

## **Minutes**

### **Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund Board of Trustees**

Meeting held via video conferencing

**April 13, 2021**

#### **Attendees:**

##### **Board Members**

Mark Williams, Chairman  
Braye Boardman  
Eddie Canon  
Jeff Cown  
Richard Dunn  
Doug Haymans  
Timothy Lowrimore  
Russell McMurry  
Aaron McWhorter  
Carl Riggs  
Ted Will

##### **Staff**

Walter Rabon  
Taylor Brown  
Deja Horton-Adams  
Soheila Naji  
Rob Stokes

##### **Guests**

Steve Friedman, GA DNR  
Jason Lee, GA DNR, Wildlife Resources Division  
Mike O'Reilly, The Nature Conservancy  
Mike Wharton, Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

Chairman Williams called for a motion to approve the minutes for the January 12, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Boardman, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Minutes for the January 12, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting.

Chairman Williams gave opening remarks.

Chairman Williams called on Mike Wharton, Sustainability Officer, for the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County to present their GOSP funded project.

Mr. Wharton presented the Restore Our River project.

Chairman Williams called on Mr. Jason Lee, Program Manager, Wildlife Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, to present the Division's GOSP funded projects.

Mr. Lee presented the Cabin Bluff Acquisition and Ceylon Acquisitions phases 1 and 2 projects.

Chairman Williams called on Rob Stokes, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Coordinator, to present the program report.

Mr. Stokes presented his report and overview of the 2019-2020 funding cycle update, and the 2020-2021 GOSP Second Level Application progress.

Mr. Stokes proposed action items to approve the 2021-2022 Pre-application Evaluation Criteria and Funding Cycle Dates.

Chairman Williams called for questions.

Mr. Boardman asked how the funds are disbursed to grantees.

Mr. Stokes stated that the Department receives and reviews the reimbursement requests, then sends them to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for processing and disbursement. He also explained that there is no minimum request amount and grantees may submit their requests as frequently as possible.

Mr. Boardman asked a question regarding the match percentage for Wormsloe Historic Site.

Mr. Stokes stated that there is no requirement for state projects to provide match.

Chairman Williams called for a motion to approve the Department's updated 2021-2022 Pre-application Evaluation Criteria.

A motion was made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Canon, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Department's updated 2021-2022 Pre-application Evaluation Criteria.

Chairman Williams called for a motion to approve the Department’s proposed 2021-2022 funding cycle dates.

A motion was made by Mr. Boardman, seconded by Mr. McWhorter, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Department’s proposed 2021-2022 funding cycle dates.

Chairman Williams called for questions or comments.

Chairman Williams gave closing comments and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.