

Minutes
Law Enforcement Committee
Jekyll Island Club Hotel
Club Ballroom
371 Riverview Drive
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

September 24, 2013

Attending:

Committee Members

Philip Watt, Chairman
Dee Yancey, Vice Chairman
Phyllis Johnson
Bill Jones
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Paul Shailendra
Bodine Sinyard
Philip Wilheit
Rob Leebern, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Ray Lambert
Nancy Addison
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Smith

Visitors

Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Jon D. Johnston, EPA
Lynn Smith, Georgia House of Representatives
Lynne Riley, Georgia House of Representatives
Buddy Harden, Georgia House of Representatives
Bob Hanner, GSWCC
Jeffrey Harvey, Farm Bureau
Alice M. Keyes, One Hundred Miles
Robby Arrington, Altamaha Riverkeeper
Sonny Timmerman, CMPC
Ashby Nix, Satilla Riverkeeper
Megan Desrosiers, One Hundred Miles
Harry Geisinger, Georgia House of Representatives

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Homer Bryson
Spud Woodward
Dave Crass
Dan Forster
Becky Kelley
Eddie Henderson
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Lauren Curry
Zachary Harris
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Jeff Weaver
Chris Hodge
Wayne Hubbard
Mary Walker
Doralyn Kirkland
Lisia Kowalczyk
Karl Burgess
LuAnn Mutzabaugh
Will Ricks
Bert Denner
Brandon Baker
Bryant Bowen
Tim Bonvechio
Mark Carson
Doug Haymans
Brad Gane
Buck Bennett
Shawn Jordan
Terry Throwbridge
Joe Bradford

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Chuck Williams, Georgia House of Representatives
Sally Clark, Georgia Chamber
Michelle Sloan, Georgia House of Representatives
Buck Dixon, Georgia House of Representatives
Ben Stowers, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation
Stan Humphries, CMPC
Rick Gardner, CMPC
Bob Beal, ASMFC

Steven Smith
Bill Jiles
Travis Griffin
Bryan Gray

The September 24, 2013 meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee was called to order by Chairman Rob Leebern.

Chairman Leebern called on Dr. Philip Watt, Chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee.

Chairman Watt called on Lt. Col. Jeff Weaver, to brief the Board on the proposed amendments to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Boating Regulations, Chapter 391-4-5.

Lt. Col. Weaver stated LED was proposing an amendment to Rule 391-4-5-.05 and the addition of Rule 391-4-5-.22.

Lt. Col. Weaver stated the proposed amendments to Rule 391-4-5-.05, "Marine Event Boating Safety Requirement," will allow vessel operators in a sanctioned motor vehicle race an exemption from the age restrictions to operate a vessel. He further stated the Carolina Virginia Racing Association has requested to host a racing event at Clarks Hill Lake, but under the current law, the Junior Division (ages 9-12) would be prohibited from operating vessels. He added the proposed rule would allow this age division to participate.

Lt. Col. Weaver stated the proposed addition of Rule 391-4-5-.22, "Education Requirements for Vessel Rentals," will provide the education requirements for renting vessels, list specific boater education rental certificate provisions, indicate the procedure for providing proof of successful course completions, and establish requirements for violators.

Lt. Col. Weaver stated during the 2013 legislative session SB 136 was passed by the General Assembly and requires a person born on or after July 1, 2014 to have completed a boating education course provided by the Department prior to renting or leasing a vessel. He further stated LED would provide a ten minute instructional video and check-off sheet to all boat rental companies. He added after completing the requirements the renter/leaser would be issued an operator's certificate that would be valid for six months.

Lt. Col. Weaver stated the proposals would be publically noticed on October 1, 2013 and three public hearings would be held during October. He further stated LED anticipates requesting the Board's approval for this item at the December Board meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.