

Minutes
Land Acquisition Committee
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

May 27, 2009

Attending:

Committee Members

Loyce Turner, Acting Chairman
Walter Hudson
Bob Rutland
Philip Watt
Tom Wheeler
Bill Carruth, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Bill Archer
Jenny Lynn Bradley
Joe Hatfield
Ray Lambert
Jim Tysinger
Jim Walters

Visitors

Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Debbie Phillips, GA Industry Environmental Coalition
Andy Fleming, Friends of Georgia State Parks
Kelly Jordan, The Georgia Conservancy
Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation
Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation
Laura Hartt, Upper Chattahoochee RiverKeeper
Shana Udvardy, The Georgia Conservancy
Kelly Clark, Office of Planning and Budget
Will Wingate, The Georgia Conservancy
Richard Steughton, GA Golf Superintendents Association
Jimmy Geter, GA Golf Superintendents Association
Mike Crawford, GA Golf Superintendents Association

Staff Members

Chris Clark
Paul Burkhalter
Todd Holbrook
Dan Forster
Marlin Gottschalk
Becky Kelley
Ray Luce
Steve Friedman
Linda MacGregor
John Bowers
Doralyn Kirkland
Jim Ussery
Dave Crass
Emily Hitchcock
Lauren Curry
Sarah Dearman
David Freedman
Becky Marshall
Bryan Alexander
Suzanne Burnes
Alice Keyes
Dianna Trettin
Dominic Weatherill
Mary Ann Evans
Hellen Harris

Land Acquisition Committee – Minutes

May 27, 2009

Page 2

George Martin, Georgia Power Company

Jeanette Gayer, Environment Georgia

Teresa Tamburello, Environment Georgia

Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power

Doug Miell, Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce

John Huffmaster, Georgia Farm Bureau

Tom Leslie, American Council of Engineers

Todd Edwards, Association County Commissioners of GA

The May 27, 2009 meeting of the Land Acquisition Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Bill Carruth.

Chairman Carruth called on Loyce Turner, Acting Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee in the absence of Chairman Warren Budd.

Dr. Turner called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate, for presentation of two items for consideration.

Mr. Friedman stated that the first item was the transfer of custody of 3.03± acres of real property, Radium Springs, Dougherty County, from the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) by Executive Order. He further stated that the Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) stationed in Albany, Georgia has been dealing with office overcrowding for some time and that staff from the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), as well as the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division (PRHSD) currently share this space. He added that some of WRD staff is housed at the Albany Nursery Wildlife Management Area due to the limited space and overcrowding in the office complex there.

Mr. Friedman stated that the Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) notified DNR that they will be closing their office in Albany and asked if DNR would be interested in assuming control of the building. DOAS currently owns the building which GTA leased. He further stated that the Commissioner of DOAS sent a letter to the State Properties Commission on April 8, 2009, requesting the transfer of custody by Executive Order for the property and all improvements located at 1700 Radium Springs to DNR.

Mr. Friedman stated that the building is valued at an estimate of \$1 million, with an operating cost of \$20,000 annually, and would request that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution regarding this property.

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Hudson and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to request the Governor of the State of Georgia to execute the proposed Executive Order to transfer custody of 3.03± acres of real property, Radium Springs, Dougherty County, from the Department of Administrative Services to the Department of Natural Resources. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Friedman stated that the second item for consideration is the disposition (assignment) of 73± acres of real property, owned by the Department of Interior, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Magnolia Springs State Park, Bo Ginn National Fish Hatchery, Jenkins County.

Mr. Friedman stated that on September 30, 1966, DNR entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for a term of 25 years with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to operate the manage 75± acres located in Magnolia Springs State Park in Jenkins County. He further stated that the property contains a small aquarium that is used by tourists and 27 fish-hatching ponds.

Mr. Friedman stated that DNR wishes to enter into an agreement that would extinguish the State's obligations under the MOA. He further stated that the State's rights, duties, obligations and responsibilities under the MOA would be transferred to the Jenkins County Development Authority (Authority). He added that the USFWS and the Authority would then modify the MOA so that the USFWS would use 25 out of the 27 ponds.

A motion was made by Dr. Turner, seconded by Dr. Watt and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to dispose of 73± acres of real property owned by the Department of Interior, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Magnolia Springs State Park, Bo Ginn National Fish Hatchery, Jenkins County, and assign the exiting Memorandum of Agreement to the Jenkins County Development Authority. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Commissioner Clark stated that he would like to add that the State Properties Commission approved the final phase of Silver Lake and Phase I of Rayonier that the Board had previously approved.

Commissioner Clark stated that the community of Jenkins County has stepped up to the plate and put money into the swimming pool at Magnolia Springs, so that it would be able to stay open, and has rallied around the aquarium to take it over. He further stated he was sorry Mabel Jenkins was not able to be in attendance today, as she played a huge role in spearheading these two projects. He commended Jenkins County as being the poster child for a community who stepped up to the plate to say that the resources in their area matter to them.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.