

**Minutes**  
**Board of Natural Resources Meeting**  
Jekyll Island Convention Center  
Oceanside Rooms 1/2/3  
75 North Beachview Drive  
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

**January 27, 2017**

**Attending:**

Board Members

William Bagwell, Chairman  
Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Addison  
Dwight Davis  
Dwight Evans  
Duncan Johnson, Jr.  
Bill Jones  
Ray Lambert, Jr.  
Rob Leebern  
Mark Mobley  
Paul Shailendra  
Miki Thomaston  
Philip Watt  
Philip Wilheit  
Dee Yancey

Guests

Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power  
Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble  
Mark Berry, Georgia Power  
Joe Slaughter, Georgia Power  
Mindy Egan, Initiative to Protect Jekyll Island  
David Kyler, Center for a Sustainable Coast

Staff Members

Mark Williams  
Walter Rabon  
Kyle Pearson  
Melanie Johnson  
Wes Robinson  
Cathy Barnette  
Dave Crass  
Steve Friedman  
Rusty Garrison  
Eddie Henderson  
Spud Woodward  
Richard Dunn  
Lauren Curry  
Jac Capp  
Jeff Cown  
Chuck Mueller  
Karl Burgess  
Skye Stockel  
Stephen Adams  
Jeff Weaver

The January 27, 2017 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Board Chairman William Bagwell.

Chairman Bagwell called on Jones Hooks, Executive Director of the Jekyll Island Authority, to welcome the group.

Chairman Bagwell called the Committee meetings to order.

Upon adjournment of the Committee meetings, Chairman Bagwell called the full board meeting to order.

Chairman Bagwell called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Shailendra to approve the minutes of the December 2016 Board meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell called on Rick Dunn, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his report.

Director Dunn updated the Board on the Legislative Session and Budget changes.

Chairman Bagwell stated that in tab B of the Board package there is a Resolution honoring and expressing appreciation to the late Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. and requested a motion to adopt the Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Watt and seconded by Mr. Lambert to approve the resolution honoring the late Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell stated that the resolution would be presented to Mr. Knobloch's daughter, Eleanor Ratchford, at the Weekend for Wildlife reception that evening.

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

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on the 2017 Legislative Session; Coastal/Sportsmen's Day at the Capitol; Weekend for Wildlife; and new online bidding for the Silent Auction.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for his report.

Director Woodward gave an update on Hurricane Matthew recovery.

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

Colonel Henderson updated the Board on the Albany tornado response; a 2016-2017 Hunting Season wrap-up; Winter Storm Helena; and the swearing-in of new DNR Game Wardens.

Commissioner Williams called on Rusty Garrison, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for his report.

Director Garrison updated the Board on the tornado response; Weekend for Wildlife; Game Check; and the WRD Statewide meeting and Awards program.

Chairman Bagwell called on Ms. Addison for the Coastal Committee report.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Board appoint William Hodges to fill the vacancy of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee and Shore Protection Committee.

Chairman Bagwell called on Mr. Shailendra for the Land Committee report.

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Winder for the Department to obtain a buffer along Loganville Highway and the City to build a fire station, Fort Yargo State Park, Barrow County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to surplus up to 2± acres of real property, Former Law Enforcement Division and Wildlife Resources Division; Fisheries Office Space and Warehouse Property, Gordon County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to surplus 15± acres of real property, Worth County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.3± acres to Habersham EMC, Hardman Farm Historic Site, White County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 2± acres to Georgia Power Company at Watson Mill Bridge State Park in exchange for the

Georgia Power Company relinquishing an existing easement of 8± acres, Madison County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.25± acres to Georgia Power Company, Unicoi State Park, White County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Mr. Bagwell called on Mr. Wilheit for a report from the Nominating Committee for the 2017 Officers.

Mr. Wilheit thanked the committee members. He further stated that the slate for 2017 officers is Mr. Johnson, Chairman; Mr. McWhorter, Vice Chairman; and Mr. Sinyard, Secretary. He requested a motion to approve

A motion was made by Mr. Wilheit, seconded by Mr. Shailendra and carried unanimously to approve the following officers for 2017: Duncan Johnson, Jr., Chairman; Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman; Bodine Sinyard, Secretary.

Mr. Bagwell thanked the Board secretary and fellow members of the Board.

Mr. Bagwell passed the gavel to the new Board Chairman, Duncan Johnson.

Chairman Johnson presented Mr. Bagwell with a gift and thanked him for his service.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Duncan Johnson, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

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Jeff Bodine Sinyard, Secretary