

Minutes
Board of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

August 26, 2015

Attending:

Board Members

Ray Lambert, Chairman
William Bagwell, Vice Chairman
Aaron McWhorter, Secretary
Nancy Addison
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Rob Leebern
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Matt Sawhill
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Andy Fleming, Friends of Georgia State Parks
David Knight, Chairman of Game, Fish and Parks Committee
Harold Reheis, Joe Tanner and Associates
Alyse Williams, Office of Planning and Budget
Burns Wetherington, Georgia Power
Brian Rochester, Rochester and Associates
Jonathan Harding, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Brian Groome, House Budget and Research Office
Jennette Gayer, Environment Georgia
Kevin Jeselnik, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
Kristilee Geinther, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
Adam Dye, Georgia Department of Agriculture

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Walter Rabon
Dan Forster
Eddie Henderson
Becky Kelley
Spud Woodward
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Mary Kathryn Yearata
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Bryan Tucker
Zachary Harris
Doug Haymans
Tina Brunjes
Wally Woods
Mark Whitney
John Bowers
Tim Wright
Terry West
David Clark
Rick Lavender
David Allen
Jason Roberson
Mary Walker
Trip Addison
Doralyn Kirkland
Jac Capp
Jeff Cown
Karen Hays

The August 26, 2015 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Ray Lambert.

Chairman Lambert called on David Knight, Chairman of the House Game, Fish and Parks Committee to deliver an inspirational message.

Chairman Lambert presented a Resolution honoring Walter A. Hudson for his service to the Board of Natural Resources.

A motion was made by Dr. Watt, seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution honoring Walter A. Hudson. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Lambert called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2015 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the June 2015 Board meeting.

Chairman Lambert called on Mark Williams, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, for his report.

Commissioner Williams welcomed Matt Sawhill to the Board.

Commissioner Williams introduced Amber Carter, Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner's Office.

Commissioner Williams stated three senior level DNR staff members were being honored for their service to Georgia and its citizens. He recognized David Clark, Chief of Engineering, for his 20 years of Faithful Service Award; Tim Wright, Director of Accounting, for his 30 Years of Faithful Service Award; and Terry West, Director of Administrative Services, for his 30 Years of Faithful Service Award.

Commissioner Williams stated the Wildlife Resources Division was recognized at this year's Association of Conservation Information Awards for winning three national awards. He further stated Rick Lavender placed third in External Newsletter for the Georgia Wild E-Newsletter and David Allen placed first in Success on a Shoestring for the Georgia Lifetime License Contest and second in Online Community Engagement for the Supporting Conservation and Increasing Online Engagement Through Wildlife Cameras.

Commissioner Williams stated Cpl. Jason Roberson was named the Officer of the Year by the Southern States Boating Law Administrators Caucus. He further stated that this Fall, Cpl. Roberson will represent Georgia as one of only three finalists nationwide for the National Association of Boating Law Administrators' "Butch Potts Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" Award.

Commissioner Williams recognized Anne Haines for visiting all 63 Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites in under two years. He commended Ms. Haines for her accomplishment.

Commissioner Williams called on Becky Kelley, Director of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division, for her report.

Director Kelley updated the Board on the Friends of State Parks meeting held at Stone Mountain State Park; “Your State Parks Day;” the grand opening of the Yurt and Tent Village at Sweetwater Creek State Park; the Fort Yargo State Park Master Plan; and the Gold Medal Awards for Best State Parks in the Nation.

Commissioner Williams called on Dan Forster, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for his report.

Director Forster updated the Board on the Alligator Quota Hunt selection process; the transition of Hunter Education to an on-line course; the fish kill at Yahoola Creek; and the grand opening of the shooting range at Georgia Southern University.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for his report.

Director Woodward updated the Board on artificial reef construction; training for the unmanned aerial vehicles; CRD’s Triennial Report for Coastal Management; and CoastFest.

Commissioner Williams called on Col. Eddie Henderson, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, for his report.

Col. Henderson updated the Board on the congressional hearing concerning “Operation Something Bruin”; the 2015 LED “Off the Pavement” Awards; and the dead-head log ruling.

Commissioner Williams called on Bryan Tucker, State Archaeologist and Section Chief of the Historic Preservation Division, for his report.

Mr. Tucker updated the Board on the effects of HB 308 to the state income tax credit for Historic Preservation and the University of Georgia field schools on Ossabaw Island.

Commissioner Williams congratulated Chairman David Knight on being named the Chair of the Game, Fish and Parks Committee. He stated he looks forward to working with Chairman Knight during the upcoming legislative session.

Chairman Lambert called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his Director’s report.

Director Tuner updated the Board on the upcoming EPD lab tours for the Board members; the President’s Clean Power Plan and its effects on Georgia and the EPD; and the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Wilheit left the meeting and was not present for the following Committee Reports.

Chairman Lambert called on Nancy Addison, Chairman of the Coastal Committee, for the Committee's report.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board approve the proposed amendments to the Coastal Incentive Grant Program, Chapter 391-2-5-.01 through 391-2-5-.18. (Proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Lambert called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, for the Committee's report.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4. (Proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed FY 2016 Solid Waste Trust Fund Spend Plan. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed Grant Criteria for the Award of Regional Water Plan Seed Grants for FY 2016. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Dr. Watt stated he appreciated the individuals who spoke on this item during the Committee meeting.

Chairman Lambert called on Dee Yancey, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Division, for the Committee's report.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Dr. Watt and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Waterfowl Hunting Regulation, Chapter 391-4-2. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Lambert called on Dwight Davis, Chairman of the Land Committee, for the Committee's report.

Mr. Davis stated Mr. Stewart would be abstaining from the following vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Board adopt: the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.31± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 1008 Southern Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State

Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.31± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 117 Shi Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.46± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 104 Shi Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.29± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 106 Shi Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.31± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 877 Walnut Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.24± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 111 Pike Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.21± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 918 North Davis Drive, Houston County; and the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.67± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 920 North Davis Drive, Houston County. (Resolutions attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Mr. Davis stated Mr. Stewart would be abstaining from the following vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval via Executive Order to demolish a single-family home and remove all debris, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 105 Travis Street, Houston County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a twenty-five (25) year Lease Agreement for 1.4± acres, Altamaha River, Gray's Landing Boat Ramp, Toombs County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Lambert stated he appreciated the participation during the Environmental Protection Committee and would like to applaud all of those who commented on the proposed amendments.

Chairman Lambert reminded the Board members of the September tours of the EPD Lab facilities.

Chairman Lambert encouraged the Board members to attend CoastFest and the Weekend for Wildlife.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Ray Lambert, Chairman

ATTEST:

Aaron McWhorter, Secretary