr. Ryan Fabbri – Town of Pawleys Island

Mr. Fabbri serves as the administrator of the Town of Pawleys Island. In this role he is responsible for developing and coordinating the Town's long-range beach management plan, including beach nourishment. Mr. Fabbri has extensive experience with floodplain and shoreline management. He is a Certified Floodplain Manager and a member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. Mr. Fabbri received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Coastal Carolina University and a Master of Public Administration degree from Clemson University.

Dr. Timothy W. Kana, P.G., Ph.D. – Coastal Science and Engineering

Dr. Kana is founder and president of Coastal Science & Engineering in Columbia (SC). He has over 30 years of experience in coastal erosion projects and has written over 250 reports and publications relating to coastal processes, sediment budgets, beach nourishment, impacts of sea-level rise, and coastal zone management. Dr. Kana developed the Profile Volume approach to shoreline erosion assessment and was an advisor to the 1987 Blue Ribbon Committee of the South Carolina Coastal Council on methodology for determining baselines and setback lines. Dr. Kana earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Natural Sciences from the Johns Hopkins University and Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees in coastal geology from the University of South Carolina. Dr. Kana and his firm have developed plans and supervised construction of over 45 beach nourishment projects in South Carolina, North Carolina, New York and the Caribbean, a cumulative volume of approximately 35 million cubic yards.

Dr. Michael Katuna, Ph.D. – College of Charleston Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences

Dr. Katuna serves as Professor Emeritus in the Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences at the College of Charleston. From 1974-2009, Dr. Katuna was a Professor of Geology at the College of Charleston teaching various courses including Coastal Processes and Issues, Stratigraphy and Sedimentation, and Earth History. From 2004-2007, he served as the Program Director for the Master of Environmental Studies Program at the College. Dr. Katuna has authored and co-authored numerous professional publications and served as a Consultant Geologist for coastal projects. He also worked with the South Carolina Coastal Council/S.C. DHEC OCRM on the South Carolina Beach Monitoring Program. Dr. Katuna received his Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in Geology from Queens College-City University of New York and a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mr. Nick Kremydas, Esq. – South Carolina Realtors

Mr. Kremydas is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the 22,000-member South Carolina REALTORS® (SCR). Mr. Kremydas is a graduate of Francis Marion College and the University of South Carolina School of Law and is a member of the South Carolina Bar Association. He served as staff legal counsel in Governor Carroll Campbell's Administration before joining the REALTORS® in December of 1994. He was the Association's General Counsel and Chief Lobbyist for 12 years and has served as the CEO since 2006. Mr. Kremydas is dedicated to advancing, promoting and defending the American Dream of Homeownership and private property rights.