

**Minutes
Land Committee
Jekyll Island Convention Center
75 Beachview Drive North
Jekyll Island, GA 31527**

**Wednesday, April 24, 2024
9:00 a.m.**

Committee Members

Paul Shailendra, Chair
Randy Dellinger, Vice Chair
Nancy Addison
Patrick Denney
Charles DePriest
Dan Garcia
Mark Hennessy
Penn Hodge
Brent Layton
Harley Yancey
Joe Hatfield, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Jeff Andrews
Bill Jones
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Lesley Reynolds
Bodine Sinyard

Guests

Bryan Tolar, Georgia Urban Ag Council
Mark M. Woodall, Sierra Club
Anna Edmondson, Robbins Government Relations
Alice Keyes, One Hundred Miles
Rena Peck, Georgia River Network

Staff Members

Walter Rabon, Commissioner
Thomas Barnard
Trevor Santos
Kyle Pearson
Taylor Brown
Cathy Barnette
Mike England
Steve Friedman
Brent Womack
Doug Haymans
Angie Johnson
Ted Will
Tina Johannsen
Jennifer Kline
Clint Peacock
Scott Robinson

Jeff Cown, Director
Katir Hegarty

The April 24, 2024 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Joe Hatfield, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Hatfield called on Mr. Paul Shailendra, Chair of the Land Committee. Mr. Shailendra called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated the first item for consideration, Item A, is requesting approval to purchase from Kathy Strickland, 81± acres as an addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, in Paulding County. He further stated that the department will acquire this Paulding Forest WMA edgeholding from Ms. Strickland along the Dugdown Mountain Corridor. He added this WMA is popular for hunting, fishing, hiking, bike riding, and studying nature. He further added that in addition, this tract will permanently protect habitat for the rare montane longleaf pine and improve management and access to the WMA.

Mr. Friedman stated the department will acquire the property with a federal USFWS Pittman-Robertson Grant (PR) and a donation from the Knobloch Family Foundation (KFF). He further stated that as a condition of receiving the grant and funding, an affidavit will be recorded against the tract stating it may not be disposed of in any manner or used for purposes inconsistent with the programs it was acquired for without the prior approval of the USFWS and KFF.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. DePriest, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase from Kathy Strickland, 81± acres as an addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Paulding County.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item B is requesting approval to purchase from Kathy Strickland and Claudia Morrison, 41± acres as an addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, in Paulding County. He further stated that the department will acquire this Paulding Forest WMA edgeholding from Ms. Strickland and Ms. Morrison along the Dugdown Mountain Corridor. He added this WMA is popular for hunting, fishing, hiking, bike riding, and studying nature. He further added that in addition, this tract will permanently protect habitat for the rare montane longleaf pine and improve management and access to the WMA.

Mr. Friedman stated the department will acquire the property with a federal USFWS Pittman-Robertson Grant (PR) and a donation from the Knobloch Family Foundation (KFF). He further stated that as a condition of receiving the grant and funding, an affidavit will be recorded

against the tract stating it may not be disposed of in any manner or used for purposes inconsistent with the programs it was acquired for without the prior approval of the USFWS and KFF.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. DePriest, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase from Kathy Strickland and Claudia Morrison, 41± acres as an addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, Paulding County.

Mr. Friedman stated that Item C is requesting approval to purchase from David Bert White, 82± acres as an addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, in Paulding County. He further stated that the department will acquire this Paulding Forest WMA edgeholding from Mr. White along the Dugdown Mountain Corridor. He added the WMA is popular for hunting, fishing, hiking, bike riding, and studying nature. He further added that in addition, this tract will permanently protect habitat for the rare montane longleaf pine and improve management and access to the WMA.

Mr. Friedman stated the department will acquire the property with a federal USFWS Pittman-Robertson Grant (PR) and a donation from the Knobloch Family Foundation (KFF). He further stated that as a condition of receiving the grant and funding, an affidavit will be recorded against the tract stating it may not be disposed of in any manner or used for purposes inconsistent with the programs it was acquired for without the prior approval of the USFWS and KFF.

A motion was made by Ms. Addison, seconded by Mr. DePriest, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to purchase from David Bert White, 82± acres as an addition to the Paulding Forest Wildlife Management Area, in Paulding County.

Mr. Friedman stated the final item, Item D, is requesting the granting of a Revocable License Agreement (RLA) and Permanent Easement (PE) of up to 3± acres by the State Properties Commission to Spectrum at Chattahoochee Bend State Park, Coweta County. He further stated that Spectrum has requested a RLA and PE to provide fiber optic to the park to improve communications. He added the cable will be primarily underground except for a small portion that will be placed on existing power poles. He further added this request requires that a RLA be

issued by the State Properties Commission (SPC) and a PE be granted by the General Assembly (GA).

Mr. Friedman stated that since the RLA and PE will benefit the department solely, the department recommends they be granted at no cost. He further stated this area is Heritage Preserve dedicated, but the request supports the reasons for the designation, therefore a change of use is not necessary.

A motion was made by Mr. DePriest, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval of the granting of a Revocable License Agreement (RLA) and Permanent Easement (PE) of up to 3± acres by the State Properties Commission to Spectrum at Chattahoochee Bend State Park, Coweta County.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.