

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

**April 27, 2016**

**Attending:**

Board Members

William Bagwell, Chairman  
Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman  
Bodine Sinyard, Secretary  
Dwight Davis  
Dwight Evans  
Duncan Johnson, Jr.  
Ray Lambert, Jr.  
Rob Leebern  
Mark Mobley  
Mike Phelps  
Matt Sawhill  
Paul Shailendra  
Brother Stewart  
Philip Watt  
Philip Wilheit  
Dee Yancey (via conference call)

Guests

Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Jonathan Harding, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power  
Fuller Callaway, Georgia Environmental Finance Authority  
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition  
John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance  
Chris Wells, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget  
Alex Bradford, Georgia Farm Bureau

Staff Members

Mark Williams  
Kyle Pearson  
Wes Robinson  
Cathy Barnette  
Amber Carter  
Melanie Johnson  
Dave Crass  
Stephanie Cherry-Farmer  
Dan Forster  
Becky Kelley  
Steve Friedman  
Jeff Weaver  
Doc Watson  
Spud Woodward  
Terry West  
Artica Gaston  
Jud Turner  
Mary Walker  
Chuck Mueller  
Doralyn Kirkland  
Karen Hays  
Erin Ruoff  
Mark Walker

The April 27, 2016 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Board Chairman William Bagwell.

Chairman Bagwell called for a motion to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda. (Agenda attached hereto and a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell called on Dr. Dave Crass to introduce the Employee Focus speaker. Dr. Crass thanked the Chairman and introduced Stephanie Cherry-Farmer, National Register and Survey Coordinator.

Chairman Bagwell thanked Ms. Cherry-Farmer and stated that next month's Employee Focus would come from the Coastal Resources Division.

Chairman Bagwell adjourned the Board Meeting to move into Committee meetings.

Chairman Bagwell called the meeting of the Board of Natural Resources to order.

Chairman Bagwell called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Wilheit to approve the minutes of the March Board meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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

Director Turner updated the Board on the Georgia, Florida, Alabama water wars case.

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

Commissioner Williams introduced the new Business Operations Specialist, Artica Gaston, and the new Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, Wes Robinson. He updated the Board on the DNR Leadership Academy, the upcoming Budget Signing at Altama Plantation WMA, and his recent visit to Hard Labor Creek State Park.

Commissioner Williams called on Kyle Pearson, Executive Counsel to request an action on the Sale of General Obligation Bonds pursuant to the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 General Appropriations Act.

Mr. Pearson stated that in the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, the General Assembly included items for DNR projects with a total value of \$43,610,000.00 that are to be funded by General Obligation bonds. He further stated that the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission determined that it would be most advantageous to sell the bonds for these projects, along with bonds for other agencies and authorities, in several sales spread throughout the year. He added that one of those sales is now being considered for June, 2016, and includes all \$43,610,000.00 of DNR's money.

Mr. Pearson stated that the projects that DNR will fund with the proceeds of this sale are: \$3,710,000.00 for replacement of vehicles, emergency equipment, a research vessel, and a patrol boat, statewide; \$19,250,000.00 for facility improvements and renovations, statewide; \$1,500,000.00 for miscellaneous repairs, statewide; \$350,000.00 for miscellaneous new construction, statewide; and \$18,800,000.00 for land acquisition, statewide. He further stated that the \$19,250,000.00 for facility improvements and renovations and \$18,800,000.00 for land acquisition will be issued as federally taxable bonds, which means that they can be used for projects at state owned facilities that are privately owned. He added that the State Law department has prepared a Resolution concerning these bonds for consideration by the Board at this meeting and that we appreciate your favorable consideration of the Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Sawhill, seconded by Mr. Wilheit and carried unanimously that the Board approve the request to approve the sale of General Obligation Bonds pursuant to the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 General Appropriations Act.

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

Director Forster gave an update on the Georgia Trend article recognizing the over 200 bald eagles nesting in Georgia; and partnerships with the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture.

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

Director Woodward updated the Board on the replacement for the RV Anna; Jill Andrews, the new Chief of the Coastal Management Section; and the National Marine Fisheries Services closing of federal waters from Georgia to the mid-Atlantic to the harvest of Cobia on June 20.

Commissioner Williams called on Lieutenant Colonel Jeff Weaver, Assistant Director of the Law Enforcement Division, for his report.

Lieutenant Colonel Weaver updated the Board on youth hunting in Georgia; boater education efforts; and participation in a law enforcement effort to manage a protest at Stone Mountain Park.

Commissioner Williams called on Dave Crass, Director of the Historic Preservation Division, for his report.

Director Crass updated the Board on the Georgia House of Representatives Study Committee on Historic Site Preservation; Ms. Sandy West's departure from Ossabaw Island; and the Historic Preservation Division Field Day on Saturday, June 18, on Ossabaw Island.

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

Director Kelley updated the Board on Zika virus prevention efforts; the soliciting of bids for zip lines in nine state parks; and the Hidden Gems Program.

Commissioner Williams recognized Mark Walker, Executive Director of the Georgia Natural Resources Foundation.

Chairman Bagwell called on Mr. Lambert for the Environmental Protection Committee report.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Radioactive Materials, Chapter 391-3-17. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell called on Mr. Shailendra for the Land Committee report.

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties approval to enter into a 25 year lease agreement for 664± acres with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lake Seminole State Park, Seminole County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 6,869± acres from the Pasture LLC and South Construction Company, Lentile Tract, Irwin County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 3,012± acres from The Nature Conservancy, Sansavilla Tract, Wayne County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, 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 792± acres from of real property, Altamaha Wildlife Management Area, BBT Tract, McIntosh County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Phelps and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 80± acres of real property from Don Tidwell and Sheila Tidwell, Tidwell Tract, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Polk County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

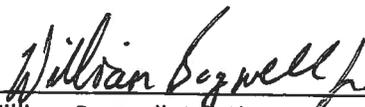
A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and Georgia Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.05± acres to Greystone Power Corporation, Sweetwater Creek State Park, Douglas County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell stated that in Tab E of the Board package there is a Resolution for Phyllis Johnson and requested a motion to adopt the Resolution.

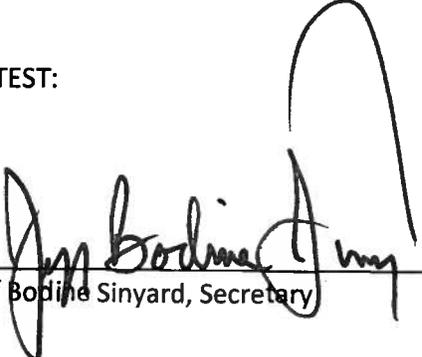
A motion was made by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution honoring and expressing appreciation to Phyllis T. Johnson. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell stated that the next Board meeting is Tuesday, May 24 at Amicalola State Park. He further stated that the May Board meeting falls on the Primary Election day and encouraged the Board members to early vote or use an absentee ballot.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
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William Bagwell, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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Jeff Bodine Sinyard, Secretary

**Minutes**  
**Environmental Protection Committee**  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E.  
Suite 1252 East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**April 27, 2016**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Ray Lambert, Chairman  
Dwight Evans, Vice Chairman  
Dwight Davis  
Aaron McWhorter  
Mike Phelps  
Paul Shailendra  
Brother Stewart  
Philip Watt  
William Bagwell, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Duncan Johnson, Jr.  
Mark Mobley  
Matt Sawhill  
Bodine Sinyard  
Philip Wilheit  
Dee Yancey (via conference call)

Guests

Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Jonathan Harding, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power  
Fuller Callaway, Georgia Environmental Finance Authority  
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition  
John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance  
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Doralyn Kirkland  
Karen Hays  
Erin Ruoff  
Mark Walker

The April 27, 2016 meeting of the Environmental Protection Division was called to order by Chairman William Bagwell.

Chairman Bagwell called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee.

Mr. Lambert thanked the Board for their recent support and encouragement after the passing of a family member.

Mr. Lambert called on Karen Hays, Chief of the Air Protection Branch of the Environmental Protection Division, to present the proposed amendments to Rules for Radioactive Materials, Chapter 391-3-17.

Ms. Hayes stated that she was bringing an action item on some proposed amendments to the Georgia Rules and Regulations for Radioactive Materials, Chapter 391-3-17. She further stated that these rules are periodically amended to make sure we are consistent with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission requirements. She added that Georgia is an agreement state and we are required to keep our rules up to date to show that they meet the compatibility and health and safety requirements established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Ms. Hayes stated that in February she came before the Environmental Protection Committee and the Board to brief them on the rule changes. She further stated that we had a public period that began March 1 and ended April 5 with a public hearing on March 31 and received no comments on these rules. She added that today she comes before you with this action item to adopt these proposed amendments and asks for your favorable consideration.

Mr. Lambert called for a motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Radioactive Materials, Chapter 391-3-17, as presented.

Mr. Lambert called on Karen Hayes, Chief of the Air Protection Branch of the Environmental Protection Division to brief the Board on the proposed amendments to the Rules for Air Quality Control and to introduce Erin Ruoff, Finance Director of the Environmental Protection Division, to give the first part of the briefing related to the permit fee shortfall.

Ms. Ruoff stated that Title V is part of the Clean Air Act, which regulates the hazardous air emissions that are produced during the manufacturing process and we are required to collect sufficient revenue to sustain operations. She further stated that some of the things they are noticing is that air emissions are decreasing so as some systems are retiring or converting to natural gas, our air emissions are going down which means our revenue is also going down. She added that what we are facing is about a \$2 million dollar reduction in Title V revenue over time.

Ms. Ruoff stated that in Fiscal Year 2017 the first significant dip in revenue will occur because we are losing one facility and in Fiscal Year 2018 three additional facilities are coming offline. She further stated that even with very conservative projections, our expenditures are steadily increasing over time. She added that the hope is that those increases, like fringe benefit increases, would plateau over time.

Ms. Ruoff stated that there is essentially a lag in when revenue is collected. She further stated that an example would be that calendar year 2016 fees are collected in fiscal year 2018. She added that the lag allows us to see some of the things before they impact us on a revenue basis.

Ms. Ruoff stated that there have been several steps taken to address this; the first being that they have been building reserves for the last couple of years to try to defer and delay those fee increases as much as possible. She further stated that the second thing the program has done is they have convened a fee workgroup to explore options for additional fee revenue. She added that the next item is that they are maximizing the use of their Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) revenue.

Ms. Ruoff stated that the last item is the phase in of application fees that we are going to recommend which would not begin until Fiscal Year 2018. She further stated that for the upcoming year there would be no fee changes recommended. She added that in Fiscal Year 2018, they would recommend to phase these in these fees at a 50% level.

Ms. Ruoff stated that in Fiscal Year 2019 another 50% increase will be recommended and by Fiscal Year 2020, the complete phase-in of application fees would take place. Ms. Ruoff further stated that at the 100% level, they are projecting that they can generate about \$774,000 in annual revenue. She added that based off an expenditure projection, by Fiscal Year 2010 their expenditures and their revenue will be equivalent.

Ms. Ruoff stated that in June of 2016, they would not be seeking any fee increases. She further stated that in March of 2017, the Board will be briefed on proposed fee changes for Fiscal Year 2018 and the phase-in timeline. She added that a public comment period and hearing would occur during April of 2017 and in May of 2017, they would come to the Board requesting adoption.

Mr. Johnson encouraged the Environmental Protection Division to look at cutting expenses at the same percentage that fees are raised.

Discussion ensued concerning the fee increases.

Mr. Lambert stated that this shortfall has been predicted for numerous years and for us to retain primacy, we must access fees to run a proper Title V program.

Ms. Hayes stated that she would now brief the Board on the proposed amendments to the fee rule for Fiscal Year 2017. She further stated that these fees will be due September 1 of this year and we are proposing no change for the fees. She added that for coal-fired power plants, the fees are \$37.34/ton and for all other facilities the fees are \$35.50/ton.

Ms. Hayes stated that there is a minimum fee for Title V sources, which is \$4,500 and Synthetic Minor sources pay a flat fee of \$1,700. She further stated that certain sources subject to what is called New Source Performance Standards pay a flat fee of \$1,500 per year. She added that these are the same fees that have been in place for several years now.

Ms. Hayes stated that they also updated the Fee Manual Reference to include the Fiscal Year 2017 fees. She further stated that the public comment period and public hearing will take place in May and she will return to the Board to request adoption of rule update at the June 29 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Minutes**  
**Law Enforcement Committee**  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E.  
Suite 1252 East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**April 27, 2016**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Duncan Johnson, Jr., Chairman  
Philip Watt, Vice Chairman  
Dwight Evans  
Mike Phelps  
Paul Shailendra  
Bodine Sinyard  
Brother Stewart  
Philp Wilheit  
Dee Yancey (via conference call)  
William Bagwell, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Dwight Davis  
Ray Lambert, Jr.  
Rob Leebern  
Aaron McWhorter  
Mark Mobley  
Matt Sawhill

Guests

Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Jonathan Harding, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network  
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Fuller Callaway, Georgia Environmental Finance Authority  
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
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John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance  
Chris Wells, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget  
Alex Bradford, Georgia Farm Bureau

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Minutes – Law Enforcement Committee

April 27, 2016

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The April 27, 2016 meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee was called to order by Chairman William Bagwell.

Chairman Bagwell called on Duncan Johnson, Jr., Chair of the Law Enforcement Committee. Chairman Johnson called on Major Doc Watson, Chief Pilot of the Law Enforcement Aviation Unit, who gave a presentation on the Aviation Program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Minutes**  
**Land Committee**  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E.  
Suite 1252 East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**April 27, 2016**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Paul Shailendra, Chairman  
Dwight Davis, Vice Chairman  
Dwight Evans  
Ray Lambert, Jr.  
Rob Leebern  
Mark Mobley  
Mike Phelps  
William Bagwell, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Duncan Johnson, Jr.  
Aaron McWhorter  
Matt Sawhill  
Bodine Sinyard  
Brother Stewart  
Philip Watt  
Philip Wilheit  
Dee Yancey (via conference call)

Guests

Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Jonathan Harding, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power  
Fuller Callaway, Georgia Environmental Finance Authority  
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition  
John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance  
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Mary Walker  
Chuck Mueller  
Doralyn Kirkland  
Karen Hays  
Erin Ruoff  
Mark Walker

The April 27, 2016 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by William Bagwell, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Bagwell called on Paul Shailendra, Chairman of the Land Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated that the first project is to enter into a 25 year lease with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over 664± acres at Lake Seminole State Park in Seminole County. He further stated that this is a renewal; the original lease was signed in September of 1965 and expired last year. He added that the new lease will begin retroactive to July 1, 2015 and will continue until June 30, 2040.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties approval to enter into a 25 year lease agreement for 664± acres with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lake Seminole State Park, Seminole County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that the next project is the acquisition of 6,869± acres for the Lentile Tract in Irwin County. He further stated that the Lentile Tract has the second highest gopher tortoise population in Georgia on private land. He added that the Lentile Tract also has a population of eastern indigo snakes which are currently federally listed as threatened.

Mr. Friedman stated that the Lentile Tract will also be an exceptional recreational tract for hunting, fishing, hiking, and observing nature. He further stated that the purchase price is \$15,032,563.50, which is below the price of our two appraisals. He added that the source of funds for this comes from state, federal, and private funds.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve Item B as presented.

Mr. Watt asked why the operational budget was significantly larger for the first year than for subsequent years.

Mr. Friedman stated that most of that money will go toward road work to get the property ready.

A motion was made by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 6,869± acres from the Pasture LLC and South Construction Company, Lentile Tract, Irwin County, as presented.

Commissioner Williams thanked Mr. Friedman for his effort in securing this acquisition.

Mr. Friedman stated that the next project is the proposed purchase of Phase 1 of the Sansavilla Tract in Wayne County. He further stated that Sansavilla is approximately 19,500± acres and the plan is to acquire this in three phases. He added that The Conservation Fund purchased the property in 2014 and now leases 16,379± acres to the Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve Item C as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 3,012± acres from The Nature Conservancy, Sansavilla Tract, Wayne County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that the next project is the BBT Tract which would be in addition to the Altamaha Wildlife Management Area in McIntosh County. He further stated that this tract is 792± acres and will serve as an excellent recreational tract based on its location. He added that it has flood plain forests and longleaf pine uplands that support gopher tortoise population.

Mr. Friedman stated that the State will purchase the Tract for \$1,166,316.16 subject to a restrictive easement held by the U.S. Navy. He further stated that the Navy already closed on their easement thus lowering our purchase price by \$700,000. He added that funds for our acquisition will come from federal and State sources.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve Item D as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Mobley, seconded by Mr. Phelps and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 792± acres from The Nature Conservancy, BBT Tract, Altamaha Wildlife Management Area, McIntosh County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that the next project is the Tidwell Tract which would be in addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area in Polk County. He further stated that this addition will improve our boundary for management and add recreation land to one of the more popular WMAs. He added that the Tidwell Tract is 80± acres and the purchase price is \$200,000, which falls below the appraised value range.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve Item E as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 80± acres from Don Tidwell and Sheila Tidwell, Tidwell Tract, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Polk County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that the last project is requesting approval to grant Greystone Power Corporation a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement for 0.05± acres to install and maintain electrical equipment at Sweetwater Creek State Park in Douglas County. He further stated that the Park Manager's house was destroyed by fire in August of 2014 and when it was rebuilt, the orientation of the house was changed which now requires a new property easement. He added that this property easement is heritage preserved designated but we feel that the Park Manager's house is an acceptable use.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve Item F as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and Georgia Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.05± acres to Greystone Power Corporation, Sweetwater Creek State Park, Douglas County, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.