

Minutes
Board of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

March 26, 2019

Attendees:

Board Members

Jeff Bodine Sinyard, Chair
Nancy Addison, Vice Chair
Dee Yancey, Secretary
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Joe Hatfield
Duncan N. Johnson, Jr.
Ray Lambert
Rob Leebern
Tim Lowe
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Mobley
Mike Phelps
Billy New
Brother Stewart
Miki Thomaston

Guests

Bryan Tolar, GA Urban Ag Council
Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble
Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner & Associates
Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin Newberry & Tribble
John Eberhart, GA Earth Alliance
Fletcher Sams, Altamaha Riverkeeper

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Terry West
Kyle Pearson
Wes Robinson
Melanie Johnson
Cathy Barnette
Amber Carter
Artica Gaston
Houston Webb
Col. Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Dave Crass
Steve Friedman
Rusty Garrison
Doug Haymans
John Bowers
Don McGowan
Tina Johanssen
Ted Will
Brad Bullard
Matt Thomas
Capt. Stan Elrod
Cpl. Brian Adams

Richard Dunn, Director
Lauren Curry
Jac Capp
Chuck Mueller
Laura Williams
Jim Cooley
Donald Kirkland
Dika Kuoh
Sarah Vesser
Sydney Brogden
Jennifer Welte

Chairman Sinyard recognized Ms. Emily Knobloch, Ms. Eleanor Knobloch Ratchford, and Ms. Carla Knobloch and invited them to the podium to receive the Board of Natural Resources Rock Howard Conservation Achievement Award, honoring their late husband and father, Mr. Carl W. Knobloch, Jr.

Ms. Emily Knobloch accepted the award and spoke to the Board about her late husband and his passion for the outdoors. She expressed her appreciation for the award and thanked the Department and Board members for their important work to conserve and protect Georgia's natural resources.

Chairman Sinyard presented a Resolution honoring Dr. Philip Watt.

Dr. Watt spoke to the Board and expressed his appreciation for the recognition.

Chairman Sinyard called the meeting of the Board of Natural Resources to order.

Chairman Sinyard called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Addison, to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2019 board meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof).

Chairman Sinyard called on Rick Dunn, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his update.

Director Dunn updated the Board on the South Fulton landfill fire and the Hazardous Waste and Solid Waste Trust Fund reauthorizations.

Director Dunn concluded his report.

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

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on the success of Weekend for Wildlife; plans for the 2020 Weekend for Wildlife; and Keep Georgia Wild Day at the Capitol in February, and he thanked Mr. Stewart for attending.

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on legislation in the General Assembly including the state's budget, GOSA, the oyster farming bill, an organ donor related bill, and an implied consent bill involving DUIs, HUIs, and BUIs.

Commissioner Williams recognized Cpl. Brian Adams for being awarded the NAWEOA Officer of the Year Award for 2018.

Chairman Sinyard and Commissioner Williams presented the NAWEOA Award to Cpl. Brian Adams.

Commissioner Williams called on Colonel Thomas Barnard, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, for his report.

Colonel Barnard updated the Board on the awards received by the DNR's Game Wardens; recent arrests and investigations by the division; the tornado response in west Georgia; a search and rescue

operation; boating and shooting incidents; Outdoor Dream; and opening weekend of turkey hunting season.

Commissioner Williams called on Jeff Cown, Director of the State Parks & Historic Sites Division, for his report.

Director Cown updated the Board on the 2019 Ranger Conference at Unicoi State Park; a swift water rescue at Sweetwater Creek State Park; and the 2018 Park Manager's Conference.

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

Director Garrison updated the Board on the state archery competition; improved fishery access; new boating access facility; the Go Fish Center; and thanked everyone who worked on the Weekend for Wildlife.

Commissioner Williams concluded his report.

Chairman Sinyard called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Bagwell, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Proposed Grant Criteria for the Award of Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants and Regional Water Plan Seed Grants Chapter 391-3-21, Grant Programs, as presented.

Chairman Sinyard called on Dwight Evans, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Proposed Amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, Pertaining to Federally-Regulated Migratory Birds, as presented.

Chairman Sinyard called on Dwight Davis, Chairman of the Land Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Mobley, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to enter into a lease agreement for ten (10) years for up to 0.015± acres of real property to Currahee Paging, Inc. at Black Rock Mountain State Park in Rabun County, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to Grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 1.32± acres by the State Properties Commission and General Assembly to the City of Gainesville, Lake Lanier Parcel, Hall County, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Evans, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to Grant a Revocable License Agreement and Permanent Easement of up to 0.16± Acres by the State

Properties Commission and General Assembly to GreyStone Power Corporation at Sweetwater Creek State Park, Douglas County, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval via Executive Order to demolish the Skidaway Island State Park Interpretive Center, Chatham County, as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jeff Bodine Sinyard, Chairman

ATTEST:

Delos H. Yancey, III, Secretary