

Minutes

Land Committee

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

September 22, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Via Teleconference Call

Attendees:

Committee Members

Dwight Davis, Chair
William Bagwell
Patrick Denney
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

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Kate Iannuzzi
Josh Hildebrandt
Cathy Barnette
Amber Carter
Artica Gaston
Courtney Hall
Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Steve Friedman
Rusty Garrison
Doug Haymans

Richard Dunn, Director
Lauren Curry
Jac Capp
Karen Hays
Chuck Mueller
Laura Williams

The September 22, 2020 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Nancy Addison, Chair of the Board of Natural Resources.

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

Mr. Friedman stated the first item on the agenda is requesting approval to enter into a Supplemental Agreement No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Georgia Department of Transportation, a First Amendment to the Intragovernmental Agreement with Cobb County, and a Short-Term Agreement with PATH Foundation for the Silver Comet Trail Addition in Cobb County.

Mr. Friedman stated the Department is partnering with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Cobb County, and the PATH Foundation (PATH) to add an additional 2.32 miles to the Silver Comet Trail in Cobb County. He further stated the Silver Comet Trail is a multi-use trail that runs from Alabama to Cobb County that is used by millions of visitors annually. He added the original agreement between the Department and GDOT was signed in 1997, with Cobb County in 1998, and with PATH in 1999. He further added the Department will now be amending these agreements because 2.32 miles will be added to the Silver Comet Trail in Cobb County.

Mr. Friedman stated this will be a no cost agreement where PATH will construct the new addition and Cobb County will operate, maintain, and manage the trail. He further stated these agreements only require approval by the Board of Natural Resources. He added the project is expected to be finished by the end of 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Leebern, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commissioner approval to enter into a Supplemental Agreement No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Georgia Department of Transportation, a First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Cobb County, and a Short-Term Agreement with PATH Foundation for the Silver Comet Trail Addition in Cobb County.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item B is requesting approval to enter into a twenty-five (25) year agreement with Meriwether County to lease 1.656± acres. He further stated the Department will lease the Meriwether County Landing boat ramp located adjacent to the Flint River at no cost. He added the County will provide general maintenance at no cost to the Department. He further added the Department will remove the existing concrete boat ramp and replace it with a new concrete ramp. He stated parking will be regraded and transition to semi-pervious crushed stone, and ADA compliant spaces will be installed.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Phelps, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commissioner approval to enter into an agreement with Meriwether County to lease Meriwether County Landing, 1.656± acres.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item C is requesting approval of the Executive Transfer to acquire the Georgia Welcome Center Buildings in Screven and Sumter Counties. He further stated that in accordance with SB 474, passed in the 2020 session of the General Assembly, two Georgia Welcome Center Buildings in Screven and Sumter Counties are to be transferred from the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) to the Department. He added the property in Screven County contains a 2,800 square feet building, and the Sumter property contains a 3,150 square feet building. He further added the GDEcD will transfer funds to the Department for the management of these properties. He stated the Department will acquire custody of these properties through an Executive Order of the Governor and then manage and maintain them.

Mr. Jones asked what the Department will do with the buildings and Commissioner Williams stated the buildings will provide hospitality and promote Georgia's state parks.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Evans, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commissioner approval of the Executive Transfer to acquire the Georgia Welcome Center Buildings in Screven and Sumter Counties.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.