#### **Minutes**

## **Board of Natural Resources**

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

## May 20, 2014

## Attending:

**Board Members** Philip Wilheit, Chairman Ray Lambert, Vice Chairman William Bagwell, Secretary Nancy Addison **Dwight Davis Dwight Evans** Duncan Johnson, Jr. **Phyllis Johnson Bill Jones** Rob Leebern Aaron McWhorter Mark Mobley Paul Shailendra **Brother Stewart** Philip Watt

## **Visitors**

Dee Yancey

Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Ronny Just, Georgia Power Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy Michael Snipes, Georgia SWANA David Word, Joe Tanner and Associates Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner and Associates Jeffrey Harvey, Georgia Farm Bureau Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy Abby Goldsmith, Goldsmith Resources Gloria Hardegree, Georgia Recycling Coalition Lauren Curry, Georgia Emergency Management Agency **Lonice Barrett** 

Mark Williams **Jud Turner Homer Bryson Dave Crass** Dan Forster Eddie Henderson **Becky Kelley** Spud Woodward Steve Friedman **Kyle Pearson Cathy Barnette Taylor Brown Zachary Harris** Mary Walker Doralyn Kirkland **Russ Pennington Keith Bentley** Jac Capp Jeff Cown **John Bowers Doug Haymans** Mark Whitney Wally Woods Audra Dickson Jennifer Welte John Martin John Biagi Michael Chadwell

**Staff Members** 

The May 20, 2014 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Lonice Barrett, former Department of Natural Resources Commissioner, for an inspirational message.

Chairman Wilheit called on Lauren Curry, who was presented with a framed Resolution commending her for her service; expressing gratitude for her efforts to conserve and protect Georgia's natural resources; and thanking her for the help and cooperation she has given the Board while serving as the Director of Public and Governmental Affairs of the Department of Natural Resources.

A motion was made by Dr. Watt, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously to adopt the Resolution. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, presented Ms. Curry with a framed photograph and expressed his gratitude for the work she did for his division and the Department.

Chairman Wilheit adjourned the Board meeting to move into Committee meetings.

The meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 2014 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Dr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the April 2014 meeting.

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

Commissioner Williams thanked Ray and Mary Lynn Lambert for hosting the Board members and staff for dinner at their lake.

Commissioner Williams thanked Dave Crass, Director of the Historical Preservation Division, for setting up the tour of the Ponce City Market.

Commissioner Williams thanked Jim Laine, Director of Human Resources, for his work with the Mentoring Program.

Commissioner Williams gave an update of the Natural Resources Foundation and the projects the foundation had funded for each division. He stated the Foundation had recently voted to fund \$60,500 of new projects for the Department.

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Commissioner Williams gave an update on the 2014 legislation session. He stated since the last Board meeting all four agency bills had been signed by the Governor.

Commissioner Williams called on Kyle Pearson, Executive Counsel, to receive his Fifteen Years of Faithful Service Award.

Commissioner Williams called on Kyle Pearson to present the request for issuance of General Obligation Bonds.

Mr. Pearson stated in the General Appropriations Act for FY 2014-2015, the General Assembly included items for DNR projects with a total value of \$28,700,000 that are to be funded by General Obligation Bonds. He further stated the sale is scheduled for June 14, 2014 and includes all \$28,700,000. He added that the projects DNR will fund with the proceeds of this sale are: \$200,000 for replacement vehicles, statewide; \$8,520,000 for facility improvements and renovations, statewide; \$5,800,000 for Tybee Island beach restoration; \$4,120,000 for miscellaneous new construction at state parks and WRD sites, statewide; and \$10,060,000 for land acquisition for wildlife management areas and state parks, statewide.

Mr. Pearson requested that the Board approve this item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the request for issuance of General Obligation Bonds, pursuant to the FY2014-2015 General Appropriations Act. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Commissioner Williams called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for a division update.

Director Turner gave an update on the Saltwater Marshlands memo issued in April; the panel discussions held at the offices of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals; the Lower Flint River Council appointment; the Safe Dam Program; the Wilbros Facility; and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA).

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

Director Crass stated HPD received grant funding from the Natural Resources Foundation to develop an oral history of DNR. He further stated he has been working with Lonice Barrett on this project and thanked him for his help.

Director Crass recognized Audra Dickson who had participated in the Mentoring Program.

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

Col. Eddie Henderson gave an update on partnering with the Office of Highway Safety and Department of Public Safety to prepare for Memorial Day Weekend; the four DNR officers recognized during the National Police Memorial Week ceremony held at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center; and the new LED Public Affairs Officer, Mark McKinnon.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for a division update.

Director Woodward gave an update on the Saltwater Creek Survey card; the second meeting between the Department and representative of the boating and fishing industry held at the Go Fish Center; shrimping season; and CoastFest.

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

Directory Kelley gave an update on the recent articles in the Atlanta Journal Constitution featuring state parks; Fox Network's showcase of state parks; the Great Outdoors Campout at Sweetwater Creek State Park; and working with the Office of Planning and Budget on zero-based budgeting.

Commissioner Williams called on Dan Forster, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for a division update.

Director Forster gave an update on the World Archery Competition for the National Archery in the Schools Program; the licensing and boat registration system transition on July 1<sup>st</sup>; the Candidate Conservation Agreement for the Georgia aster; and staffing updates.

Director Forster presented the Board members with a book of the 100 year history of the Wildlife Resources Division.

Commissioner Williams stated the Capital Outlay status report for May was included in the Board members packet.

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

Chairman Wilheit called on Mark Mobley, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Mobley, seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2. (Copy of the proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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

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A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to permit fees. (Copy of the proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Bagwell and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the Proposed Grant Criteria for Award of Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants FY 2015. (Copy of the proposed grant criteria attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, pertaining to composting, mulching and anaerobic digestion facilities. (Copy of the proposed amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Shailendra and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the Lee family to donate up to 1± acres of real property for the Lee Road access easement to the State in exchange for the State conveying 0.7± acres of real property from an unused section of the Lee Road access easement to the Lee family, Sheffield Wildlife Management Area, Paulding County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for an Amendment to Restrictive Easement with the United States of America (Department of the Navy) over 4,162± acres, Altamaha River-Townsend Wildlife Management Area, Fort Barrington Tract, McIntosh County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (donate) a permanent access easement of 2.4± acres, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Elrod Access Easement, Paulding County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a ten-year Intergovernmental Agreement between Walker County and the Department for management of 1± acres, Crockford-Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area, Spring Barn Area, Walker County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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Mr. Bagwell stated Mr. Stewart would be abstaining from the following vote due to a potential conflict of interest.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt: the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.61± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 816 Pine Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.72± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 771 Walnut Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.67± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 10111 Hawkinsville Road (D), Houston County. (Resolutions attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Philip A. Wilheit, Jr., Chairman

## Minutes Coastal Committee

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

## May 20, 2014

## Attending:

## **Committee Members**

Nancy Addison, Chairman
Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Bill Jones
Rob Leebern
Dee Yancey
Philip Wilheit, Board Chairman, ex-officio

## **Board Members**

William Bagwell Dwight Davis Dwight Evans Ray Lambert Mark Mobley Paul Shailendra Brother Stewart Philip Watt

#### **Visitors**

Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Ronny Just, Georgia Power Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy Michael Snipes, Georgia SWANA David Word, Joe Tanner and Associates Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner and Associates Jeffrey Harvey, Georgia Farm Bureau Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy Abby Goldsmith, Goldsmith Resources Gloria Hardegree, Georgia Recycling Coalition Lauren Curry, Georgia Emergency Management Agency **Lonice Barrett** 

#### **Staff Members**

Mark Williams **Jud Turner Homer Bryson Dave Crass** Dan Forster Eddie Henderson **Becky Kelley** Spud Woodward Steve Friedman **Kyle Pearson Cathy Barnette Taylor Brown Zachary Harris** Mary Walker Doralyn Kirkland **Russ Pennington Keith Bentley** Jac Capp Jeff Cown John Bowers **Doug Haymans** Mark Whitney Wally Woods Audra Dickson Jennifer Welte John Martin John Biagi Michael Chadwell Minutes – Coastal Committee May 20, 2014 Page 2

The May 20, 2014 meeting of the Coastal Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Nancy Addison, Chairman of the Coastal Committee, who called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division.

Director Woodward thanked the Board members for their kind words during his family's time of loss.

Director Woodward called on Doug Haymans, Policy and Outreach Coordinator, to update the Board on Georgia's shad fishery.

Mr. Haymans updated the Board on shad populations and monitoring in the Altamaha River, Savannah River and Ogeechee River.

Mr. Haymans called on John Biagi, Chief of Fisheries Management, who explained the experimental propagation project involving shad in the Ogeechee River system.

#### Minutes

### **Wildlife Resources Committee**

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

### May 20, 2014

#### Attending:

## **Committee Members**

Mark Mobley, Chairman
Dee Yancey, Vice Chairman
Nancy Addison
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Bill Jones
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

## **Board Members**

William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Ray Lambert
Rob Leebern
Aaron McWhorter
Paul Shailendra

#### **Visitors**

Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Ronny Just, Georgia Power Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy Michael Snipes, Georgia SWANA David Word, Joe Tanner and Associates Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner and Associates Jeffrey Harvey, Georgia Farm Bureau Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy Abby Goldsmith, Goldsmith Resources Gloria Hardegree, Georgia Recycling Coalition Lauren Curry, Georgia Emergency Management Agency Lonice Barrett

## Staff Members Mark Williams

**Jud Turner Homer Bryson Dave Crass** Dan Forster Eddie Henderson **Becky Kelley** Spud Woodward Steve Friedman **Kyle Pearson Cathy Barnette Taylor Brown Zachary Harris** Mary Walker Doralyn Kirkland **Russ Pennington Keith Bentley** Jac Capp Jeff Cown **John Bowers Doug Haymans** Mark Whitney Wally Woods Audra Dickson Jennifer Welte John Martin John Biagi Michael Chadwell The May 20, 2014 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Mark Mobley, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, who called on John Bowers, Chief of Game Management.

Mr. Bowers stated the first item for the Committee's consideration would be an action on the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2.

Mr. Bowers stated the Committee was briefed on this item in March 2014. He further stated the proposals being presented for the Board's consideration include establishing hunting seasons on several tracts of the Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA and the Spirit Creek Tract. He added that additionally, there is a housekeeping change to correct the inadvertent omission of either-sex firearms deer hunting opportunity in Gwinnett County.

Mr. Bowers stated two public hearings were held in April and all comments received during the public notice period supported the proposed changes.

Mr. Bowers stated he would request that the Committee recommend that the Board approved the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Mobley, seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution of approve the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, as presented.

Mr. Bowers gave an informational presentation on Georgia's Quota Hunt System, including general information on the quota hunts, selection odds and number of applicants. He also included the pros and cons of introducing a "stand-by" system into quota hunts and charging an application fee.

Discussion ensued.

### Minutes

#### **Environmental Protection Committee**

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

### May 20, 2014

## Attending:

## **Committee Members**

Ray Lambert, Chairman
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Paul Shailendra
Philip Wilheit, Jr., Board Chair, ex-officio

#### **Board Members**

Nancy Addison
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Bill Jones
Rob Leebern
Mark Mobley
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Dee Yancey

#### **Visitors**

Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Ronny Just, Georgia Power Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy Michael Snipes, Georgia SWANA David Word, Joe Tanner and Associates Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner and Associates Jeffrey Harvey, Georgia Farm Bureau Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy Abby Goldsmith, Goldsmith Resources Gloria Hardegree, Georgia Recycling Coalition Lauren Curry, Georgia Emergency Management Agency **Lonice Barrett** 

#### **Staff Members**

Mark Williams **Jud Turner Homer Bryson Dave Crass** Dan Forster **Eddie Henderson Becky Kelley** Spud Woodward Steve Friedman **Kyle Pearson Cathy Barnette Taylor Brown Zachary Harris** Mary Walker **Doralyn Kirkland Russ Pennington Keith Bentley** Jac Capp Jeff Cown **John Bowers** Doug Haymans Mark Whitney Wally Woods Audra Dickson Jennifer Welte John Martin John Biagi Michael Chadwell The May 20, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, who called on Keith Bentley, Chief of the Air Protection Branch.

Mr. Bentley briefed the Board on EPD's Air Branch. This briefing included information on the activities that support the mission of the Air Protection Branch, the relationship between EPD and the U.S. EPA, monitoring and reporting the air quality, permitting, compliance assurance, funding of the air program, the improving air quality in Georgia, and the top challenges of the Air Protection Branch going forward.

Director Turner discussed the ozone levels in Georgia.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Shailendra asked that the Board members be sent a copy of the presentation.

Mr. Bentley stated the next item for the Board's consideration would be an action on the proposed amendments to Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to permit fees.

Mr. Bentley stated "Permit Fees" is being revised to specify the dollar-per-ton rate and reference a new fee manual for Calendar Year 2013 fees. He further stated EPD is proposing to retain the current fee structure from last year and adopt the 2013 Fee Manual.

Mr. Bentley stated the Committee was briefed on this item in February. He further stated a public hearing was held April 3, 2014. He added no comments were received during the public notice period.

Mr. Bentley stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board adopt this item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to permit fees, as presented.

Chairman Lambert called on Jac Capp, Chief of the Watershed Protection Branch, to present the proposed grant criteria for award of Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants FY 2015.

Mr. Capp stated EPD annually awards approximately \$1.8 million in Nonpoint Source Implementation projects and anticipates a similar amount of funding available for this cycle. He further stated a competitive process is used to ensure that the most appropriate projects are selecting for funding. He added criteria for evaluation include cost effectiveness, clarity of the application, quality of the watershed plan, and expected degree of pollutant removal.

Mr. Capp stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board approve the proposed Grant Criteria for Award of Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants FY 2015, as presented.

Chairman Lambert called on Jeff Cown, Chief of the Land Protection Branch, to present the proposed amendments to Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, pertaining to composting, mulching and anaerobic digestion facilities.

Mr. Cown stated the proposed revision to the Rules clarify the requirements for permitted facilities and provide greater flexibility in how composting operations are permitted. He further stated the most significant change is the addition of a six-tiered permit structure based on feedstock categories. He added this structure will clarify the siting, design, and operating standards for each tier.

Mr. Cown stated EPD convened a diverse group of stakeholders to review and recommend changes to the Rules relating to composting. He further stated stakeholders included representatives from the composting industry, local governments, major food residual generators, waste haulers, trade associations, agricultural sector, processors, academia, solid waste industry, and manufacturers.

Mr. Cown stated during the public notice period 44 written comments and 13 oral comments were received. He further stated no changes were made to the proposed rule language since the majority of the comments could be addressed through guidance or during the permit review and issuance process.

Mr. Cown stated the Committee was briefed on the proposed rules in September of 2013. Public comment periods and public hearings were held in December 2013 and April 2014.

Mr. Cown stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

Chairman Lambert stated there were several people signed up to speak. He requested each speaker limit their comments to three minutes.

David Word of Joe Tanner and Associates spoke in support of the proposed rules.

Abby Goldsmith, A. Goldsmith Resources, signed up to speak but was not in attendance when her name was called.

Michael Snipes, Secretary of the Georgia Chapter of SWANA and stakeholder member, spoke in support of the proposed rule.

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Gloria Hardegree, Executive Director of the Georgia Recycling Coalition and stakeholder member, spoke in support of the proposed rule.

Bill Hodges of Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble spoke in support of the proposed rules.

Chairman Lambert thanked the speakers for their comments.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, pertaining to composting, mulching and anaerobic digestion facilities, as presented.

# Minutes Land Acquisition Committee

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

## May 20, 2014

## Attending:

#### **Committee Members**

William Bagwell, Chairman
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Bill Jones
Rob Leebern
Paul Shailendra
Dee Yancey
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

#### **Board Members**

Nancy Addison
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Ray Lambert
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Mobley
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt

#### **Visitors**

Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble Ronny Just, Georgia Power Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy Michael Snipes, Georgia SWANA David Word, Joe Tanner and Associates Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner and Associates Jeffrey Harvey, Georgia Farm Bureau Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy Abby Goldsmith, Goldsmith Resources Gloria Hardegree, Georgia Recycling Coalition Lauren Curry, Georgia Emergency Management Agency **Lonice Barrett** 

## **Staff Members**

Mark Williams Jud Turner **Homer Bryson Dave Crass Dan Forster Eddie Henderson Becky Kelley** Spud Woodward Steve Friedman **Kyle Pearson** Cathy Barnette **Taylor Brown Zachary Harris** Mary Walker **Doralyn Kirkland Russ Pennington Keith Bentley** Jac Capp Jeff Cown **John Bowers** Doug Haymans Mark Whitney Wally Woods Audra Dickson Jennifer Welte John Martin John Biagi

Michael Chadwell

The May 20, 2014 meeting of the Land Acquisition Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated the first item for the Committee's consideration would be the approval for the Lee family to donate up to 1± acre of real property for the Lee Road access easement to the State in exchange for conveying 0.7± acres of real property from and unused section of the Lee Road access easement to the Lee family at the Sheffield Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Mr. Friedman stated the Department currently uses Lee Road, which crosses the Lee family land and Jones Company land, to access the WMA. He further stated the culvert on Lee Road needs to be replaced. He added the proposal is to construct a new road and bridge on the Lee's property next to the existing road, and then remove the original road and restore it.

Mr. Friedman stated there will be no cost to the Department. He further stated the removal of the culvert will aid fish passage along Pegamore Creek.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Leebern, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the Lee family to donate up to 1± acres of real property for the Lee Road access easement to the State in exchange for the State conveying 0.7± acres of real property from an unused section of the Lee Road access easement to the Lee family, Sheffield Wildlife Management Area, Paulding County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next item for consideration would be the approval to amend the restrictive easement with the United States of America (Department of the Navy) over 4,162 $\pm$  acres, Altamaha River-Townsend Wildlife Management Area.

Mr. Friedman stated the restrictive easement needs to be amended to improve management of the tract and allow for a larger show/check station. He further stated the Department is requesting a larger show/check station with open covered storage, work bays and concrete parking pads. He added that in exchange for this larger footprint, the Department is giving up the primitive campground, which is not needed since there are plenty of other camping opportunities available on the WMA.

Mr. Friedman stated the Navy has approved the restrictive easement amendment.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Davis and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek

State Properties Commission approval for an Amendment to Restrictive Easement with the United States of America (Department of the Navy) over 4,162± acres, Altamaha River-Townsend Wildlife Management Area, Fort Barrington Tract, McIntosh County, as presented.

Mr. Freidman stated the next item would be the acquisition (donation) of a permanent access easement of  $2.4\pm$  acres, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Elrod Access Easement, Paulding County.

Mr. Friedman stated in December 2013, the Department purchased the Ironstob Stage I Tract of the Paulding Forest WMA. He further stated Department personnel are in need of access points to the western portion of the WMA to manage the property. He added the adjacent property owner, Samuel L. Elrod, agreed to allow the Department access to the Paulding Forest WMA across 2.4± acres by a perpetual access easement.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (donate) a permanent access easement of 2.4± acres, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Elrod Access Easement, Paulding County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next item for consideration would be the approval to enter into a tenyear Intergovernmental Agreement between Walker County and the Department for management of  $1\pm$  acres at Crockford-Pigeon WMA.

Mr. Friedman stated the Crockford-Pigeon Wildlife Management Area contains a  $1\pm$  acres area known as the Spring Barn. He further stated Walker County maintains numerous buildings around the Spring Barn such as Mountain Cover Restaurant and Mountain Cove Store. He added Walker County and the Department have agreed on an IGA which would grant the County use of the barn to provide public access, storage, and allow the County to restore, repair and maintain the Spring Barn.

Mr. Friedman stated there would be no cost to the Department and the IGA would be beneficial to the public.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

Mr. Bagwell encouraged all Board members to visit this property.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a ten-year Intergovernmental Agreement between Walker County and the Department for management of 1± acres, Crockford-Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area, Spring Barn Area, Walker County, as presented.

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Mr. Friedman stated he would be presenting Items E, F, and G together as they were all part of the Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project. He further stated that all purchases would be funded by DNR Bond 123.

Mr. Friedman stated the first item would be the acquisition (purchase) of 0.61± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 816 Pine Street, Houston County. He further stated the purchase price was \$42,000. He added the property contained a small house which would be removed.

Mr. Freidman stated the next item would be the acquisition (purchase) of 0.72± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 771 Walnut Street, Houston County. He further stated the purchase price was \$40,000. He added the property contained a small house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated the final item would be the acquisition (purchase) of 0.67± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 10111 Hawkinsville Road (D), Houston County. He further stated the purchase price was \$29,000. He added the property contained a small house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated the he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the items as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt: the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.61± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 816 Pine Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.72± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 771 Walnut Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.67± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 10111 Hawkinsville Road (D), Houston County, as presented.