

**Minutes**  
**Board of Natural Resources**  
A. W. Jones Heritage Center  
610 Beachview Drive  
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

**May 21, 2019**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Attendees:**

**Board Members**

Jeff "Bodine" Sinyard, Chair  
Nancy Addison, Vice Chair  
Dee Yancey, Secretary  
William Bagwell  
Dwight Davis  
Dwight Evans  
Joe Hatfield  
Duncan Johnson – Via Conference Call  
Bill Jones  
Ray Lambert – Via Conference Call  
Rob Leebern  
Tim Lowe  
Aaron McWhorter  
Mark Mobley  
Mike Phelps  
Billy New  
Paul Shailendra – Via Conference Call  
Miki Thomaston

**Guests**

Brant Lane – Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble  
Bryan Tolar – GA Urban Agriculture Council  
Spud Woodward  
Charles McMillan – Georgia Conservancy  
Zach Harris – HunterMaclean  
Jim Renner – Southern Ionics Minerals  
Megan Desrosiers – One Hundred Miles  
Thomas Farmer – The Nature Conservancy

**Staff Members**

Mark Williams, Commissioner  
Walter Rabon  
Kyle Pearson  
Wes Robinson  
Cathy Barnette  
Thomas Barnard  
Jeff Cown  
Dave Crass  
Steve Friedman  
Rusty Garrison  
Doug Haymans  
Taylor Brown  
Jill Andrews  
John Bowers  
Ted Will  
Karl Burgess  
Tyler Jones  
Beth Tascotti

Richard Dunn, Director

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

Chairman Sinyard recognized State Representative Don Hogan and Spud Woodward, former Director of the Coastal Resources Division, who were in attendance.

Chairman Sinyard introduced Mr. Woody Woodside, former President of the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, as the Public Focus speaker.

Mr. Woodside thanked Chairman Sinyard for inviting him to speak and expressed his gratitude to the DNR Board.

Chairman Sinyard called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2019 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the minutes of the April 23, 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 report.

Director Dunn updated the Board on the South Fulton landfill fire and the low RPB gas requirement for the Atlanta area.

A question was asked about the requirements of the South Fulton landfill fire order and the Director responded the Order of the Court required that the property owner cease accepting waste, the waste that is onsite must be removed and properly disposed of, and he has to put out the fire.

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

Commissioner Williams thanked Director Cown and Director Garrison for their work on organizing the visit to Sapelo Island.

Commissioner Williams called on Kyle Pearson, Executive Counsel, to present an action item.

Mr. Pearson stated this item relates to the sale of General Obligation Bonds pursuant to the FY2019-2020 General Appropriations Act. He further stated the projects that will be completed are \$4 million in replacement of vehicles and equipment, \$500,000 in facilities

maintenance for Parks and WRD, \$13 million for state-wide facility renovations, \$4 million in renovations for NGMA facilities, and \$6 million for renovations of facilities for Lake Lanier Island Authority.

Mr. Pearson stated that he would request the Board approve the items as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the resolution approving the sale of General Obligations Bonds to fund Department of Natural Resources projects, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Leebern, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the resolution approving the sale of General Obligations Bonds to fund North Georgia Mountains Authority and Lake Lanier Island Authority projects, as presented.

Commissioner Williams called on Taylor Brown, Grants Unit Supervisor, to present two items.

Ms. Brown stated that the first item is requesting approval on the proposed amendments to the Rules for State and Federal Grants Program, Chapter 391-5-13, pertaining to the Recreational Trails Program.

A motion was made by Mr. Mobley, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the resolution approving the proposed amendments to the Rules for State and Federal Grants Program, Chapter 391-5-13, pertaining to the Recreational Trails Program, as presented.

Ms. Brown stated that the second item is a briefing on the proposed rules for the Outdoor Stewardship Program. She further stated that the program will become effective in July 2019. She added the purpose of this program is to provide stewardship to state parks and trails, support local parks and trails, and to protect Georgia wildlife and habitats. Ms. Brown also added who will be eligible for the grants and what types of projects will be eligible; when the grant cycle will open and close; and overall timeline of the grant cycle.

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on legislation being tracked and that all bills the DNR followed have been signed by the Governor; the re-opening of two state shooting ranges; the Weekend for Wildlife check presentation hosted by First Lady Marty Kemp at the Governor's Mansion; and staff appreciation week hosted by the Georgia Natural Resources Foundation.

Commissioner Williams informed the Board on the retirement of Lt. Colonel Jeff Weaver and introduced the new Lt. Colonel, Johnny Johnson.

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

Director Garrison updated the Board on a new education portal on the WRD website for teachers; a ceremony honoring Charlie Elliott at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center; the Keeping Georgia Wild Festival which brought in 1,300 participants; new online reservation opportunities for camping on public properties; and storm response at Mossy Creek.

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

Colonel Barnard updated the Board on current turkey season numbers and incidents; the Belts and Buoys Program; recent incidents around the state in state waters including boating incidents and drownings; and the Game Warden Academy graduation ceremony on June 14.

Commissioner Williams called on Dave Crass, Director of the Historic Preservation Division, for his report.

Director Crass updated the Board on battlefield archaeology and a recently completed project with Fort Benning where HPD assisted Fort Benning in documenting archaeological artifacts.

Commissioner Williams concluded his report.

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 adopt the proposed amendments to hunting regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the proposed amendments to general regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, pertaining to the Georgia WRD Land Pass, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the proposed amendments to Fishing regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, pertaining to Public Fishing Areas, 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. New, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 39± acres of real property, Chattahoochee River Mossy Creek Irvin Tract, Hall and White Counties, 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 acquire 290± acres of real property, Canoochee Sandhills, Nuthatch Canoochee Sandhills, LLC Tract (Nuthatch), Bryan County, as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Thomaston, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire 155± acres of real property, Rosemont Plantation, LLC Tract, Laurens County, as presented.

Chairman Sinyard stated that on November 5-6, there will be a Board member orientation at Unicoi State Park to learn more about the agency.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jeff Bodine Sinyard, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Delos H. Yancey, III, Secretary