

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

**May 23, 2018**

**Attendees:**

**Committee Members**

Aaron McWhorter, Chairman  
Bodine Sinyard, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Addison, Secretary  
William Bagwell  
Dwight Davis  
Dwight Evans  
Joe Hatfield  
Duncan Johnson  
Bill Jones  
Ray Lambert  
Rob Leebern  
Mark Mobley  
Mike Phelps  
Paul Shailendra  
Brother Stewart  
Miki Thomaston  
Philip Wilheit  
Dee Yancey

**Guests**

Mike Worley, GA Wildlife Federation  
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition  
Ryan Gesser, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition  
John Jolly, GEI Consultants, Inc.  
Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble  
Rosa Chi, Georgia Power  
Tim Earl, Georgia Power  
John Eberhart, GA Earth Alliance  
Jennett Gayer, Environment Georgia  
Alex Bradford, Georgia Farm Bureau  
Blake Raulerson, Georgia Farm Bureau  
Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation  
Todd Holbrook  
David Waller

**Staff Members**

Mark Williams, Commissioner  
Terry West  
Walter Rabon  
Kyle Pearson  
Wes Robinson  
Melanie Johnson  
Cathy Barnette  
Amber Carter  
Artica Gaston  
Matt Smith  
Dave Crass  
Steve Friedman  
Doug Haymans  
Eddie Henderson  
Becky Kelley  
Jeff Weaver  
Thomas Barnard  
Kevin Dyer  
Adam Loudermilk  
Doyte Chaffin  
Matt Thomas  
John Bowers  
  
Richard Dunn, Director  
Lauren Curry  
Jac Capp  
Jeff Cown  
Karen Hays  
Chuck Mueller  
Laura Williams  
Sydney Brogden  
Dika Kuoh  
Jim Cooley  
Jason Metzger  
Sarah Visser

The May 23, 2018 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Aaron McWhorter.

Chairman McWhorter called on the Public Focus speaker, Mr. Leonard Ledbetter, Former Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

Chairman McWhorter thanked Mr. Ledbetter.

Chairman McWhorter adjourned the Board meeting to go into Committee meetings.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Lambert, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt a Resolution honoring Corporal Kevin Dyer.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Lambert, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt a Resolution honoring Corporal Adam Loudermilk.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mrs. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Minutes from the April 25, 2018 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman McWhorter called on Rick Dunn, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for a division update.

Director Dunn updated the Board on: the EPA designation of 7 counties as nonattainment of the 2015 Ozone Standard and pointed out the progress Georgia has made, open burning restrictions that began May 1 and HB 885; the Florida v. Georgia Supreme Court litigation, and the April 26<sup>th</sup> EPA Region 4 meeting.

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

Commissioner Williams called on Kyle Pearson, Executive Counsel.

Mr. Pearson presented an action item on the sale of General Obligation Bonds pursuant to the FY2018-2019 General Appropriations Act, including Department of Natural Resources Projects and Lake Lanier Islands Development Authority Projects.

A motion was made by Mrs. Addison, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Sale of General Obligation Bonds pursuant to the FY2018-2019 General Appropriations Act for Department of Natural Resources Projects.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Ms. Thomaston, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Sale of General Obligation Bonds pursuant to the FY2018-2019 General Appropriations Act for Lake Lanier Islands Development Authority Projects.

Commissioner Williams thanked Mr. Pearson.

Commissioner Williams thanked Taylor and Stephanie Allen for donating a coffee table to be used in the lobby of the Commissioner's Office.

Commissioner Williams discussed the Helen to Hardman Trail opening and the ribbon-cutting of the new visitor center at Gordonia Alatomaha State Park.

Commissioner Williams shared the news of the birth of his two grandchildren with the Board.

Commissioner Williams called on Doug Haymans, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for his report.

Director Haymans provided a review of the federal shrimp season to the Board.

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

Director Crass discussed a three-day seminar HPD co-sponsored with the National Preservation Institute on conflict management.

Director Crass mentioned that HPD is working closely with Parks and LED on a Cherokee Homecoming at New Echota in July.

Director Crass discussed plans to put the DNR Leadership Academy on a long-term sustainable basis. He stated that his goal was to have the plan implemented by early fall.

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

Colonel Henderson provided updates on LED's MCV exercise, Game Warden hiring status, and the Guns n' Hoses program.

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

Director Kelley briefed the Board on PRHSD's Manager in Training Program.

Director Kelley showcased Memorial Day and summer activities highlights at Georgia's State Parks.

Director Kelley mentioned the Gordonia Alatomaha grand opening, the Chattahoochee Bend cottage grand opening, and the Sweetwater Creek Fishing Rodeo & Angler Gateway project.

Commissioner Williams called on Matt Thomas, Chief of Fisheries Management, to provide an update for the Wildlife Resources Division.

Mr. Thomas provided an update on the 2018 turkey season wrap up.

Mr. Thomas discussed the Keep Georgia Wild Family Event.

Mr. Thomas provided an update on fish stocking throughout the state.

Chairman McWhorter called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee.

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 NAA NSR Rule Removal. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

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 Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, Pertaining to Permit Fees. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Bagwell and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Petroleum Pipeline Eminent Domain Permit Procedures, Chapter 391-3-23. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4. (Proposed Amendments attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Chairman McWhorter called on Dee Yancey, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Board accept the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, Pertaining to Migratory Bird Regulations.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Board accept the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations for WMAs and Other State Lands, Chapter 391-4-2-.70.

Chairman McWhorter called on Dwight Davis, Chairman of the Land Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Mobley, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval of the Acquisition (purchase) of 7,100± acres of real property, Chattahoochee Fall Line Wildlife Management Area, Hilliard Tract via the Nature Conservancy, Marion County.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Evans, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval of the Acquisition (purchase) of 10± acres of real property, Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area, Henderson Tract, Dawson County.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Aaron McWhorter, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Nancy A. Addison, Secretary