

## **BEAUFORT COUNTY RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD**

The regular meeting of the Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board (hereafter known as the Board) was held on April 9, 2009 in the Conference Room at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Building at 3:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Steve Riley (Chair)  
Ms. Gloria Cartwright (Vice-Chair)  
Ms. Selena Brown  
Mr. Pete Dawson  
Mr. York Glover  
Mr. Malcolm Goodridge  
Ms. Janice Johnson  
Mr. Ed Pappas  
Mr. Jacob Preston  
Mr. Joseph Vercellotti

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Ray Tudor

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner  
Mr. Glenn Stanford, Mr. Raleigh West, Mr. Russ Marane  
County Councilman Paul Sommerville

### **GUEST PRESENT:**

Mr. Richard Brooks  
Mr. Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League  
Ms. Ann Bluntzer, Beaufort County Open Land Trust  
Mr. Beek Webb, Beaufort County Open Land Trust

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Steve Riley called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the Agenda and one item was added to the agenda; introduction of the members of Conservation Consulting Company.

Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the March 12, 2009 Board meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Dawson made a motion and Mr. Pappas seconded the motion to accept the Minutes from the March 12, 2009 Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Mr. Glenn Stanford stated that there was a gentleman's understanding that his new company is the consulting firm for the Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program. The name of the company is Conservation Consulting Company and includes Mr. Glenn Stanford, Mr. Russ Marane, and Mr. Raleigh West. Mr. Stanford will be full time and Mr. Marane and Mr. West will be part time. They look forward to continued success in the program.

Ms. Ann Bluntzer, with Beaufort County Open Land Trust, brought forth "The Green" project which is the last remaining open city block in the residential part of the City of Beaufort. The City of Beaufort has endorsed this project and according to Ms. Bluntzer is threatened for development. When this project was first brought forward there were two parcels, one owned by John and Molly Gray and the other by their children. The first appraisal came in at \$900,000 for one parcel. The second parcel was going to be donated. Then the City of Beaufort changed the zoning so that only three houses could be built on one parcel. Open Land Trust asked for a new appraisal which came in at \$685,000. OLT went back to the Grays and got them to agree to this new appraisal. According the OLT, this property has been an open space for over 100 years. OLT is talking with the City of Beaufort to see if they can take over the maintenance responsibilities for this property. The property is currently maintained by the Grays. OLT would like to see the RCLP provide \$500,000 and will wait until OLT can raise the other \$185,000. Ms. Bluntzer said it is important for another bond referendum that these parcels are able to stay open to the public. This one will be open as soon as it is finished. The option on this property is good until 2011. Mr. Goodridge asked how much of the \$185,000 will come from the neighbors? Mr. Webb answered that he had been in touch with all the surrounding neighbors and they are willing to contribute. Mr. Goodridge also asked what the fall back plan is if OLT cannot get \$685,000? Mr. Webb stated that OLT is committed to this property and will make it happen. Mr. Pappas asked what will happen if this project is not completed by 2011? Ms. Bluntzer stated that OLT feels that the Grays will sign another contract.

Chairman Riley stated recently that Ms. Selena Brown had lost her grandmother and Mr. Joe Vercellotti had lost a daughter. Mr. Vercellotti thanked the Board for the thoughtful note sent to his family.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Riley entertained a motion by Mr. Pappas, seconded by Ms. Brown, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:24 p.m. and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters associated with property acquisitions. **The vote was unanimous to enter into Executive Session.**

**The Board re-entered Open Session at 4:07p.m.**

The following to be presented to Land Management Committee:

Mr. Goodridge made a motion; seconded by Ms. Cartwright, to recommend to the Land Management Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel A under the terms and conditions as recommended by CCC, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion carried with one opposition by Mr. Pappas.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chairman Riley entertained a motion at 4:08 p.m. from Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Vercellotti, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Submitted by:** Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Riley, Chairman, Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land  
Preservation Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_