

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

December 8, 2010

Attending:

Board Members

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

Visitors

Gary Black, Dept. of Agriculture Commissioner-elect
David Allen, DNR Foundation Board Chairman
Sara Clark, DNR Foundation Board Member
Glen Wilkins, DNR Foundation Board Member
Walter Dukes, DNR Foundation Board Member
Glen Durden, DNR Foundation Board Member
Steve Levitan, DNR Foundation Board Member
Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Thomas Farmer, The Nature Conservancy
Maggie Lee, Freelance Reporter
Ray Henry, Associated Press
Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy
William Woodall, GHFF

Staff Members

Todd Holbrook
Paul Burkhalter
Allen Barnes
Spud Woodward
Dave Crass
Becky Kelley
Dan Forster
Suzanne Burnes
Steve Friedman
Jac Capp
Linda MacGregor
John Martin
Lauren Curry
Terry West
Homer Bryson
Jim Ussery
Doralyn Kirkland
Emily Hitchcock
Kyle Pearson
Jim Laine
Mike Long
Connie Buck
Jeff Weaver
Sarah Dearman
Matt Owens
Scott Bardenwerper
Lisa Mehalko
Mary Ann Evans
Hellen Harris

The December 8, 2010 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Jenny Lynn Bradley. Chairman Bradley called on Steven Woodruff for introduction of a guest speaker.

Mr. Woodruff introduced Gary Black, Commissioner-elect of the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Black gave a time of inspiration and reflection to begin the Board meeting proceedings.

Chairman Bradley thanked Mr. Black for taking time to speak to the Board and invited him to come back another time.

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

A motion was made by Dr. Watt, seconded by Mrs. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the October 2010 meeting.

Chairman Bradley called on Todd Holbrook, Deputy Commissioner for Operations, to give the Commissioner's Report.

Mr. Holbrook introduced two field managers who were attending the Board meeting day: Matt Owens, Park Manager at Panola Mountain State Park; and Scott Bardenwerper, Wildlife Technician III in Gainesville.

Mr. Holbrook called on David Allen, Chairman of the DNR Foundation Board. Dr. Allen introduced all of the Foundation Board Members and gave background information as to the formation of the Foundation Board.

Mr. Holbrook gave an update on the findings of the Land Management Task Force and gave a handout that listed key areas that Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) has identified to apply user fees. He stated that this information will be given at public meetings held each January in association with Hunting Regulation updates, and that the public will be allowed to make comments at that time regarding this issue.

Mr. Holbrook gave an update on sponsorships for Weekend for Wildlife and handed out a brochure on this issue. He encouraged Board Members to participate and to contact Sarah Dearman for further information.

Mr. Holbrook called on Gila Bronner, President & CEO of Bronner Consultants, who presented a PowerPoint of the Internal Audit position and related issues. Ms. Bronner introduced Lisa Mehalko as the new Internal Auditor for DNR.

Ms. Bronner recommended that the Board establish an Audit Committee to challenge management, question external auditors to ensure independence, provide oversight to the internal audit function, ensure management is discharging its duties and responsibilities, and ensure and promote independence, facilitate communication between all stakeholders who have an interest in the department, and demonstrate stewardship and accountability publicly.

Ms. Bronner stated that this will establish DNR as a forward-thinking government agency, both in the state of Georgia and nationally, as well.

Mr. Holbrook called on Emily Hitchcock, Executive Counsel, for presentation of two action items.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the first item for action was redirection of the scope of DNR 113 (construction of new cabins) to permit approximately \$3,700,000 to be used to construct new campsites. She further stated that as a part of its FY-2011 Capital Outlay funding request to the Governor, DNR requested \$5,000,000 to both construct cabins and add campsites for the purpose of increasing revenue to the State Parks system and to provide desirable facilities to the citizens of Georgia. She added that to the best of DNR's knowledge, campsite construction was intended to be included in the Governor's proposed budget.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the tracking document for HB-948 (FY-2011 General Appropriations) includes \$5,500,000 for the construction of new cabins only. She further stated that the additional \$500,000 above DNR's original request was added by the Senate for the purpose of financing the acquisition of buffer land around Gordonia Altamaha State Park to protect view shed and to prevent development adjacent to the park. She added that Georgia State Financing & Investment Commission (GSFIC) has advised DNR that it cannot spend the bond proceeds on campsite construction or land acquisition without an appropriate redirect.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that DNR proposed redirecting the scope of DNR 113 to use \$3,700,000 to construct campsites at Cloudland Canyon, Richard B. Russell and Tugaloo State parks. She further stated that DNR plans to use \$1,300,000 to construct cabins. She added that in the future, DNR will submit a separate request to redirect \$500,000 for land acquisition to reflect the Senate's action, and that the Governor's office, GSFIC, and OPB are aware that this request is being presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Archer, seconded by Dr. Watt and carried unanimously that the Board approve the redirection of the scope of DNR 113 for approximately \$3,700,000 to be used to construct new campsites. (Redirection of the scope of DNR 113 attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the next item for consideration was the redirection of approximately \$4,007,183 from DNR 21 (West Georgia Regional Reservoir), DNR 92

(Yuchi Fishing Area), and DNR 92 (Savannah Battlefield Park) to complete the funding for the acquisition of approximately 10,015 acres for the Oaky Woods WMA (DNR 110). She further stated that this acquisition is scheduled to close before the end of the year if approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Archer, seconded by Mr. Walters and carried with five opposing votes from Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Lambert, Dr. Watt, and Mr. Woodruff that the Board approve the redirection of approximately \$4,007,183 from DNR 21, DNR 92, and DNR 93 to complete the funding for the acquisition of approximately 10,015 acres for the Oaky Woods WMA for DNR 110. (Redirection of these funds attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Holbrook stated that the next item for consideration was acceptance of the resignation letter from Commissioner Chris Clark and appointment of his replacement.

A motion was made by Mr. Walters, seconded by Dr. Watt and carried unanimously that the Board accept the resignation of Chris Clark as Commissioner of Natural Resources and that the Board appoint Mark Williams as the Commissioner of Natural Resources to be effective December 8, 2010, at the current salary for the Commissioner of Natural Resources and that this action is in compliance with State Personnel Board Rules.

Chairman Bradley welcomed Mr. Williams as the new Commissioner and stated she looked forward to working with him.

Mr. Williams stated that he is honored to serve as Commissioner and looks forward to working with the Board and staff.

Mr. Holbrook called attention to the FY-2010 Budget, Revenue & Expense Comparison through October, the DNR Capital Outlay Status Report for December that were in the board package; and the Weekly Updates that are sent via e-mail.

Mr. Walters stated that he would like to thank Todd Holbrook for the outstanding job he has done in the interim, taking on extra responsibilities until a new Commissioner could be named. The Board gave Mr. Holbrook a standing ovation.

Chairman Bradley called on Walter Hudson, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Hatfield and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Historic Theater Heritage Tourism Grant Program and Procedures. (Historic Theater Heritage Tourism Grant Program and Procedures attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Bradley called on Philip Watt, Chairman of the Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Committee.

A motion was made by Dr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Walters and carried unanimously that the Board approve the proposed amendments to Park Pass Rule Chapter 391-5-1-.03, Access to Sites, which exempts daytime visitors on Wednesdays with the effective date of February 1, 2011. (Proposed Amendments 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. Lambert and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for relocation of an existing permanent easement covering 1.60± acres and issuance of a new easement for a maximum of 0.65± acres of real property for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating of an overhead distribution line, Jackson Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Fort Yargo State Park, Barrow County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Carruth and carried with Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Archer abstaining that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and General Assembly approval for the granting of a permanent easement by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly for a maximum of 0.05± acres of real property for the purpose of relocating an overhead utility line, Georgia power Company, Rhodes Memorial Hall, Fulton 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 Committee recommends that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for acquisition (purchase) of 1,055± acres of real property, Altamaha River Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Walker Lake Tract, via The Nature Conservancy (TNC), McIntosh County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Walters and carried with opposing votes from Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Lambert, Dr. Turner, Dr. Watt, Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Woodruff that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the acquisition of \$10,015± acres of real property, Oaky Woods Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Oaky Woods Properties, L.L.C. tract, Houston County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

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

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Hatfield and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution proposed by Ray Lambert related to proposed amendments to Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, addressing Greenhouse Gas Emissions for stationary source permitting. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to PSD & Title V Revisions to the Federal Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Wheeler and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6, pertaining to Federal requirements on pretreatment. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Bradley called on Bill Carruth, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for 2011 Officers for the Board of Natural Resources.

Mr. Carruth stated that the Nominating Committee had met on November 14, via conference call to discuss the officers for 2011. He further stated that the consensus of the Committee was to offer the following nominations: Earl Barrs, Chairman; Warren Budd, Vice Chairman; Mabel Jenkins, Secretary.

Chairman Bradley thanked the Committee for their work and added that these individuals will be voted on at the January meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jenny Lynn Bradley, Chairman

ATTEST:

Warren C. Budd, Jr., Secretary