

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

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Board Members**

Dwight Davis, Chair  
Joe Hatfield, Vice Chair  
Gary Vowell, Secretary  
Nancy Addison  
Nick Ayers  
Randy Dellinger  
Patrick Denney  
Charles DePriest  
Dan Garcia  
Penn Hodge  
Kevin Jackson  
Duncan Johnson  
Ray Lambert  
Tim Lowe  
Paul Shailendra  
Bodine Sinyard  
Miki Thomaston  
Dee Yancey

**Guests**

Jud Turner, Counsel to Elberton Granite Association  
Brant Lane, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Urban Ag Council  
Dominic LaRiccia, Department of Agriculture  
Mike Worley, Georgia Wildlife Federation  
Mark Woodall, Sierra Club

**Staff Members**

Mark Williams, Commissioner  
Walter Rabon  
Kyle Pearson  
Kate Iannuzzi  
Cathy Barnette  
Artica Gaston  
Donald Kirkland  
Thomas Barnard  
Jeff Cown  
Doug Haymans  
Scott Robinson  
Tina Johannsen  
Angie Johnson  
Charlie Killmaster  
  
Richard Dunn, Director  
Erin Ruoff  
Karen Hays  
Jim Boylan  
Chuck Mueller  
Anna Truszczynski  
Laura Williams

The March 28, 2023 Board of Natural Resources meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwight Davis.

Chairman Davis introduced Mr. Charlie Killmaster, State Deer Biologist and Deer Management Assistance Program Supervisor, as the Employee Spotlight speaker.

Chairman Davis thanked Mr. Killmaster.

Chairman Davis adjourned the Board meeting to move into the Committee meetings.

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

Chairman Davis called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Natural Resources meeting on February 21, 2023.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, to approve the minutes of the Board of Natural Resources meeting on February 21, 2023.

Chairman Davis called on Rick Dunn, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his report.

Director Dunn updated the Board on environmental legislation that passed the General Assembly, Twin Pines draft mining land use plan public comment period, and senior staff changed within EPD. Karen Hays, Chief of the Air Protection Branch, presented to the Board an overview of the Air Protection Branch.

Director Dunn stated this concluded his report.

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

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on the DNR Leadership Academy, the legislative session, amended budget and FY24 budget, and encouraged everyone to purchase their tickets for the Night for Wildlife concert on April 27.

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

Colonel Barnard updated the Board on Aviation Training, New K-9s, International Association of Marine Investigators' (IAMI) Investigator of the Year presented to Game Warden First Class Greg Castelli, Cedar Creek WMA Theft, and recent drownings in Macon and Coweta County.

Colonel Barnard stated this concluded his report.

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

Director Cown updated the Board on the 2023 Rangers Conference and Awards, New Boat Motors at Stephen C. Foster, the Angler's Guide to Georgia State Parks, Hofwyl Happenings, Accessibility Improvements at Jarrell Plantation Visitor Center and Tugaloo CXT Restroom, Providence Canyon Parking, and Jack Hill ADA Mini Golf.

Director Cown stated this concluded his report.

Commissioner Williams called on Doug Haymans, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, for his report.

Director Haymans updated the Board on the Noyes Cut Ecosystem Restoration Project, Coastlines Georgia quarterly magazine, Georgia Saltwater Game Fish Record of a pinfish caught in Bryan County, and CoastFest on April 22.

Director Haymans stated this concluded his report.

Commissioner Williams called on Scott Robinson, Chief of Fisheries, in the absence of Director Ted Will, for his report.

Mr. Robinson updated the Board on the Lake Sturgeon cooperative research project in the Coosa River Basin, the end of the American shad harvest season, renovations at Dawson Hatchery and Bowens Mill Hatchery, and Spring production of warm-water fish species at the hatcheries.

Mr. Robinson stated this concluded his report.

Commissioner Williams stated this concluded his report.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Proposed Laboratory Fee Increase.

Mr. Lambert stated this concluded his report.

Chairman Davis called on Randy Dellinger, Chair of the State Parks and Historic Sites Committee, for his report.

A motion was made by Mr. Dellinger, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Proposed Amendments to Rule 391-5-1-.05 (4).

Mr. Dellinger stated this concluded his report.

Chairman Davis called for a motion to approve Resolutions honoring Mr. William A. Bagwell, Jr., Mr. Dwight H. Evans, Mr. Robert D. Leebern, Jr., Mr. Billy New, Mr. Bill Donohue, and Ms. Karen Hays.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Lambert, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Resolution honoring William A. Bagwell, Jr.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Lambert, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Resolution honoring Dwight H. Evans.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Resolution honoring Robert D. Leebern, Jr.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Vowell, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Resolution honoring Billy New.

A motion was made by Mr. Hatfield, seconded by Mr. Sinyard, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Resolution honoring Bill Donohue.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Lambert, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Resolution honoring Karen Hays.

Chairman Davis stated the Resolutions will be presented to the recipients at a future Board meeting.

Chairman Davis stated the next board meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at Mercer University, President's Dining Room, 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, GA 31207.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

---

Dwight J. Davis, Chairman

ATTEST:

---

Gary Vowell, Secretary