

Minutes
Coastal Committee
Middle Georgia College
Alderman Hall
1100 Second Street, S. E.
Cochran, GA 31014

October 26, 2011

Attending:

Committee Members

Phyllis Johnson, Chairman
Duncan Johnson
Rob Leebern
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Smith
Loyce Turner
Philip Wilheit
Jim Walters
Earl Barrs, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Dennis Billew
Warren Budd
Bill Carruth
Joe Hatfield
Ray Lambert
Philip Watt
Steven Woodruff

Visitors

Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Cliff Avant, Mayor, City of Cochran
Susan Osler, Cochran Better Hometown
Kathryn Fisher, Cochran Chamber of Commerce
Charlotte Pipkin, Bleckley County Board of Education
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power
Mark Woodall, Sierra Club
Pamela Flores, Raccoon Hogg Community Development Corporation

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Todd Holbrook
Homer Bryson
Spud Woodward
Dave Crass
Emily Hitchcock
Steve Friedman
Terry West
Lauren Curry
Jac Capp
Mark Smith
Walter Rabon
Mary Ann Evans

The October 26, 2011 meeting of the Coastal Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Earl Barrs.

Chairman Barrs called on Phyllis Johnson, Chairman of the Coastal Committee, who called on Spud Woodward, Director, Coastal Resources Division (CRD), for presentation of one action item and to give a division update.

Director Woodward stated that the item for consideration was the appointment of Donald Richard “Rick” Gardner to the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee (CMPC) and Shore Protection Committee (SPC). He further stated that in September 2010, Mr. Richard Eckburg, a member of the CMPC and SPC since 2004, unexpectedly announced his resignation, which was filled in October 2010 when the Board appointed Donald Richard “Rick” Gardner to fill the remainder of Mr. Eckburg’s term, which ends December 31, 2011.

Director Woodward stated that after consultation with Commissioner Mark Williams and Coastal Committee Chairman, Phyllis Johnson, he recommends that Mr. Gardner be appointed to a full term on the CMPC and SPC per Board of Natural Resources By-Laws, Article X with an effective date of January 1, 2012. He further stated that since his appointment, Mr. Gardner has been an active participant in the deliberations of these committees and has consented to serve for another four years, if so appointed by the Board.

Mrs. Johnson called for a motion for the appointment.

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board appoint Mr. Donald Richard “Rick” Gardner to the CMPC and SPC to a four-year term effective January 1, 2012.

Director Woodward gave an update on CoastFest and the shrimp fishery in Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.