Minutes
Board of Natural Resources
DNR Boardroom
2 MLK Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252, East Tower

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Board Members
Patrick Denney, Chair
Randy Dellinger, Vice Chair
Dan Garcia, Secretary
Nancy Addison
Jeff Andrews
Charles DePriest
Joe Hatfield
Mark Hennessy
Steve Hufstetler
Duncan Johnson (via conference call)
Bill Jones
Ray Lambert
Mike Peavy
Lesley Reynolds
Bodine Sinyard (via conference call)
Harley Yancey

Staff Members
Walter Rabon, Commissioner
Thomas Barnard
Trevor Santos
Taylor Fisher
Kyle Pearson
Kate Iannuzzi
Haley Chafin
Jeff Cown
Anna Truszcynski
Katie Bloomfield
Sarah Visser
Derek Jackson
Trina Morris
Doug Haymans
Jill Andrews
Brent Womack
Savannah Moreland
Brett Albanese
Jan McKinnon
Rachel Guy
Soheila Naji
Ouicia Jolly
Casey Jones
Ellen Graham
Matthew Bramblett
Jennifer Welte

Guests
Bryan Tolar, Tolar Capitol Partners
Lyndy Rogers, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation
William Parkman, One Hundred Miles
Alice Keyes, One Hundred Miles
Kathleen Bowen, Impact Public Affairs
Brian Foster, Georgia Conservancy
Lucy Crosswell, One Hundred Miles
Courtney Reich
Zachary Hennessy, Southern Environmental Law Center
Esther Stokes, Birds Georgia
Carolyn Rader, Center for a Sustainable Coast
Ayesha Abid, GIPL

The October 27, 2026, meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Patrick Denney, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

State Representative Chas Cannon delivered a moment of inspiration.

A motion was made by Chairman Denney, seconded by Mr. Andrews, and carried unanimously to approve the Resolution Honoring Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve (SINERR) 50th Year Anniversary.

Dr. Rachel Guy accepted the Resolution on behalf of SINERR and gave a brief presentation detailing SINERR's work and its important contributions.

Chairman Denney adjourned the Board meeting o move into the Committee meetings.

Chairman Denney called the October 27, 2026, meeting of the Board of Natural Resources back to order.

Chairman Denney called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Natural Resources meeting on September 22, 2026.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hatfield and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Natural Resources meeting on September 22, 2026.

Director Cown provided an update on statewide drought conditions, noting that Georgia remains under Level 1 drought response due to continued precipitation deficits, low streamflows, and declining reservoir levels. He also highlighted a recent Rivers Alive cleanup that removed 485 pounds of trash from the South River, recognized Clean Water Week, and provided an update on the State Water Council's ongoing regional water planning efforts.

Director Cown concluded his report.

Chairman Denney called on Walter Rabon, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, for his report.

Commissioner Rabon called on Chris Harper, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for his division report.

Commissioner Rabon called on Ms. Ouicia Jolly, Recreational Trails Program Coordinator, who presented proposed amendments to Rule 391-5-13-.03 governing the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

Ms. Jolly explained that the amendments would expand applicant eligibility to include state-recognized tribal governments and certain nonprofit organizations, establish annual application opportunities for motorized trail and trail education projects, and provide greater flexibility in application deadlines. The amendments would also update federal registration requirements by replacing the DUNS number with the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). She noted that existing funding allocations, matching requirements, and program oversight processes would remain unchanged.

Ms. Jolly concluded by requesting the Board's approval of the proposed amendments.

A motion was made by Ms. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the proposed amendment Rule 391-5-13-.03 Recreational Trails Program.

Commissioner Rabon began his report by remembering Sergeant Ben Cunningham, a 27-year DNR veteran who passed away on September 24 following a medical episode while on duty. He recognized Sergeant Cunningham's dedicated service to the Department and asked the Board to join him in a moment of silence in his honor.

Commissioner Rabon announced that applications were open for the 2027 DNR Career Academy, scheduled for July 18–24, 2027. The program will provide 24 high school students with hands-on experiences exploring careers within the Department. He also noted that the 2026 DNR Leadership Academy would conclude with graduation at Unicoi State Park and Lodge on November 17.

Commissioner Rabon reported that the 2026–2027 Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program received 34 pre-applications requesting approximately $99 million in funding. He highlighted the program's FY2026 accomplishments, which included $24.6 million awarded to conservation projects across 20 counties. He also announced the first two grants awarded through the Vince Dooley Battlefield Trust Fund, totaling $945,000 to the American Battlefield Trust, which, along with matching funds, will support the preservation of more than 300 acres at Resaca Battlefield.

Commissioner Rabon highlighted the recently announced agreement to acquire and permanently protect more than 14,000 acres in Bartow and Cherokee counties formerly associated with Pine Log Wildlife Management Area. He thanked the Neal family, state and local leaders, and conservation partners for their efforts in making the acquisition possible. The property will reopen as the Neal Family Pine Log Wildlife Management Area, providing opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking, and other outdoor recreation, with reopening anticipated in spring 2027.

Commissioner Rabon congratulated graduates of the Georgia Park Ranger Academy and recognized the success of the annual Park Managers Conference held October 5–7 on Jekyll Island. He thanked Board members who attended the conference and highlighted the State Parks Division's participation in the Georgia National Fair, where Governor Brian Kemp and Agriculture Commissioner Tyler Harper participated in firing a Revolutionary War-era cannon in recognition of America's 250th anniversary.

Commissioner Rabon recognized Sergeant Jason Shikes of Region 6 as the 2026 Law Enforcement Division Supervisor of the Year and Game Warden First Class II Evan Nobles of Region 4 as the recipient of the 2026 National Wild Turkey Federation Award.

Commissioner Rabon concluded by announcing that sponsorships for the 2027 Weekend for Wildlife had exceeded $1.5 million. He thanked Lyndy Rogers and Department staff for their continued efforts in preparing for the event.

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

Director Haymans introduced Jan McKinnon, a 27-year DNR veteran, as the new Chief of the Coastal Management Section following Jill Andrews' promotion to Assistant Director. He also provided preliminary results from the recreational red snapper season, which ran October 9–22 under an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP). Approximately 462 red snapper were reported harvested, well below the authorized limit of 4,859 fish. Director Haymans noted that, pending verification of harvest data and discussions with NOAA Fisheries, additional fishing days may be requested for December.

Commissioner Rabon called on Brett Albanese, Assistant Chief of the Wildlife Conservation Section, for the report from the Wildlife Resources Division.

Mr. Albanese provided an update on Wildlife Resources Division activities. He highlighted recent boating safety training for WRD employees and reported that the 2026 alligator hunting season concluded with 533 alligators harvested by 1,130 selected hunters. He also discussed an ongoing trout stocking study in the Chattahoochee River below Morgan Falls Dam to evaluate trout survival, movement, and harvest rates.

Mr. Albanese announced the opening of the 6,000-acre Upatoi Ravines Natural Area, which will offer quota deer hunting opportunities in November. He noted that improvements to the property include 40 miles of access roads and restoration of approximately 1,000 acres of hardwood forest, supported in part by the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program.

Commissioner Rabon concluded his report.

Chairman Denney called on Mark Hennessy for a report of the Land Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the acquisition (purchase) of 1,064± acres from the Conservation Fund, 2nd Phase of the Charlton County Project, Charlton County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to request approval via Executive Order to demolish the Unicoi State Park Squirrels Nest Camping Area in White County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 1.77± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Pineland Telephone Cooperative and Excelsior Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) at George L. Smith State Park, Emanuel County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 2.607± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) at Echeconnee Creek WMA, Bibb County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.12± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Power Company at Fort Yargo State Park for Victor Lord Park, Barrow County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.4242± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Washington Electrical Membership Corporation (EMC) at Balls Ferry Park, Wilkinson County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Hennessy, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to amend the IGA to allow a sublease to Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the staging of construction materials on the Premises for the removal of an old dock and installation of a new bulkhead in McIntosh County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Denney announced the final item of business was the appointment of the Nominating Committee for the 2027 Officers of the Board of Natural Resources. He stated he appointed Nancy Addison, Duncan Johnson, and Bodine Sinyard to serve on the committee and Ray Lambert to chair the committee. He further stated the committee would report to the full board at the December board meeting.

Chairman Denney announced that the next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, December 1, 2026, at Lake Blackshear Resort.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Patrick Denney, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Dan Garcia, Secretary

Minutes
Coastal Committee
DNR Boardroom
2 MLK Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252, East Tower

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members
Nancy Addison, Chair
Harley Yancey, Vice Chair
Randy Dellinger
Charles DePriest
Joe Hatfield
Mark Hennessy
Bill Jones
Ray Lambert
Mike Peavy
Patrick Denney, Board Chair, Ex-Officio

Board Members
Jeff Andrews
Dan Garcia
Steve Hufstetler
Duncan Johnson (via conference call)
Bodine Sinyard (via conference call)
Lesley Reynolds

The October 27, 2026, meeting of the Coastal Committee was called to order by Patrick Denney, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Denney called on Nancy Addison, Chairwoman of the Coastal Committee who called on Jill Andrews, Assistant Director of the Coastal Resources Division, to present the proposed amendments to the rules for private docks in state owned tidal waters, Chapter 391-2-1.

Ms. Andrews explained that the proposed rules formalize a process the Coastal Resources Division (CRD) has administered since 1996 for issuing revocable licenses for the use of state-owned tidal water bottoms for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and modification of private recreational docks. She stated that the rules also establish procedures for inspecting docks and enforcing the standards.

Ms. Andrews reviewed the modifications made by the Committee during its August meeting, including changes to the standards and conditions for new private docks related to dockable waterways and the addition of a 10 percent limit on variances for fixed walkways. She stated that the revised proposal was placed on public notice for more than 30 days.

Ms. Andrews reported that CRD received 342 relevant, timely, non-duplicative written comments. Of those, 338 opposed the proposed rules and four supported them. She explained that supportive comments generally addressed property owners' ability to access the water and noted that some commenters recognized potential ecological benefits of longer docks while emphasizing the importance of proper construction and inspections.

Ms. Andrews reviewed the primary concerns raised in opposition to the proposal. She stated that the most frequent concern involved the proposed increase in fixed walkway length from 1,000 to 1,500 feet. Other comments addressed the variance process and the need for more specific criteria, electrical permitting and inspection requirements, DNR's role in balancing public trust responsibilities with resource management, definitions related to maintenance, potential application fees, and the need for a comprehensive inventory of existing docks. Ms. Andrews noted that a summary of the comments and responses had been provided to the Board and that all comments were available online.

Ms. Andrews requested favorable consideration of the proposed amendments.

Chairwoman Addison opened public comment on the proposed amendments.

Mr. Michael O'Reilly, Director of Government Relations for The Nature Conservancy, expressed opposition to the proposed rules, citing concerns about the potential environmental impacts of longer docks on coastal marshes and wildlife and the lack of a comprehensive scientific assessment.

Mr. Craig Pendergrass, a real estate and environmental attorney, raised concerns regarding the lack of fees for the use of state-owned property and potential constitutional issues under Georgia's gratuities clause.

Ms. Lucy Crosswell, representing One Hundred Miles, raised concerns regarding the safety of longer docks, particularly related to emergency rescues, severe weather, and the use of golf carts on narrow walkways.

Ms. Courtney Reich, Coastal Director of the Georgia Conservancy, expressed opposition to the proposed amendments, citing potential impacts to coastal marshlands and wildlife and encouraging the Board to reinstate the 1,000-foot maximum walkway length.

Ms. Esther Stokes, representing Birds Georgia, expressed opposition to the proposed amendments, citing concerns about impacts to the natural beauty, ecological health, and wildlife habitat of Georgia's coastal marshes.

Ms. Alice Keyes, representing One Hundred Miles, expressed opposition to the proposed amendments and raised concerns regarding the development of the 1,500-foot walkway provision, the lack of scientific review, and potential impacts to public trust resources.

Mr. Zachary Hennessy, staff attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center, expressed opposition to the proposed amendments, citing environmental impacts, public trust responsibilities, and legal concerns regarding the use of state-owned property without compensation.

Ms. Carolyn Rader, representing the Center for Sustainable Coast, expressed opposition to the proposed amendments and encouraged the Board to rely on scientific information and prioritize the protection of Georgia's coastal marshlands.

Chairwoman Addison thanked the public speakers for their comments and acknowledged the time and effort they had taken to participate in the process.

Following public comment, Chairwoman Addison opened discussion among Committee and Board members.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously, to limit the fixed walkway to 1,000 feet in length with a 10% variance.

During discussion, Mr. Jones explained that the proposed amendment would retain the other provisions of the proposed rules while limiting the fixed walkway length to 1,000 feet. He noted that the revised limit would continue to provide water access, including for individuals with mobility impairments.

Chairwoman Addison stated that the amended proposal would be presented to the full Board at its next meeting.

Mr. Jones offered additional comments regarding implementation of the proposed rules. He expressed support for establishing fees for dock permits and stated that legislative authority may be necessary to allow the Department to collect fees for the use of state-owned property. He encouraged the Department to work with the General Assembly to pursue that authority.

Mr. Jones also discussed electrical permitting and inspections, stating that the Department should seek legislative authority to require proof of compliance with applicable electrical permitting requirements before issuing dock licenses.

Mr. Jones further encouraged CRD to begin developing a comprehensive inventory of existing docks, including information on the number of docks, associated costs, and other relevant baseline data. He stated that such an inventory would help the Department better understand its inspection and enforcement needs.

Mr. Jones discussed the potential for coordination with counties to support dock inspections and safety oversight. He noted that permit fees could help fund shared resources and provide a more comprehensive approach benefiting dock owners, local governments, and public safety.

There being no further business, the Coastal Committee meeting was adjourned.

Minutes
Environmental Protection Committee
DNR Boardroom
2 MLK Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252, East Tower

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members
Ray Lambert, Chair
Duncan Johnson, Vice Chair (via conference call)
Nancy Addison
Jeff Andrews
Dan Garcia
Steve Hufstetler
Bill Jones
Lesley Reynolds
Bodine Sinyard (via conference call)
Patrick Denney, Board Chair, Ex-Officio

Board Members
Randy Dellinger
Charles DePriest
Joe Hatfield
Mark Hennessy
Mike Peavy
Harley Yancey

The October 27, 2026, meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was called to order by Chairman Patrick Denney.

Chairman Denney called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, who called on Veronica Craw, Chief of the Watershed Protection Branch.

Ms. Craw presented a briefing on proposed amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5. She explained that the amendments update Georgia's rules to remain consistent with revisions to federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations regarding Consumer Confidence Reports. She added these reports provide customers with information about the quality of their drinking water, including any contaminants detected and potential health effects.

Ms. Craw stated that the federal revisions are intended to make reports more understandable and accessible, enhance information about lead in drinking water, encourage electronic delivery, and require community water systems serving more than 10,000 customers to distribute reports twice annually. The federal revisions will take effect with reports due in 2027.

Ms. Craw explained that the proposed amendments revise three rules to align with the federal requirements. She stated that changes include updating definitions, reporting requirements, and compliance dates; incorporating additional federal provisions; and revising terminology throughout the rules.

Ms. Craw stated that EPD held a public meeting on September 10, 2026, and accepted comments through September 18. One public comment was received seeking clarification about implementation of the proposed revisions. The comment did not object to the amendments and did not result in any changes to the proposed rules.

Ms. Craw outlined the anticipated rulemaking timeline, stating that the proposed amendments were being presented to the Board as a briefing. EPD plans to place the proposed changes on public notice in November, hold a public hearing in December, and bring the amendments back to the Board for adoption in February 2027.

Mr. Hennessy asked about the terminology "Consumer Confidence Report." Ms. Craw explained that the proposed amendments align the state's regulations and terminology with federal standards. Mr. Hennessy asked whether the term was federally mandated, and Ms. Craw confirmed that Georgia's terminology is consistent with the federal regulations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes
Land Committee
DNR Boardroom
2 MLK Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252, East Tower

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members
Mark Hennessy, Chair
Nancy Addison
Jeff Andrews
Randy Dellinger
Dan Garcia
Joe Hatfield
Steve Hufstetler
Duncan Johnson (via conference call)
Lesley Reynolds
Harley Yancey
Patrick Denney, Board Chair, Ex-Officio

Board Members
Charles DePriest
Bill Jones
Ray Lambert
Mike Peavy
Bodine Sinyard (via conference call)

The October 27, 2026, meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Patrick Denney, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Denney called on Mark Hennessy, Chair of the Land Committee, who then called on Brent Womack, Chief of Real Estate, to present the items.

Mr. Womack presented Item A, a request for approval of the purchase of 1,064 acres in Charlton County, representing the second phase of a 3,964-acre conservation project. The property is located along Trail Ridge near the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge and will protect critical habitat adjacent to the Okefenokee Swamp while providing additional outdoor recreational opportunities.

Mr. Womack stated that, upon acquisition, the property will be managed as part of the Alapaha Trail Wildlife Management Area, along with an additional adjacent conservation tract totaling 3,833 acres that is anticipated to be sold to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in the future. The Department will manage the property to provide public hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

The $3,019,684 acquisition will be funded through the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program, Georgia Department of Transportation funds and Wildlife Restoration Funds. Mr. Womack thanked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Georgia Department of Transportation and Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for their partnership. He further stated that a deed restriction prohibiting future mining or mineral extraction activities will be placed on the property at the time of conveyance. Following Board approval, the Department intends to present the project to the State Properties Commission, with closing anticipated in March 2027.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the acquisition (purchase) of 1,064± acres from the Conservation Fund, 2nd Phase of the Charlton County Project, Charlton County.

Mr. Womack presented Item B, a request for approval, by executive order, to demolish the Squirrels Nest Camping Area at Unicoi State Park in White County. He stated that the 50-plus-year-old camping area was constructed in the 1960s and 1970s as part of an experimental recreation theme and consists of elevated, covered camping platforms and an associated bathhouse.

Mr. Womack explained that the platforms are supported by telephone poles that have structurally deteriorated. Following an inspection, the structures were recommended for closure due to safety concerns. The Department will comply with O.C.G.A. § 12-3-55(e) by documenting the historic characteristics of the structures prior to demolition. Due to the historical significance of the property, demolition requires an executive order signed by the Governor.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to request approval via Executive Order to demolish the Unicoi State Park Squirrels Nest Camping Area in White County.

Mr. Womack presented Item C, a request for approval of a revocable license agreement and permanent easement of up to 1.77 acres at George L. Smith State Park in Emanuel County to Pineland Telephone Cooperative and Excelsior EMC. The agreement and easement are needed to relocate and maintain fiber optic and electrical distribution facilities due to the Georgia Department of Transportation's replacement of a bridge on Highway 26 that provides access to the park.

Mr. Womack stated that the area is designated as Heritage Preserve; however, a change of use is not necessary because the facilities will serve the park and its recreational features. Department staff reviewed the proposal and had no objections. The revocable license agreement requires approval by the State Properties Commission, and the permanent easement requires approval by the General Assembly. Because the improvements will benefit the Department, the agreements are recommended at no cost.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrews, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 1.77± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Pineland Telephone Cooperative and Excelsior Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) at George L. Smith State Park, Emanuel County.

Mr. Womack presented Item D, a request for approval of a revocable license agreement and permanent easement of up to 2.6 acres at Echeconnee Creek Wildlife Management Area in Bibb County to the Georgia Department of Transportation. The agreement and easement are needed to replace structurally deficient bridges along State Road 247, affecting parcels 5 and 6 of the Wildlife Management Area.

Mr. Womack stated that Department staff reviewed the proposal and had no objections. The area is not designated as Heritage Preserve; therefore, a change of use is not necessary. The revocable license agreement requires approval by the State Properties Commission, and the permanent easement requires approval by the General Assembly. Because the bridge replacement does not directly benefit the Department, the Department recommends that the State Properties Commission determine the appropriate cost.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrews, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License

Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 2.607± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) at Echeconnee Creek WMA, Bibb County.

Mr. Womack presented Item E, a request for approval of a revocable license agreement and permanent easement of 0.12 acres at Victor Lord Park within Fort Yargo State Park in Barrow County to Georgia Power. The agreement and easement are needed to relocate underground primary electrical service and install a transformer to serve a new splash pad at the park, which is located on state-owned land leased to Barrow County.

Mr. Womack stated that Department staff reviewed the proposal and had no objections. Although the area is designated as Heritage Preserve, a change of use is not necessary because public recreation is an allowable use. The revocable license agreement requires approval by the State Properties Commission, and the permanent easement may be granted by the General Assembly. Because the improvements will benefit the Department, the agreements are recommended at no cost.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Hufstetler, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.12± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Power Company at Fort Yargo State Park for Victor Lord Park, Barrow County.

Mr. Womack presented Item F, a request for approval of a revocable license agreement and permanent easement of approximately 0.42 acres at Balls Ferry Park in Wilkinson County to Washington EMC. The agreement and easement are needed to construct new infrastructure and upgrade existing electrical services for a host site and future campground located along Highway 57.

Mr. Womack stated that Department staff reviewed the proposal and had no objections. The area is not designated as Heritage Preserve; therefore, a change of use is not necessary. The revocable license agreement requires approval by the State Properties Commission, and the permanent easement requires approval by the General Assembly. Because the improvements will benefit the Department, the agreements are recommended at no cost.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Hufstetler, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.4242± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Washington Electrical Membership Corporation (EMC) at Balls Ferry Park, Wilkinson County.

Mr. Womack presented Item G, a request for approval to amend the intergovernmental agreement with McIntosh County to allow a sublease to the Georgia Department of Transportation for staging construction materials at Cathead Creek in McIntosh County.

Mr. Womack stated that the Department and McIntosh County entered into an intergovernmental agreement in 2018 concerning public access to waterways. The County now seeks to enter into a short-term lease with the Georgia Department of Transportation to facilitate replacement of the Darien River Bridge on U.S. Highway 17. The staging area will allow GDOT to remove an existing dock and install a new bulkhead along a portion of the property adjacent to Cathead Creek.

Mr. Womack stated that Department staff reviewed the proposal and had no objections. The proposed improvements will benefit the State by protecting the property from erosion and are necessary before the County can proceed with additional improvements under the original agreement. The amendment requires approval by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly. Because the construction will benefit the Department, the amendment is recommended at no cost.

Mr. Womack requested favorable consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Hufstetler, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to amend the IGA to allow a sublease to Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the staging of construction materials on the Premises for the removal of an old dock and installation of a new bulkhead in McIntosh County.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.