



BEAUFORT COUNTY
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (DRB) MINUTES
April 2, 2026, Grace Coastal Church, 15 Williams Drive, Okatie, SC

Members Present: James Atkins, Denise Procida and John Teter

Members Absent: Kris Feldmann

Staff Present: Nancy Moss, Beaufort County Planning & Zoning Department
Carolyn Wallace, Beaufort County Planning & Zoning Department

Guests:

The Reserve at Broad River: Shelly Blakesley, Kaas Wilson Architects; Eric Walsnovich and Brad Hix, Wood & Partners, Inc.; Edmund Waddill, Chaucer Creek Capital; and Alex Rhode, Seamon Whiteside

Beaufort County Councilwoman Paula Brown, District 8

Members of the public were not in attendance.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Atkins called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
2. **FOIA:** Chairman Atkins said that “public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act”.
3. **MINUTES:** Chairman Atkins asked if there were comments on the March 5, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Teter motioned to approve the minutes as prepared. Mr. Atkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

5. **NEW BUSINESS:** None

6. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **The Reserve at Broad River (Multi-Family), 101 Broad River Boulevard – Beaufort – Final:**
Mr. Atkins asked for public comment, but no comments were made. Ms. Moss provided the project background. Eric Walsnovich, the Landscape Architect for the project, and Shelly Blakesley, the Architect for the project, attended the meeting to represent this project. Mr. Walsnovich stated that he had nothing to add to the staff report and will make the minor adjustments to the landscape plan. Ms. Blakesley said that it was very important to them to have the white color on the building body between the stacked porches and on the porch columns as wayfinding to the building entrances. She stated that the building had symmetry with the bracketed cantilevered porches being painted white, that the green board & batten areas always had a brick base on the first level, that the green color was added to the small gables above the areas with green board & batten siding to

add balance and that the red color was added at the top of the large gables, Bahama shutters and on the doors. She said that the window shutters were added to the building as a Lowcountry design element.

Mr. Teter said that he appreciated the change from 24” board & batten spacing but thought that the 12” spacing went a little too far and made the design look busy. He suggested that 16” spacing would work better especially with the volume of space.

Ms. Procida recommended that they study where the battens end up and to make sure they line up so they make sense. Ms. Blakesley stated that she agreed and that it was a Revit issue and that it would be adjusted. Ms. Procida said that she liked the fact that they incorporated more red on the building and liked it on the doors and shutters because it ties it all together better.

Mr. Teter said that the colors were excellent and well proportioned.

Mr. Atkins said that he liked the color scheme and the design updates. He referred to the 3D rendering the applicant brought to the meeting said that the color blocking bothered him a bit that the two small gables over the stacked porches were different in color and to remove the white trim and to be consistent gable to gable. He stated that the scale of the brackets under the stacked porches appeared to be 4x4's and that the columns on the porches appeared to be 10x10's and that the brackets should be the same size as the columns because the existing brackets appear too small to support a 2-story porch. He stated that the landscape plan had a disclaimer that the grading may reduce the number of significant trees and that County approval is required before any significant trees are removed. He said that the HVAC ground mounted units are not shown on the civil plans but are shown on the landscape plans. He said that some of the HVAC units have landscaping to screen the units while other HVAC units are not screened with landscaping. He requested that the electric meters are adequately screened from the public way and that the top of the wetland bank adjacent to the traffic circle seems a bit sparse and that additional plantings should be added.

Mr. Atkins made a motion to approve the project subject to the following conditions:

- Adjust the plans to address the staff comments.
- Study the scale and detail of the brackets under the stacked porches.
- Study the gable end color blocking to ensure trim color matches the gable facade color.
- Revise the landscape plan to add more plantings at the top of the wetland bank adjacent to the traffic circle and make sure the HVAC units are adequately screened (preferably with a ventilated structure that blends the unit into landscaping & buildings).

Ms. Procida seconded the motion.

Mr. Atkins asked the Board if a discussion was needed about the motion. There was no discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Atkins read the standard final condition and stated that “the buildings must be constructed, and the landscaping & lighting must be installed per the plans reviewed and approved by the DRB. The color board reviewed and approved by the DRB must be adhered to during construction. Any changes to the approved plans or submittals must be requested for and submitted to the DRB for formal approval before changes are made”.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** Mr. Atkins stated that the next scheduled meeting is currently at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2026, but will likely be rescheduled on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at Grace Coastal Church, 15 Williams Drive, Okatie, SC 29909. The DRB is waiting for the Church Board to approve the rescheduled meeting date.
8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Ms. Procida made a motion to close the meeting, Mr. Atkins seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.