

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

October 22, 2013

Attending:

Board Members

Rob Leebern, Chairman
Philip Wilheit, Vice Chairman
Ray Lambert, Secretary
Nancy Addison
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Duncan Johnson
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Paul Shailendra
Bodine Sinyard
Mark Smith
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Walter Jones, Morris News Service
Andy Fleming, Friends of Georgia State Parks
Brant Lane, HHNT
Lauren Joy, Southern Environmental Law Center
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
Jeffrey Harvey, Farm Bureau

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
Mary Walker
Doralyn Kirkland
Russ Pennington
Jac Capp
Doug Haymans
Michael Chadwell
Terry West
Jim Laine
David Clark
John Martin
Jeff Cown

The October 22, 2013 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Rob Leebern.

Chairman Leebern thanked Becky Kelley, Director of Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites, and Parks staff for inviting Board members to Panola Mountain State Park the previous evening.

Chairman Leebern stated he would like to thank Director Spud Woodward, DNR coastal staff, and the Jekyll Island Authority for hosting the September meeting of the Board of Natural Resources on the coast.

Chairman Leebern called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2013 Board of Natural Resources meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wilheit and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the September 2013 Board of Natural Resources meeting.

Chairman Leebern called on Mark Williams, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, for his report.

Commissioner Williams recognized Dan Forster, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for being elected president of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies by his peers.

Commissioner Williams recognized Nancy Addison for being appointed by Governor Deal to serve on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Commissioner Williams stated DNR had recently held very successful events including “Your State Parks Day” and CoastFest. He further stated the Google Maps application debuted during CoastFest and received lots of positive feedback.

Commissioner Williams stated firearms season began on October 19th. He further stated on October 17th state deer biologist, Charlie Killmaster, held a live chat on U-stream to answer pre-season questions from hunters. He added this was the first time the Department has done this and about 120 people signed on to the live chat.

Commissioner Williams called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for comments.

Director Turner gave an update on the Water Resources Reform Development Act (WRRDA).

Commissioner Williams called on Dan Forster for a Wildlife Resources Division update.

Director Forster gave an update on alligator season; hunting and firearms industry summit held on Sapelo Island; effects of the federal shutdown on sportsmen; live U-stream chat with state deer

biologist, Charlie Killmaster; Weekend for Wildlife; License and Boat Registration contract; and the upcoming December Board meeting at Charlie Elliot Wildlife Center.

Commissioner Williams called on Becky Kelley for a Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division update.

Director Kelley thanked the Board members for allowing Parks to showcase Panola Mountain State Park the previous evening. She further stated she would like to thank Andy Fleming and the Friends of Georgia State Parks for providing the meal, and the PATH Foundation and Arabia Alliance for helping with the event.

Director Kelley gave an update on the success of Your State Parks Day.

Commissioner Williams called on Colonel Eddie Henderson, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, for his division update.

Colonel Henderson gave an update on the Law Enforcement Division's fact sheet; hunting season; and the Law Enforcement Facebook page.

Colonel Henderson recognized Sgt. Sam O'Neal for completing the Forest Science Certification Course in which he received training on use-of-force incidents.

Colonel Henderson recognized Ranger First Class David Webb for receiving the award of Best Presentation at the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies for "Something Bruin."

Commissioner Williams called on Dave Crass, Director of the Historical Preservation Division, for his division update.

Director Crass gave an update on the remote sensing survey project funded by the Natural Resources Foundation.

Director Crass stated HPD had been recognized by the mayor of Atlanta for the division's work in preserving African American sites.

Commissioner Williams stated with no further business, his report was concluded.

Chairman Leebern called on Phyllis Johnson, Chairman of the Coastal Committee, for her report.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Saltwater Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-2-4, and Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-4-3. (Copy of the proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Leebern called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, pertaining to inert waste landfills. (Copy of the proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5, pertaining to miscellaneous updates. (Copy of the proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Leebern called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to recommend execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement to transfer custody/control from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to Lumpkin County, 15± acres of real property, Blackburn State Park, Lumpkin County. (Copy of the Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman Leebern recognized Chris Dockery, Chairman of the Lumpkin County Commission, for attending the meeting and thanked him for his work in making this IGA possible.

Chairman Leebern announced the appointment of the Nominating Committee for 2014: Phyllis Johnson to chair the committee, Mark Smith, Mark Mobley, Aaron McWhorter, and Dee Yancey.

Chairman Leebern called for motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilheit, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously to adjourn the October 22, 2013 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources.

Robert D. Leebern, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

Ray P. Lambert, Jr., Secretary