

Minutes
Land Committee
Middle Georgia State College
Professional Sciences Conference Center
Room 211
100 College Station Drive
Macon, GA 31206

May 20, 2015

Attending:

Committee Members

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

Board Members

Nancy Addison
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Wilheit
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund
Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau
Alex Bradford, Georgia Farm Bureau

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Trip Addison
Walter Rabon
Dave Crass
Dan Forster
Eddie Henderson
Becky Kelley
Spud Woodward
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Mary Kathryn Yearta
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Zachary Harris
Doralyn Kirkland
Terry West
John Martin
John Bowers
Keith Bentley
Jeff Weaver
Thomas Barnard

The May 20, 2014 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Chairman Ray Lambert.

Chairman Lambert called on Mark Mobley, Vice Chairman of the Land Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated the first item for consideration would be the acquisition of 1,470± acres of real property, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Johnny Monk Tract in Paulding County.

Mr. Friedman stated the Johnny Monk Tract will add to the recreational value of the Paulding Forest WMA, improve management, protect frontage along Little Raccoon Creek, and allow the Department to restore more montane longleaf pine habitat. He further stated Paulding Forest has been identified as one of the Department's six priority focus areas for habitat and conservation in the State from Georgia's State Wildlife Action Plan.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Bagwell 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 (purchase) 1,470± acres of real property, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Johnny Monk Tract, Paulding County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated Items B & C were both acquisitions in the Robins Air Force Base Buffer project. He further stated both properties would be purchased using funds from DNR Bond 123. He added both properties had been checked by the Historic Preservation Division and neither property was historically significant.

Mr. Friedman stated Item B is the acquisition of 1.06± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 201 Palmer Circle, Houston County. He further stated the purchase price of the property is \$18,000. He added the property contained a small building which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item C is the acquisition of 12.14± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 10111 Hawkinsville Road, Houston County. He further stated the purchase price of the property is \$152,000. He added the property is three separate tracts and contains five structures which will all be removed.

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

Mr. Mobley stated Brother Stewart would be recusing himself from discussion and the voting of these items.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, 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 (purchase) 1.06± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 201 Palmer Circle, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 12.14± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 10111 Hawkinsville Road, Houston County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next item for consideration would be the granting of a revocable license and permanent easement of 0.02± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to the Henry County Water Authority to maintain a waterline, vault and meter at Panola Mountain State Park.

Mr. Friedman stated a new Historic Preservation Division building was constructed at Panola Mountain State Park and Parks requests the Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) receive a revocable license agreement and permanent easement to allow HCWA to maintain their underground waterline, vault, and meter near the right-of-way of Highway 155/Snapfinger Road. He added since this will benefit the Department, the Department is requesting the RLA and PE be granted at no cost.

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. Hudson and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.02± acres by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to the Henry County Water Authority to maintain a waterline, vault, and meter at Panola Mountain State Park, Henry County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the final item for consideration would be the approval to acquire 0.41± acres of an existing easement from the Walton Electric Membership Corporation in exchange for a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.5± acres by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to the Walton Electric Membership Corporation at the Department's Wildlife Resources Division Headquarters to install and maintain power distribution lines.

Mr. Friedman stated WRD intends to construct new office space, since the current WRD Headquarters building will soon become inadequate to support the staff. He further stated providing power to the construction site requires the existing easement with the Walton Electric Membership Corporation (WEMC) to be modified, and 0.41± acres of the existing WEMC easement to be returned to the State in exchange for a 0.5± acres easement. He added this new easement area will avoid the construction area, but the WEMC will be in a better position to provide power to existing and new facilities.

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

A motion was mad 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 Commissioner approval to acquire 0.41± acres of existing easement from the Walton Electric Membership Corporation in exchange for a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.5± acres by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to the Walton Electric Membership Corporation at the Department’s Wildlife Resources Division Headquarters to install and maintain power distribution lines, Walton County, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.