

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

August 25, 2009

Attending:

Committee Members

Bob Rutland, Acting Chairman
David Allen
Earl Barrs
Gene Bishop
Walter Hudson
Loyce Turner
Philip Watt
Tom Wheeler
Bill Carruth, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Bill Archer
Jenny Lynn Bradley
Joe Hatfield
Mabel Jenkins
Phyllis Johnson
Ray Lambert
Jim Tysinger
Jim Walters

Visitors

Emory Brown, Georgia Falconry Association
Joseph Seabolt, Georgia Falconry Association
Karl Ledford, Georgia Transmission Corporation
Steve Hein, Georgia Southern University
Shana Udvardy, Georgia Conservancy
Gordon Rogers, Satilla RiverKeeper
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition
Nate Hunt, Southern Environmental Law Center

Staff Members

Chris Clark
Carol Couch
Paul Burkhalter
Todd Holbrook
Susan Shipman
Dan Forster
Becky Kelley
Marlin Gottschalk
Ray Luce
Karl Burgess
Mark Whitney
Jim Ozier
Jon Ambrose
Steve Friedman
Jennifer Kaduck
Jac Capp
Mark Smith
Linda Macgregor
Doralyn Kirkland
Jim Ussery
Emily Hitchcock
Lauren Curry
Dave Crass
Pam Earl
William Cook
Dick Swanson
Mike Harris
Terry West
Jan Simmons
Brad Gane
Keith Weaver
Mary Ann Evans
Yolanda Fanning

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Clayton Doherty, Georgia Transmission Corporation

Thomas Farmer, The Nature Conservancy

Tara Vogel, Georgia Power

Steve Ewald, Georgia Power

Robert Gordon, Georgia Falconry Association

Joel Volpi, Georgia Falconry Association

Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club

Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner & Associates

Josh Stancil, Georgia Forestry Association

Doug Cloud, Alston & Bird

Shirl Parsons, Georgia Wildlife Federation

Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation

Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation

R. Riley Wilson, Georgia Game Hawkers

William Woodall, Georgia Hunting & Fishing Federation

Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia

Patricia Barmeyer, King & Spalding

The August 25, 2009 meeting of the Land Acquisition Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Bill Carruth. Chairman Carruth called on Earl Barrs to be Acting Chairman in the absence of Warren Budd.

Mr. Barrs called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate, for two PowerPoint presentations. (PowerPoint presentations attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Friedman stated that the first item for consideration was acquisition (donation) of a conservation easement over 80.6± acres of real property, Ichawaynochaway Creek, Boring/Kirkman Conservation Easement, Baker County. He further stated that the property contains a mature bald cypress forest, a bottomland hardwood swamp forest, a stream terrace of mature southern mixed hardwood forest longleaf pine-wiregrass sandhills, and a mixed pine-hardwood savanna. He added that it also contains several species of animals and birds.

Mr. Friedman stated that protection of the property is directly aligned with the goals of the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), and that Ichawaynochaway Creek is recognized in the SWAP as a high priority stream for conservation. He further stated that the property possesses 2,865 feet of frontage along it plus associated sloughs and wetlands. He added that conservation of many of the previously described habitats and species are goals of the SWAP, and that he would request the Committee recommend to the Board adoption of the Resolution regarding this issue.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrs, seconded by Mr. Turner 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 (donation) of a conservation easement over 80.6± acres of real property, Ichawaynochaway Creek, Boring/Kirkman Conservation Easement, Baker County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Friedman stated that the last item for consideration was the granting of a non-exclusive right-of-way easement by the State Properties Commission and the 2010 General Assembly for a maximum of 12.86± acres of real property for installation and maintenance of an aerial transmission line over state-owned marsh and tidal water bottoms in Liberty County to Georgia Transmission Corporation. He further stated that the aerial transmission line will span over one mile of state-owned saltmarsh and tidal water bottoms at Riceboro Creek, Peacock Creek, Porter Creek and Cay Creek. He added that there would be no construction on state-owned property and that the company has agreed to string and maintain the transmission line via helicopter. He further added that the company is not allowed to drive across the marsh.

Mr. Friedman stated that he would like to request the Committee to recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution regarding this issue.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrs, seconded by Mr. Hudson and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission and to draft appropriate legislation for the 2010 General Assembly requesting the granting of a non-exclusive right-of-way easement for a maximum of 12.86± acres of real property for installation and maintenance of an aerial transmission line over state-owned marsh and tidal water bottoms in Liberty County to Georgia Transmission Corporation. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.