Minutes
Board of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30319

April 22, 2015

Attending:

Board Members
Ray Lambert, Chairman
William Bagwell, Vice Chairman
Aaron McWhorter, Secretary
Nancy Addison
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Bill Jones
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Paul Shailendra
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit

Staff Members
Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Walter Rabon
Dave Crass
Dan Forster
Eddie Henderson
Becky Kelley
Spud Woodward
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Mary Kathryn Yearta
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Zachary Harris
Trip Addison
Doralyn Kirkland
Keith Bentley
Doug Haymans
Terry West
Jac Capp

Visitors
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Johnathan Harding, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Bennett Weinstein, ARC
Ronny Just, Georgia Power
The April 22, 2015 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Ray Lambert.

Chairman Lambert introduced Brian Kemp, Georgia Secretary of State, who delivered a Moment of Inspiration.

Chairman Lambert called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2015 Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Wilheit and carried unanimously that the Board approve the March 2015 minutes.

Chairman Lambert called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his Director’s Report.

Director Turner updated the Board on EPD’s Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program, which is responsible for developing and recommending necessary IM Program Rule changes for proper effective operation, developing software specifications for emission testing equipment and handling any high-level issues not within the scope of the management contractor.

Discussion ensued concerning the emission testing fees.

Director Turner updated the Board on Fort Gillem and the Palmetto Pipeline. He called on Ronny Just with Georgia Power to further discuss.

Director Turner updated the Board on the Savannah River discharges.

Chairman Lambert called on Mark Williams, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, for his Report.

Commissioner Williams recognized Taylor Brown, Public Affairs Assistant, for her work during the legislative session.

Commissioner Williams stated DNR would be hosting a Rivers Alive Clean-Up Day in partnership with EPD and PRHSD at Sweetwater Creek State Park on May 1, 2015. He invited all to attend.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, who updated the Board on CRD’s partnership with the poultry industry who provide transport cages for artificial reef material; CRD’s collaboration with the Jekyll Island Authority for development of a beach management plan; and CRD’s role in review of the proposed oil/gas surveys in the Atlantic Ocean offshore Georgia.

Commissioner Williams called on Dr. Dave Crass, Director of the Historic Preservation Division, who updated the Board on HPD’s partnership with the Georgia Trust to examine ways to make HPD’s tax incentive program more transparent and user-friendly and Fort McPherson.
Commissioner Williams called on Colonel Eddie Henderson, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, who updated the Board on LED's newest ranger, K-9 Titan.

Commissioner Williams called on Dan Forster, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, who updated the Board on trout stocking; recent Northern long ear bat listing and other Endangered Species activities; Hunting Regulations and public input; and hunting recruitment, retention and reactivation partnership efforts.

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

Chairman Lambert called on Dwight Davis, Chairman of the Land Committee, for his report.

Mr. Davis stated a quorum was not present for the Land Committee meeting for March and therefore the three items on the Agenda for that meeting must be approved today by the Board. He further stated these three items were discussed in the April Land Committee meeting and were all approved.

Mr. Davis stated Mr. Stewart would be recusing himself from the vote of Items A-H.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Wilheit and carried unanimously that the Board adopt: the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.29± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 108 Cranford Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.55± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 401 Baker Road, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.44± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 111 Cranford Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.22± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 208 Baker Road; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.29± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 108 Shi Street, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.28± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 895 Oak Avenue, Houston County; the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.25± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 103 Cranford Street, Houston County; and the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Property Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.36± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 202 Ferguson Street, Houston County. (Resolutions attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a twenty-five (25) year Lease Agreement for the 665± acres of Bobby Brown State Park with the Corps of Engineers and to sublease the Park to Elbert County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)
A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a twenty-five (25) year Lease Agreement for 1.5± acres, Oconee River, Shady Field Boat Ramp, Laurens County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.3± acres by the State Properties Commission and the General Assembly to the Georgia Power Company to install and maintain underground power lines at Laura S. Walker State Park, Ware County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval for the disposition (conveyance) of up to 30± acres of real property to the Georgia Forestry Commission, Oconee Wildlife Management Area, Wooten Tract Barn Area, Greene County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Lambert stated the May Board meeting was being held in Macon, Georgia. He thanked Mr. Stewart for planning the event and hosting dinner at his house.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST: 

Ray Lambert, Chairman

Aaron McWhorter, Secretary