

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

Tuesday, February 21, 2023
9:00 a.m.

Board Members

Dwight Davis, Chair
Joe Hatfield, Vice Chair
Gary Vowell, Secretary
Nancy Addison
Randy Dellinger
Patrick Denney
Charles DePriest
Dan Garcia
Kevin Jackson
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Tim Lowe
Paul Shailendra
Bodine Sinyard
Miki Thomaston
Dee Yancey

Guests

Anna Edmondson, Robbins Firm
Rena Peck, Georgia River Network
Kim Scott, Georgia Women's Action for New Directions
Mark Woodall, Sierra Club

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Kate Iannuzzi
Cathy Barnette
Artica Gaston
Thomas Barnard
Angie Johnson
Steve Friedman
Ted Will
Doug Haymans
Lacey Creech
Aubrey Pawlikowski
Melissa Cummings
Sara Califf
Rick Lavender

Richard Dunn, Director
John Eunice
Karen Hays
Chuck Mueller
Anna Truszczynski
Laura Williams

The February 21, 2023 Board of Natural Resources meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwight Davis.

Chairman Davis stated that each month the Board will hear from an employee with the Department of Natural Resources or the Environmental Protection Division, and this portion of the meeting will be known as Employee Spotlight.

Chairman Davis introduced Angie Johnson, Assistant Director of the State Parks and Historic Sites Division, as the Employee Spotlight speaker.

Chairman Davis thanked Assistant Director Johnson.

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

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

Chairman Davis called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Natural Resources meeting on January 21, 2023.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the minutes of the Board of Natural Resources meeting on January 27, 2023.

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

Director Dunn updated the Board on the draft Twin Pines Mining Land Use Plan, on public comment, and the legislative session.

Director Dunn stated this concluded his report.

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

Commissioner Williams began his report by thanking the board and staff for making the Weekend for Wildlife the best one yet. He stated that the event raised \$2,405,000 and thanked Lyndy Saporow, Lacey Creech, and the team at the Wildlife Resources Division for an incredible weekend. He recognized Aubrey Pawlikowski, Melissa Cummings, Sara Califf, and Rick Lavender and thanked them for their work to make the event a success.

Commissioner Williams invited everyone to a “Night for Wildlife” concert on April 27, at the Buckhead Theater, with Chris Janson and the Tuten Brothers, and stated that tickets will be on sale next week.

Commissioner Williams provided a legislative update, including the approval of the GOSA slate of projects by both Appropriations sub-committees, and stated the projects will now move into the second phase.

Commissioner Williams and Chairman Dwight Davis presented faithful service awards to Cathy Barnette, Taylor Brown Fisher, Artica Gaston, and Walter Rabon.

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

Colonel Barnard provided an update on the Atlanta Public Safety Training Complex Detail, Training, Deer Dog Permits, Operation Crossing the Line, Critical Incident Reconstruction Team (CIRT) Training, and Law Enforcement Appreciation Day at the Capitol.

Colonel Barnard stated this concluded his report.

Commissioner Williams called on Angie Johnson, Assistant Director of the State Parks and Historic Sites Division, in the absence of Director Jeff Cown, for her report.

Assistant Director Johnson provided an update on the Explore Georgia Travel Guide, Keeping Georgia Wild Day at the Capitol, Super Museum Sunday, Weekend for Wildlife, Atlanta Camping and RV Show, Firefly Training, New Crooked River Amenities, and Magnolia Springs Aquatic Vegetation.

Assistant Director Johnson stated this concluded her report.

Commissioner Williams called on Ted Will, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for his report.

Director Will provided an update on the North Atlantic Right Whale success, Mobile Fishing Trailers donated by Bass Pro Shops, and Prescribed Fires across the State.

Director Will stated this concluded his report.

Commissioner Williams stated this concluded his report.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance, Chapter 391-3-20. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Lambert stated that Mr. Hatfield would recuse himself from voting on Item B.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Thomaston, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6-.17. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Lambert stated this concluded his report.

Chairman Davis called on Tim Lowe, Chair of the Land Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Shailendra, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the Granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Telesystem at Little Ocmulgee State Park, Telfair County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the Granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Power at Wormsloe Historic Site, Chatham County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Lowe stated this concluded his report.

Chairman Davis stated the next board meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, in the DNR Boardroom.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Dwight J. Davis, Chairman

ATTEST:

Gary Vowell, Secretary