

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

October 28, 2014

Attending:

Board Members

Philip Wilheit, Chairman
Ray Lambert, Vice Chairman
William Bagwell, Secretary
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Walter Hudson
Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Phyllis Johnson
Rob Leebern
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Mobley
Paul Shailendra
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club
Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund
Brant Lane, HHNT
Rosa Chi, Georgia Power Company
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
Walter Jones, Morris News
Harold Reheis, Joe Tanner and Associates
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Amanda Carroll, GEFA
Leigh Elkins, Carl Vinson Institute/UGA
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation
John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance
Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coaliton
Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau
Leah Barnette, Georgia Conservancy
Vince Dooley

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Homer Bryson
Dave Crass
Eddie Henderson
Becky Kelley
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Mary Kathryn Yearta
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Mary Walker
Russ Pennington
Doralyn Kirkland
Doug Haymans
John Bowers
Stephen Adams
Mike England
Keith Bentley
Jeff Cown
Bert Langley
Mark Whitney
Terry West
John Martin
Jeff Weaver
DeLana Powell
Hugh Sledge
Michael Chadwell
Chuck Mueller
Emily Bennett
Travis Cartoski
Jennifer Welte
Joel Mims

The October 28, 2014 meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit introduced Vince Dooley, former Coach and Athletic Director of the University of Georgia, to deliver an inspirational message.

Chairman Wilheit adjourned the Board meeting to begin the Committee meetings.

The Environmental Protection Committee determined that an amendment to the agenda was necessary, so the meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called back to order by Chairman Wilheit.

Mr. Lambert requested the Board approve to amend the Agenda by adding "Item F" under Tab C.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Bagwell and carried unanimously to amend the Agenda by adding "Item F" under Tab C. (Amended Agenda attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Wilheit adjourned the Board meeting to resume the committee meetings.

The meeting of the Board of Natural Resources was called to order by Chairman Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2014 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 2014 Board meeting. (Minutes attached hereto and made a part thereof)

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

Commissioner Williams recognized Hugh Sledge, DNR Mail Service worker, and thanked him for doing an outstanding job.

Commissioner Williams recognized John Bowers, Chief of Game Management, and congratulated him on being honored with The Wildlife Society's Special Recognition Service Award.

Commissioner Williams recognized Captain Mike England for receiving the National Safe Boating Council's 2014 Boating Safety Award at the 55th Annual National Association of State Boating Law Administrators Conference.

Commissioner Williams informed the Board about the death of the DNR Law Enforcement Division's K-9, Gauge. He stated Gauge's partner, RFC Hutto and the entire Law Enforcement Division will miss Gauge greatly.

Commissioner Williams updated the Board on firearms season.

Commissioner Williams called on Mike Clanton, Vice President of Land Development for Georgia Power, who presented the Outstanding Stewards of Americas Waters Award to Chairman Wilheit.

Commissioner Williams called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, for his division update.

Director Turner recognized members of the Radioactive Materials Program.

Director Turner gave a brief presentation on the work of the Rivers Alive Program.

Director Turner updated the Board on Florida's Supreme Court case against Georgia; the ACT Water Control Manual; and the Wilbros facility.

Director Turner called on Mary Walker, Assistant Director of Operations, who updated the Board of the Georgia EPD Online System (GEOS), a new electronic permit application system for municipal wastewater permits and Title V air quality permits.

Commissioner Williams called on Colonel Eddie Henderson, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, for his division update.

Colonel Henderson stated RFC David Bray had been named the 2013 Law Enforcement Office of the Year for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

Colonel Henderson updated the Board on the NASBLA Boat Accreditation.

Commissioner Williams called on Doug Haymans, Policy Advisor for the Coastal Resources Division, to give a division update.

Mr. Haymans showed a short video on the 20th Anniversary of CoastFest.

Commissioner Williams stated due to time constraints, the division updates for Historic Preservation and Wildlife Resources would be given at the December 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Williams stated there being no further business, his report was concluded.

Chairman Wilheit called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee, for his Committee Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Bagwell and carried unanimously that the Board approve the proposed Grant Criteria for Georgia Diesel Emissions Reduction Program, Chapter 391-3-21-.15. (Grant Criteria attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Wilheit called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Land Committee, for his Committee Report.

Mr. Bagwell stated Mr. Stewart would be abstaining from the following vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Mobley and carried unanimously that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.34± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 823 Pine Street, Houston County. (Resolution attached hereto and made a part thereof)

Chairman Wilheit stated the appointments of the 2015 Officers for the Nominating Committee: Rob Leebern (Chairman), Bill Jones, Bodine Sinyard, Nancy Addison and Dee Yancey.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Philip A. Wilheit, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

William A. Bagwell, Jr., Secretary

Minutes
Law Enforcement Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

October 28, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members

Philip Watt, Chairman
Duncan Johnson, Jr., Vice Chairman
William Bagwell
Walter Hudson
Rob Leebern
Mark Mobley
Bodine Sinyard
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Ray Lambert
Aaron McWhorter
Paul Shailendra
Brother Stewart
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club
Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund
Brant Lane, HHNT
Rosa Chi, Georgia Power Company
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
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Harold Reheis, Joe Tanner and Associates
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Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council
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Leigh Elkins, Carl Vinson Institute/UGA
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Joel Mims

Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coaliton
Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau
Leah Barnette, Georgia Conservancy
Vince Dooley

The October 28, 2014 meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Dr. Philip Watt, Chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee.

Chairman Watt called on Major Stephen Adams who briefed the committee on DNR's All Disaster Response Manual.

Major Adams stated DNR has unique equipment, facilities and employees with skill sets that can cooperatively work with other state agencies in support of local governments when disasters strike. He further stated the Disaster Response Manual was revised in 2014 by multi-divisional employees and encompasses all DNR response capabilities. He added the manual contents include deployment procedures, role of the Law Enforcement Division, roles of the Wildlife Resources Division and Parks Division, and the DNR Hurricane Plan.

Chairman Watt called on Captain Mike England who briefed the committee on the Boating Violator Compact.

Captain England stated the Boating Violator Compact is a voluntary interstate agreement which provides participating states with a mechanism to participate in a reciprocal program to promote compliance with the statutes, laws, administrative rules and regulations relating to boating safety in their respective states and provide for the fair and impartial treatment of boating violators within the participating states.

Captain England stated the Boating Compact parallels the process related to Driver's License Compact and suspensions pursuant to Title 40 and the Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact pursuant to Title 27. He further stated HB 777 was passed in the 2014 legislative session which enacts the Interstate Boating Violator Compact. He added HB 777 was signed into law by Governor Deal on April 23, 2014.

Captain England stated three public meetings will be held in November and all written submissions must be postmarked by November 28, 2014. He further stated LED anticipates presenting the proposed rule to the full Board in January 2015.

Mr. Johnson stated the people of Augusta were thankful for this compact and thanked Captain England for his work on this rule.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes
Wildlife Resources Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

October 28, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members

Mark Mobley, Chairman
Dee Yancey, Vice Chairman
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
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Visitors

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Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau
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Vince Dooley

The October 28, 2014 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Mark Mobley, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, who called on John Bowers, Chief of Game Management, to give the Board an overview of the 2015-2024 Deer Management Plan.

Mr. Bowers stated the current ten-year plan ends in 2014. He further stated the process for creating the new Deer Management Plan began approximately 18 months ago.

Mr. Bowers stated that there are four levels of public involvement in the planning process: stakeholder steering committee, 4 regional stakeholder subcommittees, public input opportunities, and scientific survey of public opinion.

Mr. Bowers explained the ten key issues for deer management which includes deer seasons, deer bag limits, hunting methods and equipment, deer management techniques, deer density, deer conflict management, education and outreach, privatization of wildlife, hunter access and miscellaneous issues.

Mr. Leebern asked if WRD receives input from DNR Law Enforcement during the planning process. Mr. Bowers stated WRD does receive input from LED.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Bowers if counties can place restrictions on deer antler sizes. Mr. Bowers stated counties could request for WRD to make these changes in their regulations. Discussion ensued on this topic.

Dr. Watt stated he would like to see youth hunting opportunities improve.

Mr. McWhorter discussed the definition of a primitive weapon. Mr. Bowers stated some states use very detailed restrictions, but Georgia does not.

Discussion ensued concerning mandatory tagging of deer. Mr. Bowers stated the use of electronic reporting will allow WRD to gain useful research information.

Mr. Stewart asked Mr. Bowers if WRD kept track of the number of deer killed by car accidents. Mr. Bowers stated DOT keeps this information and it is estimated to be 50,000-52,000 deer killed annually by vehicles.

Mr. Sinyard asked for an update of the Hunters Helping Farmers Program. Mark Whitney, Assistant Director of WRD said the program is still in its early stages. Discussion ensued on this topic.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes
Environmental Protection Committee
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Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

October 28, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members

Ray Lambert, Chairman
Walter Hudson, Vice Chairman
William Bagwell
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Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Paul Shailendra
Philip Wilheit, Jr., Board Chair, ex-officio

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Jennifer Welte
Joel Mims

Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau
Leah Barnette, Georgia Conservancy
Vince Dooley

The October 28, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee.

Chairman Lambert requested there be an amendment to the Agenda. He stated the purpose of the amendment would be to add "Item F" under Tab C. He further stated "Item F" would be a briefing on the proposed Waters of the U.S. Rule to be presented by Directory Turner.

Chairman Lambert called for a motion to amend the Agenda by adding "Item F" under Tab C.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously to amend the agenda.

Chairman Lambert stated the amendment to the Agenda must be approved by the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Lambert requested Chairman Wilheit adjourn the Environmental Protection Committee.

The meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was temporarily adjourned by Chairman Lambert so that the Board of Natural Resources could vote on the amendment of the agenda.

The meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was reconvened by Chairman Wilheit, who called on Chairman Lambert.

Chairman Lambert called on Keith Bentley, Chief of the Air Protection Branch, to present the proposed Grant Criteria for Georgia Diesel Emissions Reduction Program.

Mr. Bentley stated the purpose of this grant is to reduce particulate emissions by assisting public school systems with school bus replacements. He further stated the grant is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Clean Diesel Campaign. He added the amount of funding currently available for this program is \$147,888.

Mr. Bentley requested the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board approve the proposed Grant Criteria for Georgia Diesel Emissions Reduction Program, Chapter 391-3-21-.15, as presented.

Mr. Bentley stated the next item would be a briefing on the proposed amendments to the Rules for Air Quality Control, pertaining to the Removal of Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements.

Mr. Bentley stated the purpose of this revision is to remove the nonattainment permitting requirements for the Macon Area (Bibb County and a portion of Monroe County) and for Floyd County, as these two areas have been designated from nonattainment to attainment for the fine particulate matter ambient air quality standard. He further stated the revision will reduce the administrative burden to EPD and will reduce costs to major industrial sources and utilities that wish to locate or expand in these areas.

Mr. Bentley stated a public hearing will be held in December 2014. He further stated EPD anticipates requesting adoption of this Rule from the Board in January 2015.

Chairman Lambert stated the information for Item C (Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Radioactive Materials, Chapter 391-3-17, pertaining to miscellaneous changes and updates) could be found in the board package. He further stated the proposed amendments are clarifications and/or routine updates necessary to address requirements of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for Agreement states. He added no presentation is planned for this agenda item and Mr. Bentley will be available to answer any questions you have about these materials.

Chairman Lambert called on Bert Langley, Director of Compliance, who gave an informative presentation on EPD's District Offices and Emergency Response Team.

Ms. Johnson thanked Mr. Langley for his presentation.

Discussion ensued on the disposal and uses of scrap tires collected by EPD.

Chairman Lambert called on Russ Pennington, EPD Director of Policy and Public Affairs, who updated the Board on the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Pilot Project.

Mr. Pennington stated the project calls for withdrawing water from the Floridan Aquifer when water is plentiful and pumping it deeper into the ground into the Claiborne and Clayton Aquifers. He further stated the drill rig is now on site and coring samples have been taken. He also discussed the ASR project schedule timeline.

Discussion ensued about the ASR pilot project.

Chairman Lambert called on Director Jud Turner who gave a briefing on the Proposed Waters of the U.S. Rule.

Discussion ensued on the proposed rule.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes
Land Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

October 28, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members

William Bagwell, Chairman
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Walter Hudson
Rob Leebern
Paul Shailendra
Dee Yancey
Philip Wilheit, Board Chair, ex-officio

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Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition
Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau
Leah Barnette, Georgia Conservancy
Vince Dooley

The October 28, 2014 meeting of the Land Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

Chairman Wilheit called on William Bagwell, Chairman of the Land Committee, who called on Steve Friedman, Chief of Real Estate.

Mr. Friedman stated the item for consideration was the acquisition of 0.34± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 823 Pine Street, Houston County.

Mr. Friedman stated the purchase price of the property is \$32,000 and the property contains a small house which will be removed.

Mr. Friedman stated he would request the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Yancey, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to authorize the Commissioner to seek State Properties Commission approval to acquire (purchase) 0.34± acres of real property, Robins Air Force Base Buffer Project, 823 Pine Street, Houston County, as presented.

Mr. Bagwell stated Mr. Stewart would not be participating in discussion or voting on this property in the Board Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.