

**Minutes
Land Committee
Conference Call**

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

March 24, 2020

Attendees:

Committee Members

Dwight Davis, Chair
Bodine Sinyard, Vice Chair
William Bagwell
Dwight Evans
Bill Jones
Rob Leebern
Tim Lowe
Billy New
Mike Phelps
Paul Shailendra
Nancy Addison, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Joe Hatfield
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Brother Stewart
Miki Thomaston
Dee Yancey

Guests

Ronny Just, GA Power
Bryan Tolar, GA Urban Ag Council
Leah Dixon, GA Conservancy

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Josh Hildebrandt
Cathy Barnette
Steve Friedman
Tina Johannsen
Richie Golden

Richard Dunn, Director
Lauren Curry
Karen Hays

The March 24, 2020 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Board Chair Nancy Addison.

Chair Addison called on Dwight Davis, Chairman of the Land Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated the first proposal, Item A, is requesting approval to enter into a twenty-five (25) year agreement to lease 2.21± acres from Houston County for the purpose of leasing the Knowles Landing Boat Ramp from the county.

Mr. Friedman stated the Knowles Landing Boat Ramp will be a new lease for the Department and will provide an important access point to the middle Ocmulgee River. There is no cost for the lease for the twenty-five (25) year term, and the County will provide general maintenance at no cost to the Department. There are no improvements needed to the boat ramp, as it is in good condition. The Department will install new signage.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Bagwell, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a lease agreement with Houston County to lease Knowles Landing Boat Ramp, 2.21± acres, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next proposal, Item B, is requesting approval to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) for the Arrowhead Seed Orchard, Ocmulgee WMA, Bleckley and Pulaski Counties.

Mr. Friedman stated the initial contract between DNR and GFC was executed in 1989 and expired in 2009; however, GFC has continued to operate the Arrowhead Seed Orchard. The proposal now is to enter into a fifty (50) year IGA with GFC of the 330± acres Arrowhead Seed Orchard inside the Ocmulgee WMA for the purpose of producing trees which is a critical component of forestry improvement in Georgia. The IGA is at no cost, however GFC will maintain and manage the property. The WMA is Heritage Preserve dedicated, however the IGA would not be a change of use.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Leebern, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Georgia Forestry Commission for the Arrowhead Seed Orchard, Ocmulgee WMA, Bleckley and Pulaski Counties, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the next item, Item C, is requesting the Disposition (surplus) of up to 2+ acres of the Okefenokee Heritage Education Center to Charlton County.

Mr. Friedman stated the Department has custody of the Okefenokee Heritage Education Center building and 2± acres in Charlton County. Currently, the County operates this building under an IGA which expires in 2028. He further stated the Department does not use the building, so the building and 2± acres will instead be conveyed to Charlton County.

Mr. Friedman stated since this will benefit the public, the Department will declare this property surplus to its needs and request the State Properties Commission, upon approval by the General Assembly, convey the property to Charlton County for the consideration of \$10 with a clause stating the property is to be used by Charlton County for public purpose use in perpetuity or revert to the State.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. New, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval of the Disposition (surplus) of up to 2+ acres of the Okefenokee Heritage Education Center to Charlton County, as presented.

Mr. Friedman stated the final item, Item D, is requesting approval of the Granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.35± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Power Company (GPC) at Chief Vann House Historic Site, Murray County.

Mr. Friedman stated the purpose of the new power line is to improve power reliability between GPC's Chatsworth and Gravitt Substations thereby enabling an automatic restoration scheme to restore customers and isolate trouble quicker. He further stated portions of Chief Vann House Historic Site are Heritage Preserve dedicated, but the tract this request will cross is not Heritage Preserve dedicated, therefore a change of use is not required.

Mr. Friedman stated the easement to GPC requires an RLA issued by the State Properties Commission and a PE to be granted by the General Assembly. As determined by the SPC, consideration for this easement will be fair market value.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Bagwell, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval of the Granting of a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.35± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to Georgia Power Company at Chief Vann House Historic Site, Murray County, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.