

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

December 7, 2011

Attending:

Board Members

Earl Barrs, Chairman
Dennis Billew
Warren Budd
Bill Carruth
Walter Hudson
Mabel Jenkins
Duncan Johnson
Phyllis Johnson
Ray Lambert
Rob Leebern
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Smith
Loyce Turner
Jim Walters
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit
Steven Woodruff

Visitors

Governor Nathan Deal
Jud Turner, Turner, Bachman & Garrett, LLC & Georgia360, LLC
Davis Tindoll, Jr., Department of Defense
Colonel Kevin Milton, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Stewart
Colonel Jeffrey Fletcher, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Benning
Colonel Brian Murtha, Commander, Marine Air Station Beaufort
Ret. Major General David Bockel, Ex. Dir., GA Military Affairs
Nancy Natoli, Readiness & EP Initiative Program Coordinator
Tim Beaty, Army, Fort Stewart
SPC Rowland, Army, Fort Benning
Alice Howard, U. S. Marine Corps, Air Station Beaufort
Lt. Colonel Stuart Strickland, Townsend Bombing Range
John Brent, Army, Fort Benning
Dan Mussell, Department of Defense
Walter Jones, Morris News Service
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
Jeannine Haynes, Georgia Transmission Corporation

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Allen Barnes
Todd Holbrook
Homer Bryson
Spud Woodward
Dan Forster
Becky Kelley
Dave Crass
Steve Friedman
Emily Hitchcock
Kyle Pearson
Ben Stowers
Jim Ussery
Doralyn Kirkland
Cathy Barnette
Yolanda Fanning
Jeff Weaver
Eddie Henderson
Vonetta Pryor
Tim Wright
Linda MacGregor
Kevin Chambers
Wally Woods
Connie Buck
Amanda Schraner
Angela Westin
Jim Laine
Mary Ann Evans
Hellen Harris

Minutes – Board of Natural Resources

December 7, 2011

Page 2

Clayton Doherty, Georgia Transmission Corporation

Karl Ledford, Georgia Transmission Corporation

Bill Cain, Georgia Military Affairs

Brant Lane

Nathan Dunn

The December 7, 2011 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Earl Barrs. Chairman Barrs introduced Governor Nathan Deal.

Governor Deal gave a time of inspiration and reflection, stating that the responsibility of the Board of Natural Resources is a very viable and important function of state government.

Chairman Barrs called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Smith and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the October meeting.

Chairman Barrs called on Mark Williams, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), for comments.

Commissioner Williams stated that he would like to thank Governor and Mrs. Deal for attending Weekend for Wildlife last year and for kicking off the “Tons of Fun” state park campaign.

Commissioner Williams recognized Becky Kelley, Director of Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Division, for receiving the Fran T. Mainella Award for sustained and innovative achievement by a woman in the management of North America’s natural, historic and cultural heritage.

Commissioner Williams stated that the position of internal auditor has been posted and that he will keep the Board informed of the status.

Commissioner Williams presented Jim Lynch as new Executive Director of the Natural Resources Foundation Board.

Commissioner Williams called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman introduced Davis Tindoll, Jr., Director of the Atlantic Region of the U. S. Army, and other invited guests from the Department of Defense. He called on Mr. Tindoll for a presentation.

Mr. Tindoll gave a PowerPoint presentation on the importance of the partnership between DNR and the Department of Defense on several important projects. (PowerPoint attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Commissioner Williams called on Parks Director Becky Kelley, who gave an update on the First Day Hike Program and the First Quarter Report.

Commissioner Williams called on Dave Crass, Director of Historic Preservation Division (HPD), who gave an update on the increased cooperation between DNR Law Enforcement and HPD on archaeology crimes on private property; HPD communications and outreach progress report; the Department of Transportation (DOT) environmental review program; and introduced Amanda Schraner as HPD’s Transportation Environmental Review Coordinator.

Commissioner Williams referred to the DNR Capital Outlay Status Report for October, which was in the Board package, and the Weekly Update.

Commissioner Williams called on Jim Laine, Human Resources Director, who gave an update on building security.

Chairman Barrs called on Loyce Turner, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee.

A motion was made by Dr. Turner seconded by Mr. Carruth and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the acquisition of up to 1,050 acres of real property, Sheffield Wildlife Management Area, Howell Tract, Paulding County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof.

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Walters and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval for donation of a restrictive easement over 528± acres of state property to the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority, on behalf of Warner Robins Air Force Base, Echeconnee Creek Natural Area, Bibb & Houston Counties. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Walters and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval to grant a revocable license and permanent easement to Jackson Electric Membership Corporation for the purpose of installing, maintaining and operating overhead utility lines providing power to Chattahoochee River, Don Carter State Park, Hall County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval to grant a revocable license and permanent easement to Hall County covering 0.407± of an acre of real property for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating county roads and accept via quit claim deed from Hall County acquisition of 0.80± of an acre of real property, Chattahoochee River, Don Carter State Park, Hall County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Hudson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek General Assembly approval to grant the Change of Use of 17.22± acres of State Heritage Preserve property located within Richmond Hill Wildlife Management Area, Bryan County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Smith and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval to grant Georgia Transmission Corporation and Coastal Electric Membership Corporation revocable licenses and a permanent easement over 45.88± acres of State property for the purpose of construction, operation and maintenance of electrical power lines over certain State

marshland and a portion of the Richmond Hill Wildlife Management Area, in Liberty & Bryan Counties. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek General Assembly approval to grant the Change of Use over 0.41± of an acre of State Heritage Preserve property located at High Falls State Park, Butts County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval to grant the Georgia Department of Transportation a revocable license and permanent easement over 0.41± of an acre of State property for the purpose of replacing the existing State Route 36 Bridge over Towaliga River at High Falls State Park, Butts County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Barrs stated that Allen Barnes had resigned as Director of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) effective January 2, 2012 and called on Director Barnes for comments.

Director Barnes stated that he had enjoyed working as Director of EPD, and that thanked the Board for their service to the State of Georgia. He further stated that he would like to thank the employees of EPD for their hard work and wished everyone well.

Chairman Barrs stated that Governor Deal has recommended Jud Turner of the law firm Turner, Bachman & Garrett LLC and Georgia360 LLC, as new EPD Director. He further stated that Mr. Turner is a highly qualified candidate and that his credentials included serving as Executive Counsel to Governor Sonny Perdue and as a Special Executive Counsel for the State in the negotiations between the states of Alabama, Georgia and Florida related to the ACF and ACT basins and other matters involving Georgia's other shared river basins.

Chairman Barrs called for a motion to accept the resignation of Allen Barnes and to approve the Governor's recommendation to appoint Jud Turner as Director of the Environmental Protection Division.

A motion was made by Mr. Budd, seconded by Mrs. Jenkins and carried unanimously that the Board accept the resignation of Allen Barnes as the Director of the Environmental Protection Division and that the Board appoint Judson Turner as the Director of the Environmental Protection Division, to be effective January 1, 2012, at the same salary Mr. Barnes received, and that this action is in compliance with State Personnel Board policy.

Chairman Barrs called on Mr. Turner for comments.

Mr. Turner stated that he would like to thank Governor Nathan Deal for his recommendation and the Board for their vote of confidence. He further stated that he looks forward to his new responsibilities.

Chairman Barrs stated that the following individuals had been appointed as the Nominating Committee for 2012 Officers for the Board of Natural Resources: Loyce Turner, Chairman; Steven Woodruff; Philip Wilheit, Jr.; Phyllis Johnson; and Duncan Johnson, and called on Dr. Turner for a report.

Dr. Turner stated that the Nominating Committee had met on three occasions and that the Committee would like to recommend the following individuals for 2012 Officers: Philip Watt, Chairman; Rob Leebern, Vice Chairman; Philip Wilheit, Jr., Secretary. He further stated that since Philip Wilheit, Jr. was on the Nominating Committee that he would recuse himself from voting in January.

Chairman Barrs stated that the Board will vote at the January 2012 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Board Member

ATTEST:

Mabel C. Jenkins, Secretary