



## **State 2% ATAX Committee**

**Beaufort County, SC**

**Beaufort County Council Chambers**

100 Ribaut Road

Beaufort, SC 29902

**Friday, September 18, 2026**

**9:00 AM**

### **AGENDA & MEETING MINUTES**

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**KEN GUERRA, CHAIR**  
**DICK STEWART**  
**ANITA SINGLETON-PRATHER**

**STEVEN GREEN**  
**MARIE GIBBS**  
**NICK BORREGGINE**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair, Ken Guerra, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

##### **Present:**

Committee Chair Ken Guerra  
Committee Member Nick Borreggine  
Committee Member Marie Gibbs  
Committee Member Steven Green  
Committee Member Dick Stewart  
Committee Member Anita Singleton-Prather (via Zoom)  
Committee Member Dick Stewart  
Committee Liaison Anna Maria "Tab" Tabernik (via Zoom)  
Beaufort County Attorney, Brian Hulbert

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Committee Chair, Ken Guerra, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH FOIA**

Committee Chair, Ken Guerra, confirmed compliance with FOIA.

#### **4. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

Motion: Committee Chair, Ken Guerra, made a motion to modify the agenda to start presentations early starting with the organizations that appeared early. The first presentation was initially set at 9:40 am.

**Vote:** No objections; motion approved.

#### **5. PRESENTATION OF ORGANIZATIONS' PROJECTS**

Committee Chair, Ken Guerra, led the presentation schedule starting at 9:15 am. Out of the 35 scheduled presentations, 34 were present.

**6. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION OF GRANT AWARDS**

Committee Liaison, Anna Maria “Tab” Tabernik, made a request to defer discussion and recommendation to a later date. All committee members agreed without any objections to move date to October 2, 2026, at 9:00 am.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chair, Ken Guerra, adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

**8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On October 2, 2026, Committee reviewed and approved minutes from September 18, 2026, without any objections.

**TO WATCH COMMITTEE OR COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS OR FOR A  
COMPLETE LIST OF AGENDAS AND BACKUP PACKAGES,**

**PLEASE VISIT:** <https://beaufortcountysc.gov/council/council-committee-meetings/index.html>

## 2026-2027 State 2% ATax Grant Presentation Schedule - September 18, 2026 (amended)

| #         | Time        | Organization                                   | Event/Project Title                                                                     | Location of Event/Project                        | Submitter First Name | Submitter Last Name | Requested Amount <sup>2</sup> | Rec'd 25-26   |
|-----------|-------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <u>1</u>  | 9:30:00 AM  | Lean Ensemble Theater                          | 2026-2027 Season                                                                        | HHPS Main Street Theatre                         | Keelin               | Sanz                | \$ 6,000.00                   | did not apply |
| <u>2</u>  | 9:45:00 AM  | Friends of Port Royal                          | Social Media Advertising                                                                | N/A - advertising request                        | Thomas               | Ranalli             | \$ 12,000.00                  | did not apply |
| <u>3</u>  | 9:25:00 AM  | Greater Beaufort- Port Royal CVB               | 26-27 Northern Beaufort County DMO Marketing/Promotion                                  | Northern Beaufort County                         | Robb                 | Wells               | \$ 205,000.00                 | \$ 195,000.00 |
| <u>4</u>  | 9:35:00 AM  | Beaufort- Jasper YMCA                          | Beaufort River Swim                                                                     | Port Royal Marina/Beaufort Waterfront Marina     | Julie                | Kuhns               | \$ 10,000.00                  | \$ 5,000.00   |
| <u>5</u>  | 10:00:00 AM | City of Beaufort                               | Preserving the Promenade                                                                | Henry C. Chamber's Waterfront Park               | Eric                 | Claussen            | \$ 1,000,000.00               | did not apply |
| <u>6</u>  | 10:05:00 AM | Beaufort Film Society                          | Beaufort International Film Festival 2027                                               | USCB - Center for the Arts                       | Ronald               | Tucker              | \$ 60,000.00                  | \$ 50,000.00  |
| <u>7</u>  | 10:10:00 AM | Beaufort Area Hospitality Association          | Beaufort Oyster Festival                                                                | Waterfront Park - Beaufort, South Carolina       | Ashlee               | Houck               | \$ 50,000.00                  | \$ 40,000.00  |
| <u>8</u>  | 10:15:00 AM | Beaufort Area Hospitality Association          | Northern Beaufort County NYE Fireworks                                                  | Launching from the Beaufort River                | Ashlee               | Houck               | \$ 25,000.00                  | did not apply |
| <u>9</u>  | 10:20:00 AM | Friends of Fort Fremont                        | Tourism Marketing for Fort Fremont                                                      | Fort Fremont - St. Helena Island, SC             | Wendy                | Wilson              | \$ 29,100.00                  | \$ 25,000.00  |
| <u>10</u> | 9:15:00 AM  | Arts Center of Coastal Carolina                | Request for Tourism Destination Marketing Support                                       | Arts Center of Coastal Carolina                  | Janet                | Smith               | \$ 40,000.00                  | \$ 10,000.00  |
|           |             |                                                | 5 MINUTE BREAK                                                                          |                                                  |                      |                     |                               |               |
| <u>11</u> | 10:35:00 AM | Beaufort County Parks and Rec                  | Market Feasibility & Site Selection Study - Beaufort County Regional Tournament Complex | Beaufort County                                  | Eric                 | Brown               | \$ 160,000.00                 | did not apply |
| <u>12</u> | 10:40:00 AM | Building Brighter Futures                      | Music Festival of the Lowcountry                                                        | Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, Beaufort, SC  | Jamie                | Peart               | \$ 50,000.00                  | \$ 20,000.00  |
| <u>13</u> | 10:45:00 AM | One Gullah Nation, Inc                         | 1st Annual One Nation 5K Bridge Run                                                     | Beaufort Memorial Bridge                         | Theresa              | Gadsden             | \$ 12,000.00                  | did not apply |
| <u>14</u> | 10:50:00 AM | Friends of the Spanish Moss Trail              | Promoting the Spanish Moss Trial                                                        | Spanish Moss Trail - Lowcountry's Rails to Trail | Sissy                | Perryman            | \$ 36,000.00                  | \$ 20,000.00  |
| <u>15</u> | 10:55:00 AM | Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park             | 13th Annual Juneteeth Celebration                                                       | Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park               | Ahmad                | Ward                | \$ 30,000.00                  | \$ 20,000.00  |
| <u>16</u> | 11:00:00 AM | DeGullah Shipp (did not appear)                | Watch the Night & Smooth Jazz Experience                                                | Penn Center                                      | Maya                 | Maat                | <del>\$ 18,000.00</del>       | did not apply |
| <u>17</u> | 11:05:00 AM | USCB Center for the Arts                       | Performing Arts season                                                                  | USCB - Center for the Arts                       | Tammy                | Gates               | \$ 50,000.00                  | did not apply |
| <u>18</u> | 11:10:00 AM | Gullah Traveling Theater, Inc                  | Roberts Smalls Bday Celebration/Dinner Theater                                          | Bft Co. Black Chambers of Commerce               | Denise               | Bullitt             | \$ 21,800.00                  | \$ -          |
| <u>19</u> | 11:15:00 AM | Penn Center                                    | 2027 Juneteenth Celebration                                                             | Penn Center                                      | Denise               | Bullitt             | \$ 6,500.00                   | \$ 10,000.00  |
| <u>20</u> | 11:20:00 AM | Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War    | Repair/replace windows                                                                  | Grand Army Hall                                  | Charles              | Henderson           | \$ 10,000.00                  | did not apply |
|           |             |                                                | 10 MINUTE BREAK                                                                         |                                                  |                      |                     |                               |               |
| <u>21</u> | 11:35:00 AM | The Original Gullah Festival                   | 2027 Original Gullah Festival                                                           | Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, Beaufort, SC  | Denise               | Bullitt             | \$ 35,000.00                  | \$ 25,000.00  |
| <u>22</u> | 11:40:00 AM | Port Royal Sound Foundation                    | Marketing and center enhancements                                                       | Port Royal Sound Foundation                      | Kat                  | Armstrong           | \$ 98,000.00                  | \$ 76,000.00  |
| <u>23</u> | 11:45:00 AM | Coastal Discovery Museum                       | Connecting Bft. Co.: 500 yrs of History, Art..                                          | Coastal Discovery museum                         | Rex                  | Garniewicz          | \$ 40,000.00                  | \$ -          |
| <u>24</u> | 11:50:00 AM | Beaufort County Exec. Airport                  | Renovation - Transient Customer Restroom/Shower                                         | Beaufort Executive Airport                       | Marlene              | Myers               | \$ 40,000.00                  | did not apply |
| <u>25</u> | 11:55:00 AM | Campbell Chapel Community Development Ministry | Historic Campbell Chapel Restoration and Rehabilitation                                 | Historic Campbell Chapel                         | Ron                  | James               | \$ 200,000.00                 | \$ 100,000.00 |
|           |             |                                                | LUNCH BREAK                                                                             |                                                  |                      |                     |                               |               |
| <u>26</u> | 12:40:00 PM | SC Lowcountry Tourism Commission               | Promotion of Bft. County and Lowcountry                                                 | County wide                                      | Peach                | Morrison            | \$ 106,140.00                 | \$ 82,900.00  |

**2026-2027 State 2% ATax Grant Presentation Schedule - September 18, 2026 (amended)**

|                  |             |                                           |                                                                           |                                                           |          |             |                        |               |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|------------------------|---------------|
| <b><u>27</u></b> | 12:45:00 PM | Gullah Traveling Theater, Inc             | 2027 Decoration Day                                                       | USCB Performing Arts Center                               | Denise   | Bullitt     | \$ <b>36,500.00</b>    | \$ 12,500.00  |
| <b><u>28</u></b> | 12:50:00 PM | Gullah Traveling Theater, Inc             | 2027 Da' Gullah American Revolutionary Experience & Revolutionary Village | USCB Performing Arts Center                               | Denise   | Bullitt     | \$ <b>30,250.00</b>    | \$ -          |
| <b><u>29</u></b> | 12:55:00 PM | Libraries for Kids International          | 6th Annual World Book Day Celebration - "The Gift of Stories"             | Port Royal Sound Foundation - Weezie Educational Pavilion | Laura    | Winkel      | \$ <b>30,000.00</b>    | \$ 5,500.00   |
| <b><u>30</u></b> | 1:00:00 PM  | Lowcountry Golf Course Owners Association | Golf Tourism Marketing Campaign for Beaufort County                       | County wide                                               | Barry    | Fleming     | \$ <b>20,000.00</b>    | denied        |
| <b><u>31</u></b> | 1:05:00 PM  | Freedman Arts District                    | The Cast Net Public Art Trial                                             | Freedman Arts District                                    | Cherimie | Weatherford | \$ <b>25,000.00</b>    | \$ -          |
| <b><u>32</u></b> | 1:10:00 PM  | Freedman Arts District                    | Chalk it Up!                                                              | Freedman Arts District                                    | Cherimie | Weatherford | \$ <b>60,000.00</b>    | \$ 55,000.00  |
| <b><u>33</u></b> | 1:15:00 PM  | Dataw Island Club                         | Experience Dataw and Lowcountry Living                                    | Dataw Island Club                                         | Laura    | Quail       | \$ <b>92,487.00</b>    | did not apply |
| <b><u>34</u></b> | 1:20:00 PM  | Hilton Head Humane                        | Dog Walk on the Beach                                                     | Coligny Beach - Hilton Head Island                        | Sassa    | Enscoe      | \$ <b>5,000.00</b>     | did not apply |
| <b><u>35</u></b> | 1:25:00 PM  | Project Freedom 326                       | 7th Annual Robert Small: Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration               | City of Bft and Town of Port Royal                        | Marlisha | Robinson    | \$ <b>7,500.00</b>     | did not apply |
| <b>Total</b>     |             |                                           |                                                                           |                                                           |          |             | <b>\$ 2,657,277.00</b> |               |