Minutes
Board of Natural Resources Meeting
Jekyll Island Convention Center
Oceanside Rooms 1/2/3
75 North Beachview Drive
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

January 27, 2017

Attending:

Board Members
William Bagwell, Chairman
Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman
Nancy Addison
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Bill Jones
Ray Lambert, Jr.
Rob Leebern
Mark Mobley
Paul Shailendra
Miki Thomaston
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit
Dee Yancey

Staff Members
Mark Williams
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Melanie Johnson
Wes Robinson
Cathy Barnette
Dave Crass
Steve Friedman
Rusty Garrison
Eddie Henderson
Spud Woodward
Richard Dunn
Lauren Curry
Jac Capp
Jeff Cown
Chuck Mueller
Karl Burgess
Skye Stockel
Stephen Adams
Jeff Weaver

Guests
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble
Mark Berry, Georgia Power
Joe Slaughter, Georgia Power
Mindy Egan, Initiative to Protect Jekyll Island
David Kyler, Center for a Sustainable Coast
The January 27, 2017 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Board Chairman William Bagwell.

Chairman Bagwell called on Jones Hooks, Executive Director of the Jekyll Island Authority, to welcome the group.

Chairman Bagwell called the Committee meetings to order.

Upon adjournment of the Committee meetings, Chairman Bagwell called the full board meeting to order.

Chairman Bagwell called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Shailendra to approve the minutes of the December 2016 Board meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell called on Rick Dunn, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his report.

Director Dunn updated the Board on the Legislative Session and Budget changes.

Chairman Bagwell stated that in tab B of the Board package there is a Resolution honoring and expressing appreciation to the late Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. and requested a motion to adopt the Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Watt and seconded by Mr. Lambert to approve the resolution honoring the late Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Bagwell stated that the resolution would be presented to Mr. Knobloch’s daughter, Eleanor Ratchford, at the Weekend for Wildlife reception that evening.

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

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on the 2017 Legislative Session; Coastal/Sportsmen’s Day at the Capitol; Weekend for Wildlife; and new online bidding for the Silent Auction.

Commissioner Williams called on Spud Woodward, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for his report.

Director Woodward gave an update on Hurricane Matthew recovery.

Commissioner Williams called on Colonel Eddie Henderson, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, for his report.
Colonel Henderson updated the Board on the Albany tornado response; a 2016-2017 Hunting Season wrap-up; Winter Storm Helena; and the swearing-in of new DNR Game Wardens.

Commissioner Williams called on Rusty Garrison, Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, for his report.

Director Garrison updated the Board on the tornado response; Weekend for Wildlife; Game Check; and the WRD Statewide meeting and Awards program.

Chairman Bagwell called on Ms. Addison for the Coastal Committee report.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Board appoint William Hodges to fill the vacancy of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee and Shore Protection Committee.

Chairman Bagwell called on Mr. Shailendra for the Land Committee report.

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Winder for the Department to obtain a buffer along Loganville Highway and the City to build a fire station, Fort Yargo State Park, Barrow County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Yancey and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to surplus up to 2± acres of real property, Former Law Enforcement Division and Wildlife Resources Division; Fisheries Office Space and Warehouse Property, Gordon County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to surplus 15± acres of real property, Worth County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.3± acres to Habersham EMC, Hardman Farm Historic Site, White County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Leebern and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 2± acres to Georgia Power Company at Watson Mill Bridge State Park in exchange for the
Georgia Power Company relinquishing an existing easement of 8± acres, Madison County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

A motion was made by Mr. Shailendra, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval and General Assembly approval to grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of 0.25± acres to Georgia Power Company, Unicoi State Park, White County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Mr. Bagwell called on Mr. Wilheit for a report from the Nominating Committee for the 2017 Officers.

Mr. Wilheit thanked the committee members. He further stated that the slate for 2017 officers is Mr. Johnson, Chairman; Mr. McWhorter, Vice Chairman; and Mr. Sinyard, Secretary. He requested a motion to approve

A motion was made by Mr. Wilheit, seconded by Mr. Shailendra and carried unanimously to approve the following officers for 2017: Duncan Johnson, Jr., Chairman; Aaron McWhorter, Vice Chairman; Bodine Sinyard, Secretary.

Mr. Bagwell thanked the Board secretary and fellow members of the Board.

Mr. Bagwell passed the gavel to the new Board Chairman, Duncan Johnson.

Chairman Johnson presented Mr. Bagwell with a gift and thanked him for his service.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.