

Minutes
Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund Board of Trustees

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

January 7, 2020

Attendees

Board Members

Mark Williams, Chairman
Braye Boardman
Eddie Canon
Jeff Cown
Richard Dunn
Rusty Garrison
Doug Haymans
Russell McMurry
Aaron McWhorter
Carl Riggs
Chuck Williams

Staff

Walter Rabon
Cathy Barnett
Taylor Brown
Amber Carter
Steve Friedman
Artica Gatson
Josh Hildebrandt
Rob Stokes

Guests

Kathleen Bowen, ACCG
Lena Carstan, Atlanta Beltline
Wilton DeLoach, Dover Bluff Club
Leah Dixon, Georgia Conservancy
Kimberly Estep, South Fork Conservancy
Stacy Funderburke, The Conservation Fund
Angelia Johnson, Forsyth County
Jill Johnson, Atlanta Beltline
Clay Montague, Satilla Riverkeeper
Michael O'Reilly, The Nature Conservancy
Buford Sanders, Georgia Forestry Commission
Sally Sears, South Fork Conservancy
Shane Wellendorf, Tall Timbers Research Station

Chairman Mark Williams called the meeting to order.

Chairman Williams called for a motion to approve the minutes for the October 8, 2019 Board of Trustees Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. McWhorter, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Minutes for the October 8, 2019 Board of Trustees Meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Williams gave remarks.

Chairman Williams called on Rob Stokes, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) Coordinator for a report and overview of the 2019-2020 GOSP Pre-application cycle results.

Chairman Williams called for questions.

Mr. Russell McMurry asked when will projects be authorized to begin, and if denied, will they have to reapply. Mr. Stokes responded, stating that Grantees may begin after agreements are signed, slated for summer or 2020, and that Applicants would have to reapply if not selected.

Mr. Aaron McWhorter asked which group is responsible for oversight and inspection of projects. Mr. Stokes replied that it was his team, and Ms. Taylor Brown, DNR Grants Unit Chief explained that inspections are conducted pre-award, post-award, and as needed.

Chairman Williams asked for further questions, and there being none, he called for comments from the attendees.

Shane Wellendorf from Tall Timbers Research Station spoke on the Birdsong Nature Conservation Easement project.

Jill Johnson from the Atlanta Beltline spoke on the Trees Atlanta, Westside Beltline project.

Kimberly Estep from the South Fork Conservancy spoke on the Confluence Nature Trail Network and Blueway project.

Chairman Williams then asked for further questions.

Mr. Chuck Williams inquired about the remaining proposal approval steps, to include what the process would be if the Board proposal was rejected. Mr. Walter Rabon answered by stating that the proposal shall be voted on as a slate by the Board of Natural Resources and

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Appropriations subcommittees and would need to come back to the Board of Trustees if rejected.

Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Stokes if any funding values on the proposal were different than what was originally requested. Mr. Stokes answered no.

Chairman Williams asked for further questions, and there being none, he entertained a motion to approve the Department's 2019-2020 Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Proposal of Approved Conservation Projects.

A motion was made by Mr. McMurry, seconded by Mr. Boardman, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Department's 2019-2020 Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Proposal of Approved Conservation Projects. (The Proposal is attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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