Minutes
Board of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

June 28, 2017

Attending:

Board Members
Duncan Johnson, Jr., Chairman
Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman
Bodine Sinyard, Secretary
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Bill Jones
Ray Lambert
Rob Leebern
Mike Phelps
Matt Sawhill
Paul Shailendra
Brother Stewart
Miki Thomaston
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit
Dee Yancey

Staff Members
Mark Williams
Walter Rabon
Terry West
Kyle Pearson
Melanie Johnson
Wes Robinson
Cathy Barnette
Amber Carter
Artica Gaston
Shellby Johnson
Dave Crass
Steve Friedman
Rusty Garrison
Col. Eddie Henderson
Becky Kelley
Spud Woodward
Bowers, John
Maj. Thomas Barnard
Eric Bentley
Sgt. Eric Brown
Brittany Calhoun
RFC Quinn Fogle
RFC Patrick Gibbs
Richie Golden
James Hamilton
Thom Litts
Cpl. Adam Loudermilk
John Martin
Sgt. Jason Roberson
Nylerta Wallace
Lt. Col. Jeff Weaver
Richard Dunn
Jac Capp
Jeff Cown
Karen Hays
Chuck Mueller
Donald Kirkland

Guests
Harold Reheis, Joe Tanner and Associates
Andrew Schook, The Conservation Fund
Chris Manganiello, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition
Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Tommy Tucker, Georgia Power
Hunter Loggins, Georgia Agribusiness
Thomas Farmer, The Nature Conservancy
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Kimberly Anderson, Robbins Firm
Mike Worley, Georgia Wildlife Federation
Alex Bradford, Georgia Farm Bureau
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Laura Williams
Sydney Brogden
Dika Kuoh
Sarah Visser

The June 28, 2017 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Board Chairman Duncan Johnson.

Chairman Johnson called on William Bagwell to give the invocation.

Chairman Johnson stated that there would be an NGMA meeting following the Board Meeting. Chairman Johnson further stated that there would be a Weekend for Wildlife meeting following the NGMA meeting. Chairman Johnson added that the Historic Preservation Committee briefing by Allison Asbrock, listed under Item A, would be moved to the August Board meeting.

Chairman Johnson called on Colonel Henderson to introduce the Public Focus speaker.

Colonel Henderson introduced Mr. Justin Smallwood.

Chairman Johnson thanked Mr. Smallwood.

Chairman Johnson adjourned the Board Meeting to move into Committee meetings.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting of the Board of Natural Resources to order.

Chairman Johnson called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Shailendra to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2017 Board meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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

Director Dunn updated the Board on the drought; the water metering program investment and new staff; the OPB ZBB analysis; the Watershed Branch performance review audit; the new MPDS permits for coal powered plants; the Stream Buffer Study Committee; the new fiscal year; and introduced Sarah Visser.

Chairman Johnson called on Mark Williams, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, for his report.
Commissioner Williams called on Terry West, Director of Administrative Services, to present an action item on the Proposed Amendments to the Recreational Trails Grant Program, Chapter 391-5-13-.03.

Mr. West stated that the proposed amendments are updating the Recreational Trails Grant Program. He further stated that he came before the Board in May to update the Land and Water Conservation Fund and intended to update both together, but the Recreational Trails Grant Program was under an audit from the Federal Highway System. He added that he requested favorable consideration of the proposed amendments.

A motion was made by Mr. McWhorter, seconded by Mr. Sinyard and carried unanimously that the Board approve the proposed amendments to the Recreational Trails Grant Program, Chapter 391-5-13-.03, as presented. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Johnson stated that under Tab B of the Board package there is a Resolution honoring and expressing appreciation to Corporal Adam Loudermilk and requested a motion to adopt the Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Sinyard to approve the resolution honoring Corporal Adam Loudermilk. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Johnson read the resolution and thanked Corporal Loudermilk for his work.

Chairman Johnson stated that under Tab B of the Board package there is a Resolution honoring and expressing appreciation to Sergeant Jason Roberson and requested a motion to adopt the Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Sinyard to approve the resolution honoring Sergeant Jason Roberson. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Johnson read the resolution and thanked Sergeant Roberson for his heroic actions.

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

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on the new website; a magazine article highlighting Director Kelley; the Majority Caucus trip to Jekyll Island; recognized RFC Patrick Gibbs as the recipient of the Torch Award; recognized RFC Quinn Fogle as the recipient of the Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl Award; the Game Warden graduation; and the license restructuring initiative.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for his report.
Mr. Woodward gave an update on the federal fishery management of red snapper and cobia; proposed tripletail regulation changes in Florida; and continuing efforts regarding Hurricane Matthew damage to docks and marinas.

Commissioner Williams called on Dr. David Crass, Director of the Historic Preservation Division, for his report.

Director Crass updated the Board on the Sapelo Leadership Academy session; Ossabaw Island Public Archaeology Day; Historic Preservation Recovery Plan; and the Savannah Technical College Historic Preservation Program.

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

Colonel Henderson updated the Board on the Game Warden Academy Graduation; the LED License Plate; current hiring; the Summer 2017 Safety Tour; the SPLASH campaign; and the National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs.

Commissioner Williams called on Becky Kelley, Director of the Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites Division, for her report.

Director Kelley updated the Board on the FY17 closeout report, outlook for the week of the Fourth of July; highlight of capital projects; Friends’ new Georgia’s Great Places magazine; and staff training and employee development program.

Director Kelley called on Nyleta Wallace to give a presentation on training programs.

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

Director Garrison updated the Board on Kids Fishing Events; the WRD website; and the HB 208 changes.

Chairman Bagwell called on Mr. Lambert for the Environmental Protection Committee report.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Shailendra and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to Particulate Emissions from Cotton Gins. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Evans, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to Cross-State Air Pollution Rule. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)
A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Wilheit, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to Miscellaneous Changes and Updates. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Johnson called on Mr. McWhorter for the Wildlife Resources Committee report.

A motion was made by Mr. McWhorter, seconded by Mr. Shailendra, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, Rules for Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-4-3, and General Regulations, Chapter 391-4-9. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Johnson 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 purchase the 12,003+ acres of real property, Sansavilla Wildlife Management Area, Glynn and Wayne Counties. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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 and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.05+ acres to Diverse Power, Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park, Harris County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Duncan N. Johnson, Jr., Chairman

Jeff Bedine Sinyard, Secretary