

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

**May 26, 2010**

**Attending:**

Board Members

Jenny Lynn Bradley, Chairman  
Earl Barrs  
Dennis Billew  
Gene Bishop  
Bill Carruth  
Warren Budd  
Joe Hatfield  
Walter Hudson  
Mabel Jenkins  
Ray Lambert  
Loyce Turner  
Philip Watt  
Tom Wheeler  
Steven Woodruff

Visitors

Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Rick Lanford, Chaplain  
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce  
Corey Babb, Metro North Georgia Water Planning Dev.  
Steve Ewald, Georgia Power Company  
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia

Staff Members

Chris Clark  
Allen Barnes  
Paul Burkhalter  
Todd Holbrook  
Emily Hitchcock  
Kyle Pearson  
Spud Woodward  
Dave Crass  
Becky Kelley  
Marlin Gottschalk  
Dan Forster  
Mark Smith  
Linda MacGregor  
Jac Capp  
Jim Ussery  
Doralyn Kirkland  
John Bowers  
Steve Friedman  
John Martin  
Homer Bryson  
Terry West  
Sarah Dearman  
David Clark  
Sally Winchester  
Linda Patrick  
Kim Hatcher  
Wally Woods  
Bryan Alexander  
Connie Buck  
Tim Banks  
John Biagi  
Rashanda Carter

The May 26, 2010 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Jenny Lynn Bradley. Chairman Bradley called on Earl Barrs for introduction of a time of reflection and inspiration.

Mr. Barrs introduced Chaplain Rick Lanford from the Methodist Children's Home in Macon, and Chaplain Lanford gave an inspiring devotion and opened the meeting in prayer.

Chairman Bradley stated that she would like to thank Chaplain Lanford for being at the meeting and also that she would like to thank Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council, for supplying the board with locally-grown peaches. She further stated that for the remainder of the year, the schedule of meetings would be as follows:

- The Board will meet June 23 (Committee & Board – attire business casual)
- **Off in July**
- The Board will meet August 24-25
- **Off in September**
- The Board will meet October 26-27 in Savannah
- **Off in November**
- The Board will meet December 7-8

She added that these dates are subject to change, but at the moment, this would be the schedule for the remainder of 2010.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the March meeting.

Chairman Bradley called on Chris Clark, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), for the Commissioner's Report.

Commissioner Clark presented Eric Bentley, Manager of Fort Yargo State Park, with the Manager of the Year Award; and Randell Meeks, Assistant Manager of Elijah Clark State Park, with the Ranger of the Year Award.

Commissioner Clark welcomed Kyle Pearson, Assistant Executive Counsel, back from Afghanistan.

Commissioner Clark stated that Ben Harris of Georgia Power would soon retire and would be replaced by Walt Dukes. He further stated that Mr. Harris would be greatly missed, but that he looked forward to working with Mr. Dukes in the future.

Commissioner Clark stated that State Representative Bob Lane would be retiring from the Georgia General Assembly, and would like to request that the Board honor both Mr. Harris and Representative Lane for their many contributions to the service, support and stewardship of the natural resources of the state.

Commissioner Clark called on Emily Hitchcock, Executive Counsel, for a briefing on the proposed repeal of Rules for the Georgia Water Supply Act, Chapter 391-6-1, pertaining to Regional Reservoirs.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the General Assembly amended the Georgia Water Supply Act in 2008 and transferred the Department's duties and responsibilities under the Georgia Water Supply Act to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority. She further stated that the Board of Natural Resources promulgated Rules in 1989 implementing the Georgia Water Supply Act that now need to be repealed.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the proposed Rule repeal will be subject to the minimal public participation process because this is a ministerial, clean-up action by the Board that reflects its lack of jurisdiction over the subject matter. She further stated that a public notice will be posted on the Department's website and transmitted to Legislative Counsel on May 27, and the public comment period will close on June 30. She added that the Board will be asked to consider the proposed Rule change and any public comments received at its August meeting.

Commissioner Clark updated the Board on the oil spill in the gulf, as well as legislation and budget matters.

Commissioner Clark reminded Board Members that Financial Disclosures are due on July 1, and stated that a memorandum regarding this had been placed at their seats.

Commissioner Clark referenced the Capital Outlay for May; Budget, Revenue and Expense Comparison through April; the Commissioner's Activity Report; and the Weekly Updates.

Commissioner Clark called on Becky Kelley, Director of Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Division (PRHSD), for comments.

Director Kelley briefed the Board on the final budget for PRHSD for FY-2010, stating that PRHSD will be in the black for the remainder of the fiscal year. She further stated that she would like to commend her staff for this achievement.

Director Kelley briefed the Board on the changes at many of the State Parks and Historic Sites, and at Red Top Mountain State Park, particularly in closing the lodge there. She stated that PRHSD will continue to keep moving toward a more responsive, business approach to recreation service and conservation in the state parks and historic sites. She further stated that although the budget will continue to be constricted, she expects PRHSD will position itself to survive the day, protect the core and continue with a nationally-recognized state parks and historic sites system.

Discussion ensued, with Dr. Watt commending Director Kelley and her staff, particularly Tim Banks, Assistant Chief of Operations.

Director Kelley introduced the new Manager of Engineering & Construction for PRHSD, David Clark, and gave the Board background information on his career with state government.

Director Kelley introduced Rashanda Carter, an intern with PRHSD in the Grants Unit, and briefed the Board on several other items of interest.

Commissioner Clark announced that Terry West has been named Assistant Director of Wildlife Resources Division, and that Homer Bryson has been named Colonel and will be Chief of Law Enforcement.

Chairman Bradley called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Division.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution approving the FY-2010 (Amended) and FY-2011 Spending Plans for the Solid Waste Trust Fund. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Dr. Watt and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Proposed Grant Criteria for Award of 319 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants for FY-2011. (Proposed Grant Criteria attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Barrs and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the Proposed Amendments to Chapter 391-3-1, Rules for Air Quality Control, Pertaining to Permit Fees. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Bradley called on Joe Hatfield, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Hatfield, seconded by Mrs. Jenkins and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Proposed Amendment to Rule 391-4-2-.62, Alligators. (Proposed Amendment attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Bradley called on Tom Wheeler, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, 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 (purchase) of 6,911± acres of real property, Altamaha River Townsend Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Rayonier Forest Resources, L.P. Tract Phase II, via The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Long County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, 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 (purchase) of 0.48± acre of real property, Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Randy Grant Tract, Dawson County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Carruth and carried with an opposing vote from Mr. Lambert, that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to terminate the Construction Agreement and Amend the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Department and Gordon County regarding Resaca Battlefield Historic Site, Gordon County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Wheeler stated that he would be out of town for the June meeting and has asked Earl Barrs to chair the Land Acquisition Committee meeting at that time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jenny Lynn Bradley, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Warren C. Budd, Secretary