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

August 26, 2014

Attending:

Board Members
Philip Wilheit, Chairman
Ray Lambert, Vice Chairman
William Bagwell, Secretary
Nancy Addison
Dwight Davis, via telephone
Dwight Evans
Walter Hudson
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Bill Jones
Rob Leebern
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Dee Yancey

Staff Members
Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Dave Crass
Dan Forster
Becky Kelley
Spud Woodward
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Mary Kathryn Yearta
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Kyle Pearson
Zachary Harris
Mary Walker
Russ Pennington
Doraly Kirkland
Chris Hodge
John Bowers
John Biagi
Jeff Cowan
Jac Capp
Jeff Weaver
Mike Long
Terry West
Jim Laine
John Martin
Doug Haymans
Bill Donohue
Michael Chadwell
Stephanie Farmer
Kevin Lowery
Al Greer
Dominic Guadagnoli
Kelly Dudley
Jennifer Welte

Visitors
Doug Cloud, Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Lasetter LLP
Dan Grogran, Georgia Brownfield Association
Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Debra Elorich, State Properties Commission
Paul Melvin, GBA
Debbie Phillips, GIEC
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
David Word, JTA
Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy
Harriet Langford, Ray C. Anderson Foundation
Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeepers
Todd Hollbrook, Georgia Wildlife Federation
Jeffrey Harrey, Georgia Farm Bureau
Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia
Ben Stowers, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation
Holly Hill, Georgia Brownfield Association

The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Dee Yancey, who introduced Frank Barron to deliver an inspirational message.

Chairman Wilheit adjourned the Board meeting to begin the Committee meetings.
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The meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2014 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 2014 Board meeting.

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

Commissioner Williams recognized Ryan Holt and David Allen from the Wildlife Resources Division Public Affairs Team for winning two national awards from the Association for Conservation Information, Inc. He stated Mr. Holt won first place for graphic design for the 2014 Weekend for Wildlife logo and Mr. Allen won second place for online engagement using social media.

Commissioner Williams recognized RFC David Webb for being named the Wildlife Officer of the Year from the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association.

Commissioner Williams recognized the IT Department for winning the state wide “Top Innovation award” for the “Georgia Outdoor Map” application.

Commissioner Williams introduced Stephanie Farmer (Program Manager, HPD), Kevin Lowery (Wildlife Biologist, WRD), Al Greer (Conservation Sergeant, LED) and Dominic Guadagnoli (Biologist, CRD) who were in attendance for Field Manager’s Day. He stated select: managers are provided the opportunity to learn, grow and interact with agency management and attend the Board meeting.

Commissioner Williams stated the current Director of Human Resources, Jim Laine, would be retiring effective September 1, 2014. He recognized Mr. Laine and congratulated him on his career with the state of Georgia and his role as Human Resources Director for the Department. He also presented Mr. Laine with a flag flown over the capital in his honor and a paperweight.

Commissioner Williams introduced Mike Long, the new Director of Human Resources.

Commissioner Williams called on Zachary Harris, Deputy Executive Counsel, to present an action item.

Mr. Harris stated he would be presenting the proposed Resolution to approve the contract between the Pine Mountain Tourism Authority and the town of Pine Mountain, Georgia for a Hotel/Motel Tax Levy for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

Mr. Harris stated since 1990, the City of Pine Mountain, Georgia, the Pine Mountain Tourism Association, and the Ida Cason Calloway Foundation have agreed to levy and collect an excise tax on the furnishing of rooms, lodgings and accommodations at the public garden and resort known as Callaway Gardens. He further stated because the Callaway Foundation is a charitable trust, this agreement must be approved by the Board of Natural Resources in order for the parties to levy and collect this tax.
Mr. Harris stated he would request the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the contract between the Pine Mountain Tourism Association and the town of Pine Mountain, Georgia for a Hotel/Motel Tax Levy for this Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

Commissioner Williams called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his Division Update.

Mr. Turner updated the Board on greenhouse gas federal rulemaking, the court case involving buffer issues and the Wilbros Facility hearing.

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

Director Kelley updated the Board on Get Outdoors Day; the opening of Cabela’s which featured state parks in the décor; a survey conducted by the Friends of State Parks; “Your State Park Day” on September 27, 2014; and the Camp Lawton Discovery Center.

Discussion ensued on the level of sustainability of the PRHSD.

Commissioner Williams called on Lt. Col. Jeff Weaver to give an update on the Law Enforcement Division.

Lt. Col. Weaver updated the Board on Operation Dry Water; July 4th boating activity; Law Enforcement’s “Off the Pavement” Awards; an accident at Lake Blackshear; and the joint search and rescue training at Tallulah Gorge State Park.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, to give a Division update.

Director Woodward updated the Board on red snapper; the Finish Advisory panel meeting; and the 20th anniversary of CoastFest on October 4, 2014.

Commissioner Williams called on Dan Forster, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for a Division Update.

Director Forster updated the Board on the Di-Lane Plantation managers, who were recognized for quail preservation and landscape restoration; staff introductions for new WRD HQ positions; the Deer Management Plan; dove season and quota opportunities; the Volunteer Public Access grant award; alligator draw and hunting season; and the newly installed web cam at the Go Fish Center.

Commissioner Williams called on Dave Crass, Director of the Historic Preservation Division, to give a division update.
Director Crass updated the Board on the annual Downtown Conference; archaeology projects at Ossabaw Island; and developing structured partnerships with universities through historic preservation.

Commissioner Williams stated there being no further business, his report was concluded.

Chairman Wilheit called on Nancy Addison, Chairman of the Coastal Committee, for her report.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Coastal Incentive Grant Program, Chapter 391-2-5-.01 through 391-2-5-.18.

Chairman Wilheit called on Mark Mobley, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Mobley, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2-.40, 391-4-2-.43 through 391-4-2-.56, Waterfowl and Late Season Migratory Bird Regulations.

A motion was made by Mr. Mobley, seconded by Mr. Sinyard and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-4-3-.06, Size Limit Regulations.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board approve the FY 2015 Solid Waste Trust Fund Spend Plan.

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 the Rules for Hazardous Site Response, Chapter 391-3-19.

Chairman Wilheit called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee, for his report.

Mr. Bagwell stated Mr. Stewart would be abstaining from the vote of items A-P.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Phelps and carried unanimously that the Board adopt: the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.3+ acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 101 Shi Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.34+ acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 302 Melvin Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.27+ acres of real property, Robins Air Force
Base Buffer Project, 893 Oak Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.75± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 814 Pine Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.27± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 876 Oak Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.27± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 878 Oak Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.34± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 305 Melvin Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 1.01± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 205 Bargain Road, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.67± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 900 Southern Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 3.09± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 799 Walnut Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 1.99± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 100 Elbera Road, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.35± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 909 Southern Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.28± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 101 Cranford Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.7± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 1200 Southern Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.18± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 871 Oak Avenue, Houston County; and the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.28± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 818 Pine Street, Houston County.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 2.67± acres of real property, Panola Mountain State Park, Durpee Tract, Dekalb County.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to grant a revocable license and permanent easement up to 1± acres by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to Georgia Power Company for the purpose of constructing, operating, and maintaining underground distribution lines for new Camper Cabins at Fort Yargo State Park, Barrow County.
A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to request approval to demolish two (2) historic buildings located at Hard Labor Creek State Park, Morgan County.

Chairman Wilheit called on Kyle Pearson, Executive Counsel.

Mr. Pearson stated he would be presenting the proposed amendments to the Board’s by-laws. He further stated the proposed revisions add a Technology Committee and a Law Enforcement committee; delete several outdated committees; rename the Land Acquisition Committee; and add language about setting the Board’s regular meetings to make the By-Laws consistent with the existing practice of having the regular meetings set by the Board Chair.

Mr. Pearson stated he would request the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously that the Board approve the revisions of the Board By-Laws.

Mr. Wilheit stated the new Technology Committee would be chaired by Mr. Johnson and the vice-chairman would be Mr. Shailendra.

Mr. Wilheit stated the September Board meeting would be held at Amicalola State Park.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

__________________________
Philip A. Wilheit, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

William A. Bagwell, Jr., Secretary
Minutes
Coastal Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

August 26, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members
Nancy Addison, Chairman
Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman
Walter Hudson
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Bill Jones
Rob Leeborn
Mike Phelps
Dee Yancey
Philip Wilheit, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Staff Members
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Jud Turner
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Dan Forster
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Dwight Evans
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Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Debra Elorich, State Properties Commission
Paul Melvin, GBA
Debbie Phillips, GIEC
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
David Word, JTA
Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy
Harriet Langford, Ray C. Anderson Foundation
The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Coastal Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Nancy Addison, Chairman of the Coastal Committee, who called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, to present the proposed amendments to the Coastal Incentive Grant Program.

Director Woodward stated Georgia receives funds from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to fund the Georgia Coastal Management Program. He further stated the Georgia Coastal Management Program allocates a portion of its federal funding for Coastal Incentive Grants (CIG) to eligible county and municipal governments, regional commissions, state-affiliated research or educational institutions, or state agencies.

Director Woodward stated the CRD staff works with the Coastal Advisory Council to determine funding themes for the grant. He further stated the 2015-2016 funding themes are “Oceans and Wetlands,” “Sustainable Communities,” “Disaster Resiliency and Coastal Hazards,” and “Public Access and Land Conservation.”

Director Woodward stated anticipated available funding for Cycle 18 is estimated at $800,000. He further stated there are currently six carry-over projects for $300,000, which leaves $500,000 available for new projects.

Director Woodward stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Coastal Incentive Grant Program, Chapter 391-2-5-.01 through 391-2-5-.18, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
Minutes
Law Enforcement Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

August 26, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members
Philip Watt, Chairman
Duncan Johnson, Jr., Vice Chairman
Nancy Addison
William Bagwell
Walter Hudson
Rob Leebern
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Bodine Sinyard
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

Staff Members
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Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeepers
Todd Hollbrook, Georgia Wildlife Federation
Jeffrey Harrey, Georgia Farm Bureau
Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia
Ben Stowers, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation
Holly Hill, Georgia Brownfield Association

The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Philip Watt, Chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee.

Chairman Watt called on Sergeant Chris Hodge, who gave a briefing on the Region 7 Wally Leg Creek plane crash incident which occurred on March 24, 2014.

Chairman Watt informed the Board that the 1st Annual Law Enforcement “Off the Pavement” Awards were held the previous weekend. He further stated Corporal Greg Wade was named 2014 Ranger of the Year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
Minutes
Wildlife Resources Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

August 26, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members
Mark Mobley, Chairman
Dee Yancey, Vice Chairman
Nancy Addison
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Bill Jones
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members
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Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Debra Elorich, State Properties Commission
Paul Melvin, GBA
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Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
David Word, JTA
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Harriet Langford, Ray C. Anderson Foundation

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Jennifer Welte
The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Mark Mobley, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, who called on John Bowers, Chief of Game Management, to present the proposed amendments to the Waterfowl and Late Season Migratory Bird Regulations.

Mr. Bowers stated the Board was briefed on these proposals at the June meeting. He further stated the proposed amendments were based on the anticipated framework as proposed by the USFWS.

Mr. Bowers stated the USFWS framework concerning the canvasback bag limit was more restrictive than anticipated. He further stated the proposed rules were modified to reflect a bag limit reduction from two to one for canvasbacks.

Mr. Bowers stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Sinyard and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2-.40, 391-4-2-.43 through 391-4-2-.56, Waterfowl and Late Season Migratory Bird Regulations, as presented.

Chairman Mobley called on John Biagi, Chief of Fisheries Management, to present the proposed amendments to Size Limit Regulations.

Mr. Biagi stated the proposed changes will replace the current protective slot length limit for largemouth bass from Lake Oconee with a minimum length limit; modify the current minimum length limit for largemouth bass from the lower Ocmulgee River between Macon, Georgia (Spring Street Bridge Crossing) and its confluence with the Oconee River; and modify the current minimum length limit of shoal bass from the upper Flint River (upstream of Warwick Dam).

Mr. Biagi stated the proposed rules were presented to the Board at the June meeting. He further stated three public meetings were held in June with 52 people attending. He added 6,600 total
comments were received during the public notice period with 83% of the comments being in favor of the Lake Oconee proposals, 71% in favor of the Ocmulgee River proposals, and 79% in favor of the Flint River proposals.

Mr. Biagi stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

Mr. Mobley called on Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeepers, who signed up to speak on the proposed rules.

Mr. Rogers spoke in support of the proposed amendments.

A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-4-3-.06. Size Limit Regulations, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
Minutes
Environmental Protection Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

August 26, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members
Ray Lambert, Chairman
Walter Hudson, Vice Chairman
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis, via telephone
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Mike Phelps
Philip Wilheit, Jr., Board Chair, ex-officio

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Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeepers
Todd Hollbrook, Georgia Wildlife Federation
Minutes – Environmental Protection Committee
August 26, 2014
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Jeffrey Harrey, Georgia Farm Bureau
Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia
Ben Stowers, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation
Holly Hill, Georgia Brownfield Association

The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, who called on Jeff Cown, Chief of the Land Protection Branch, to give an overview of EPD’s Land Protection Branch.

Mr. Cown gave a presentation on the Land Protection Branch which included information on the Solid Waste Management Program, the Scrap Tire Management Program, Waste Reduction and Recycling, Surface Mining, the Underground Storage Tank Program, the Lead Based Paint and Asbestos Program, the Hazardous Waste Management Program, Hazardous Waste Corrective Action, Hazardous Sites Inventory, Voluntary Remediation and the Brownfield Redevelopment Program.

Chairman Lambert called on Mr. Cown to present the proposed FY2015 Solid Waste Trust Fund Spend Plan.

Mr. Cown stated the Solid Waste Trust Fund was established in 1990 and is funded by a $1.00 fee on each new tire sold by retail tire dealers. He further stated the fee was reauthorized in 2014 for five years.

Mr. Cown stated the FY2015 priorities are: to focus on scrape tire pile prevention and cleanup; initiate a program to reimburse local governments for scrap tire abatement projects; clean up abandoned landfills and respond to solid waste emergencies; and reduce solid waste and increase recovery of materials.

Mr. Cown stated EPD requests the Board’s approval to expend up to $2,922,232 from the Solid Waste Trust Fund during FY2015.

Mr. Cown stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Phelps and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed FY 2015 Solid Waste Trust Fund Spend Plan, as presented.

Mr. Lambert called on Mr. Cown to present the proposed amendments to the Rules for Hazardous Site Response.
Mr. Cown stated the Committee was briefed on this proposal in June. He stated during the public notice period two written comments were received from the Georgia Water Coalition and the Georgia Brownfield Association. He further stated EPD responded to both comments and stakeholder concerns were addressed to the extent possible during drafting of the proposed rules prior to issuance of the public notice. He added no further changes are recommended in response to comments received.

Mr. Cown stated a stakeholder meeting was held in March 2014. He further stated the Board was briefed on the proposed revisions in June and a public hearing was held in July.

Mr. Cown stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

Chairman Lambert stated two speakers had signed up to speak on this item.

Chairman Lambert called on Holly Hill, Georgia Brownfield Association, who spoke in support of the proposed rule.

Chairman Lambert called on Doug Cloud, Georgia Industry of Environmental Coalition, who spoke in support of the proposed rule.

A motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to Rules for Hazardous Site Response, Chapter 391-3-19, as presented.

Chairman Lambert called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, who stated the purpose of the next item was to ensure consistency between EPD’s rules and the 2014 amendments to the Flint River Drought Protection Act (SB 213) which passed the General Assembly during the 2014 legislative session.

Chairman Lambert called on Jac Capp, Chief of the Watershed Protection Branch, to brief the Committee on the proposed amendments to the Rules for the Flint River Drought Protection Act.

Mr. Capp stated the General Assembly passed SB 213, which amended the Flint River Drought Protection Act, during the 2014 session and it was signed into law by the Governor on April 16, 2014.

Mr. Capp stated the amended law amended the irrigation reduction auction provisions by giving the EPD Director more discretion whether to declare a severe drought to implement the auction; included new provisions for agriculture irrigation efficiency requirements; and included new provisions for protecting augmented flows.

Mr. Capp stated the Flint River Drought Protection Act becomes effective after the next regular session of the General Assembly unless a resolution is introduced to disapprove the rules and it passes
both of the houses. He further stated EPD held a public stakeholder meeting on July 24 in Albany. He added comments were received through July 31 and informed development of the proposed rule.

Mr. Capp identified the main revisions of the statute regarding the irrigation reduction auction provisions, irrigation efficiency requirements, and protection of augmented flows.

Mr. Capp stated the public notice period regarding these rules would begin on August 29, 2014. He further stated a public hearing would be held in September. He added EPD anticipated requesting the Board’s approval of these proposals at the December 2014 meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the changes to the irrigation reduction auction provisions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
Minutes
Land Acquisition Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

August 26, 2014

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Committee Members
William Bagwell, Chairman
Mike Phelps, Vice Chairman
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Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeepers
Todd Hollbrook, Georgia Wildlife Federation
Jeffrey Harrey, Georgia Farm Bureau
Allie Kelly, Georgia Conservancy
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia
Ben Stowers, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation
Holly Hill, Georgia Brownfield Association

The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Land Acquisition Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Land Acquisition Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated he would be presenting agenda items A-P together, as they were all part of the Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project. He further stated that all purchases would be funded by DNR Bond 123. He added all properties were located in Houston County.

Mr. Friedman stated Item A was the acquisition of 0.3± acres of real property at 101 Shi Street. He further stated purchase price was $26,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item B was the acquisition of 0.34± acres of real property at 302 Melvin Street. He further stated the purchase price was $7,900. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item C was the acquisition of 0.27± acres of real property at 893 Oak Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $23,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item D was the acquisition of 0.75± acres of real property at 814 Pine Street. He further stated the purchase price was $8,100. He added the property contained a small building which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item E was the acquisition of 0.27± acres of real property at 876 Oak Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $40,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item F was the acquisition of 0.27± acres of real property at 878 Oak Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $65,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.
Mr. Friedman stated Item G was the acquisition of 0.34± acres of real property at 305 Melvin Street. He further stated the purchase price was $33,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item H was the acquisition of 1.01± acres of real property at 205 Bargain Road. He further stated the purchase price was $78,000. He added the property contained a four unit mobile home park which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item I was the acquisition of 0.67± acres of real property at 900 Southern Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $33,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item J was the acquisition of 3.09± acres of real property at 799 Walnut Street. He further stated the purchase price was $160,000. He added the property contained an 18 unit mobile home park and a building which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item K was the acquisition of 1.99± acres of real property at 100 Elberta Road. He further stated the purchase price was $40,000. He added the lot was currently vacant but did contain a billboard.

Mr. Friedman stated Item L was the acquisition of 0.35± acres of real property at 909 Southern Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $5,100. He added the property contained a non-historic apartment building which was over 2,000 square feet and would require an Executive Order from the Governor to remove.

Mr. Friedman stated Item M was the acquisition of 0.28± acres of real property at 101 Cranford Street. He further stated the purchase price was $34,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item N was the acquisition of 0.7± acres of real property at 1200 Southern Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $29,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item O was the acquisition of 0.18± acres of real property at 871 Oak Avenue. He further stated the purchase price was $22,000. He added the property contained a house which would be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated Item P was the acquisition of 0.28± acres of real property at 818 Pine Street. He further stated the purchase price was $5,400. He added the property contained a concrete block building which would be removed.
Mr. Friedman responded to a question by Mr. Johnson concerning the revenue produced from the billboard located at 100 Elberta Road. Mr. Friedman stated the annual lease of the billboard expires in April.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the items as presented.

Mr. Bagwell stated Mr. Stewart would be abstaining from the Board vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Phelps and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt: the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.3± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 101 Shi Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.34± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 302 Melvin Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.27± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 893 Oak Avenue, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.75± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 814 Pine Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.27± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 876 Oak Avenue, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.34± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 305 Melvin Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 1.01± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 205 Bargain Road, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.67± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 900 Southern Avenue, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 3.09± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 799 Walnut Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 1.99± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 100 Elberta Road, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.35± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 909 Southern Avenue, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.28± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 101 Cranford Street, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval
to acquire (purchase) 0.7± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 1200 Southern Avenue, Houston County, as presented; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.18± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 871 Oak Avenue, Houston County, as presented; and the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.28± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 818 Pine Street, Houston County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next item for the Committee’s consideration would be the acquisition of 2.67± acres at Panola Mountain State Park, Dupree Tract, Dekalb County.

Mr. Friedman stated the Dupree Tract is located between Panola Mountain State Park and the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area public park owned by Dekalb County. He further stated the remains of an old county store are located on the property.

Mr. Friedman stated that conserving this property will provide an important connection and new historical interpretation opportunity.

Mr. Friedman stated the Conservation Fund will sell the Tract to the Department for $56,000. He further stated the funds will come from Park’s operating budget.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Watt and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 2.67± acres of real property, Panola Mountain State Park, Dupree Tract, Dekalb County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next item for the Committee’s consideration would be the granting of a revocable license and permanent easement up to 1± acre to Georgia Power Company.

Mr. Friedman stated Parks in currently constructing Camper Cabins at Fort Yargo State Park. He further stated a revocable license agreement (RLA) and permanent easement will be required for Georgia Power Company to provide electrical service to the newly constructed cabins. He added Georgia Power Company will install and maintain underground distribution lines for the cabins.

Mr. Friedman stated the Department recommends that the State Properties Commission grant a RLA to Georgia Power Company at no cost, since it is benefiting the Department and was requested by the Park’s Division.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.
A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Phelps and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to grant a Revocable License and Permanent Easement up to 1± acres by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to Georgia Power Company for the purpose of constructing, operating, and maintaining underground distribution lines for new Camper Cabins at Fort Yargo State Park, Barrow County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the final item for the Board’s consideration would be the approval to demolish two historic buildings located at Hard Labor Creek state Park in Morgan County.

Mr. Friedman state CCC Building #4 and CCC Camp Storage Building #1 are in a ruined state with very little salvageable material other than the foundations.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the items as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously that the Committee recommended that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to demolish two (2) historic buildings located at Hard Labor Creek State Park, Morgan County, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.