

**Minutes
Land Committee
Via Teleconference**

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Committee Members

Dwight Davis, Chair
Bodine Sinyard, Vice 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

Nick Ayers
Joe Hatfield
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Miki Thomaston
Gary Vowell
Dee Yancey

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Kate Iannuzzi
Josh Hildebrandt
Cathy Barnette
Amber Carter
Artica Gaston
Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Steve Friedman
Rusty Garrison
Doug Haymans
Taylor Brown
Robert Stokes
Antoinette Norfleet
Soheila Naji

Richard Dunn, Director

The January 26, 2021 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 of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated the first item on the agenda is a proposal to accept 1.35± acres from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) as an addition to Georgia Veterans State Park in Crisp County, and to convey to GDOT a revocable license and permanent easement of 5± acres along SR 30/US 280. He further stated the property is Heritage Preserve dedicated, however, in December 2017, the board approved the change of use for the road widening. He added that since the park was acquired with federal Land and Water Conservation Funds (LCWF), the value of any land lost needs to be replaced, equally. He further added the appraised value of the road easement is \$9,000 and the value of the land GDOT will convey to the park is also \$9,000, so the terms of LWCF will be met. He stated that since the road easement will benefit the department, the recommendation to the State Properties Commission is that it be granted at no cost.

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 Commission approval of the Conveyance (donation) of 1.35± acres of real property from Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), and conveying a revocable license and permanent easement of 5± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to GDOT at Georgia Veterans State Park in Crisp County. Approval to enter into an Intragovernmental Agreement with Dougherty County, Flint River Educational Park, Dougherty County.

Mr. Friedman stated the next proposal is a 50-year Intergovernmental Agreement with Dougherty County and will cover 14 parcels along the Flint River. He further stated these properties were bought under a program called River Care 2000, with a plan to enter into an IGA. However, for various reasons, the plan was delayed until now. He added the IGA will allow the county to operate and manage the parcels at no cost to the department for recreation, conservation, and historic uses. He further added that four to five years ago, the department received a call that someone had dumped a load of tires on one of the tracts and it needed to be cleaned up. He stated that under the IGA this would not happen again because the county would be responsible.

Mr. Davis asked if there were any questions or comments about this item. Mr. Sinyard stated this is an incredible piece of a large puzzle for Rails to Trails, and, when it is complete, there will be 22-miles of trail, which will be very good for rural Georgia.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Dougherty County, Flint River Educational Park, Dougherty County.

Mr. Friedman stated this concluded his report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.