

**Minutes**

**Land Committee**

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

**April 26, 2017**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Paul Shailendra, Chairman  
William Bagwell  
Bill Jones  
Ray Lambert  
Rob Leebern  
Brother Stewart  
Philip Wilheit  
Duncan Johnson, Jr., Board Chairman, Ex-Officio

Board Members

Dwight Evans  
Aaron McWhorter  
Mark Mobley  
Mike Phelps  
Bodine Sinyard  
Miki Thomaston  
Philip Watt  
Dee Yancey

Guests

Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble  
Chris Manganiello, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power  
Bryan Tolar, GA Agribusiness Council  
Hunter Loggins, GA Agribusiness Council  
Harold Reheis, Joe Tanner & Associates  
Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner & Associates

Staff Members

Mark Williams  
Walter Rabon  
Terry West  
Kyle Pearson  
Melanie Johnson  
Cathy Barnette  
Amber Carter  
Dave Crass  
Steve Friedman  
Rusty Garrison  
Eddie Henderson  
Becky Kelley  
John Martin  
Artica Gaston  
John Bowers  
Jeff Weaver  
Thomas Barnard  
Antoinette Norfleet  
Richard Dunn  
Lauren Curry  
Jac Capp  
Sydney Brogden  
Karen Hays  
Beth Blalock  
Chuck Mueller  
Laura Williams  
Erin Ruoff  
Thom Litts  
John Biagi  
Lt. Wayne Hubbard  
Dr. Tina Johannsen  
Larry Blankenship  
Bert Langley  
Allison Asbrock  
Christopher Semerjian  
Rose West  
James McLaughlin  
Michael Odom

The April 26, 2017 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Duncan Johnson, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Johnson called on Paul Shailendra, Chairman of the Land Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated that the first four items will be presented together and one motion requested. He further stated that these are an addition to the Flat Tub WMA in Jeff Davis County. He added that the acquisitions will improve the management of the Wildlife Management Area, increase public outdoor opportunities, and protect habitat for species of concern. He added that the first tract is from Martha Rentz and is 254± acres.

Mr. Friedman stated that the second item is 85± acres from Lorie Ann Wright. He further stated that the third item is 85± acres from Michael and Tammy Davenport. He added that the fourth item is 85± from Brian Hulett.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase the 254± acres of real property, Flat Tub Wildlife Management Area, Rentz, Davenport, and Tumbleston Tract, Jeff Davis County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase the 85± acres of real property, Flat Tub Wildlife Management Area, Wright Tract, Jeff Davis County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase the 85± acres of real property, Flat Tub Wildlife Management Area, Davenport Tract, Jeff Davis County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase the 85± acres of real property, Flat Tub Wildlife Management Area, Hulett Tract, Jeff Davis County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item E is the proposed purchase of 43.68± acres in Paulding County from Hubble Timber, LLC, in addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area. He further stated that this tract will add recreational value and help with management by moving the boundary to the road.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Leebern, 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 to purchase the 43.68± acres of real property, Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Hubble Timber, LLC Tract, Paulding County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item F is the proposed purchase of 2.373± acres, Cathead Creek Boat Ramp in McIntosh County. He further stated that there is a real shortage of public boating access on the coast. He added that there is a dilapidated boat ramp on the property that will need to be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated 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 purchase the 2.373± acres of real property, Cathead Creek Boat Ramp, Southeastern Bank Tract, McIntosh County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item G is the proposed acquisition of the 376.15± acres, Possum Point Tract in McIntosh County. He further stated that his will become part of the Altamaha Wildlife Management Area. He added that this acquisition will eliminate an inholding in the Wildlife Management Area, increase recreational opportunities, improve management, and permanently protect wetland habitat.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase the 376.15± acres of real property, Altamaha Wildlife Management Area, Possum Point Tract, McIntosh County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item H is the acquisition via Executive Order of the Hooks-Hanner Environmental Resources Center from the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission. He further stated that this is a 25± acre tract with an office building on it that is in good condition. He added that EPD will have custody of the property.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase the 25± acres of real property, Hooks-Hanner Environmental Resource Center, Terrell County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item I is seeking approval to enter into a 50 year lease with Georgia Power for the 40± acre Hickman Island, which will become a part of the Big Lazer Wildlife Management Area. He further stated that the island will be available for primitive camping to canoers traveling down the Flint River.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, 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 to enter into a 50 year lease agreement with Georgia Power, 40± acres of real property, Big Lazer Wildlife Management Area, Upson County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item J is seeking approval to grant Habersham EMC a Revocable License and Permanent Easement over .22± acres in White County. He further stated that this is at Unicoi State Park in White County and this line will provide power to the new well house and will support public overnight lodging. He added that this easement area is designated a Heritage Preserve, but the use is allowable under the designation.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilheit, seconded by Mr. Bagwell and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend 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 0.22± acres to Habersham EMC, Unicoi State Park, White County, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.