

**Minutes**  
**Land Acquisition Committee**  
Brasstown Valley Resort & Lodge  
6321 U. S. Highway 76  
Cedar Knob A & B  
Young Harris, GA 30582

**April 24, 2012**

**Attending**

Committee Members

Loyce Turner, Chairman  
Walter Hudson, Vice Chairman  
Dennis Billew  
Bill Carruth  
Joe Hatfield  
Duncan Johnson  
Steven Woodruff  
Philip Watt, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

William Bagwell  
Phyllis Johnson  
Ray Lambert  
Rob Leebern  
Mark Smith  
Jim Walters  
Philip Wilheit, Jr.

Visitors

Mark Woodall, Sierra Club  
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Charles Griffin, Georgia Pork Producers  
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power  
Daniel Groce, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Martin Sullivan, Georgia Department of Agriculture  
Lowry Tribble, Hodges Harbin Newberry Tribble  
Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation  
Melony Wilson, University of Georgia  
Mark Risse, University of Georgia  
Jacki Dehart, Georgia Department of Agriculture  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company

Staff Members

Mark Williams  
Judson Turner  
Todd Holbrook  
Homer Bryson  
Dan Forster  
Becky Kelley  
Spud Woodward  
Dave Crass  
Lauren Curry  
Steve Friedman  
Linda MacGregor  
Mark Smith  
Elizabeth Starkey  
Jim Ussery  
Kyle Pearson  
Zachary Harris  
Paul Nelson  
Michael Spencer  
Terry West  
Mark Whitney  
Mary Ann Evans

The April 24, 2012 meeting of the Land Acquisition Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Philip Watt. Chairman Watt called on Loyce Turner, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee.

Dr. Turner called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate, to present items for action.

Mr. Friedman stated that the first item for consideration was the granting of a revocable license and permanent easement by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to the Georgia Power Company for the purpose of installing, maintaining and operating overhead utility lines providing power to the newly-constructed campground sites and R. V. Dump Station at Cloudland Canyon State Park, Dade and Walker Counties.

Mr. Friedman stated that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has appropriated over \$1.3 million in bond funds for improvements at Cloudland Canyon State Park. He further stated that as of December 2011, DNR has begun construction on a R. V. Dump Station, ten yurt campsites, and various improvements to the campgrounds and park. He added that DNR has contracted Georgia Power to install, maintain and operate utility lines to service the new campsites and R. V. Dump Station.

Mr. Friedman stated that these improvements will make the park more enjoyable for the citizens of Georgia. He further stated that the value of the installation and maintenance of the utility lines will exceed the fee usually charged for a revocable license and permanent easement, so DNR recommends the fee be waived. He added that no adverse impact of any interest of DNR has been identified. He further added that the revocable license will be converted to a permanent easement by the General Assembly.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Billew, seconded by Mr. Carruth and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends 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 the Georgia Power Company for the purpose of installing, maintaining and operating overhead utility lines providing power to the newly-constructed campground sites and R. V. Dump Station at Cloudland Canyon State Park, Dade and Walker Counties. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Friedman stated that the next item for consideration was granting approval to enter into an encroachment agreement with Atlanta Gas Light Resources (AGL) for use of a right-of-way extending in part through State property, Chattahoochee River, Don Carter State Park, Hall County.

Mr. Friedman stated that DNR has designated over 1,000 acres to the construction of Chattahoochee River – Don Carter State Park in Hall County. He further stated that DNR began construction of the park in January 2012. He added that DNR needs to cross over an area that contains a right-of-way currently owned by AGL.

Mr. Friedman stated that the right-of-way area is located in Land Lot 171, and that AGL is willing to allow DNR to cross their right-of-way. He further stated that AGL has limited DNR's rights to the construction, installation, and maintenance of one permanent gravel maintenance road, one permanent gravel parking area cul-de-sac, one permanent paved road, and one PVC water main. He added that DNR is not allowed to place any buildings, power or lighting poles, communication pedestals, power transformers, water hydrants, water meters, valves or any other obstruction on the AGL right-of-way.

Mr. Friedman stated that no adverse impact of any interest of DNR has been identified, and that he would like to request that the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Billew, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board adopt the Resolution to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into an encroachment agreement with Atlanta Gas Light Resources for use of a right-of-way extending in part through State property, Chattahoochee River, Don Carter State Park, Hall County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Friedman stated that the final item for consideration was acquisition (donation) of 0.974± acres known as Pennyworth Island in Chatham County from Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), and granting of a permanent easement by the State Properties Commission to GDOT over 5.848± acres for the replacement and maintenance of the State Route 404 Spur/U.S. 17 Bridge over the Back River, Chatham County.

Mr. Friedman stated that GDOT contacted DNR to advise of their plans to replace the bridge on State Route 404 Spur/U.S. 17 over the Back River and a portion of Pennyworth Island. He further stated that the State of Georgia is the presumed owner of tidal waters unless there is an unbroken chain of title back to a land grant. He added that as there is no such unbroken chain of title, GDOT has agreed to quit claim the interest they have in the property to the State.

Mr. Friedman stated that GDOT has requested a revocable license and permanent easement over 5.848± to construct and maintain the bridge. He further stated that Coastal Resources Division (CRD) has issued the revocable license as it has jurisdiction over revocable licenses over tidal waters.

Mr. Friedman stated that this project will improve the safety of the bridge and traffic in the area. He further stated that no adverse impact of any interest of DNR has been identified, and that the revocable license will be converted to a permanent easement by the General Assembly.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Billew, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval for acquisition (donation) of 0.964± acres known as Pennyworth Island in Chatham County from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), and granting of a permanent easement by the State Properties Commission to GDOT over 5.848± acres for the replacement and maintenance of the State Route 404 Spur/U.S. 17 Bridge over the Back River, Chatham County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Dr. Turner stated that the Executive Session to discuss future acquisition of real estate would be cancelled and would be held at the May meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.