

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 February 11, 2010 in the Conference Room at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Building at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Steve Riley (Chair)
Mr. Pete Dawson
Mr. York Glover
Mr. Malcolm Goodridge
Ms. Janice Johnson
Mr. Ed Pappas
Mr. Jacob Preston
Mr. Ray Tudor
Mr. Joseph Vercellotti

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Selena Brown

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Tony Criscitiello, Planning Director
Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner
Mr. Glenn Stanford, Mr. Russ Marane, Mrs. Michaela Twomey, Conservation Consulting Co.

GUEST PRESENT:

Mr. Joe Croley
Mr. Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League
Mr. Eddie Bellamy, Beaufort County Public Works Director
Mr. Jerry Stewart, County Councilman
Mr. Paul Sommerville, County Councilman

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Riley called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the Agenda and there were a few items to add; discussion of the RFQ for the Rural and Critical Land Board Consultant and discussion of the ranking sheets.

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

Since there was not a quorum for the January 14, 2010 meeting, there were no official minutes.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Ms. Amanda Flake announced that the Friends of Fort Freemont were doing a winter planting at Fort Freemont on Saturday, February 13th and would like the public to join in the fun. They were also offering tours with a narrative of the Fort.

Mr. Glenn Stanford announced that the County had put out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for his current position as the consultant for the Rural and Critical Land Board and that the deadline was February 11, 2010. Mr. Stanford's company, Conservation Consulting Company (CCC), had submitted an RFQ.

Mr. Stanford said with respect to the bond issue, there has been no further development. He said that a possible change in the consulting position could affect the referendum. CCC recommends that the Board do another Greenprint if there is a new bond referendum. If the Board goes forth with the current projects in hand, the program will run out of money by the end of the year. Mr. Pappas asked if the program runs out of money, will the Board be dissolved. Chairman Riley said that would be a question for County Council. Mr. Pappas stated that maybe there should be a subcommittee formed to work on all the avenues available for keeping this Board alive. Chairman Riley said that at this time, the Board has already recommended a new bond referendum up to County Council. Councilmen Sommerville and Stewart said that County Council had not received a formal request in writing but once they do, they will move it forward. Led by Chairman Riley, Mr. Vercellotti made a motion and Mr. Pappas seconded to move forward a formal recommendation for a new bond referendum of 50 million dollars to County Council. Motion carried.

Mr. Russ Marane showed a power point on how St. Simons Island went through their Greenprint project and educated their public. He said the idea is to take this kind of presentation to the public and use existing and future land use plans, storm water plans, existing preserved lands, and then look at opportunities for future preservation. There is

a lot more data available now than there was in 2006 which was when the last Greenprint was made. In 2006, a group acquired a grant to fund the Greenprint process. This same group is possibly interested in redoing the Greenprint with another grant. Mr. Marane said that CCC will write the grant and give it to the Beaufort County Open Land Trust to submit since they will only receive grants from nonprofits. Led by Chairman Riley, Mr. Glover made a motion and Mr. Tudor seconded to ask Mr. Kubic to move forward with the Greenprint process.

Mr. Stanford suggested that the discussion on the ranking sheets be moved to next month due to time constraints.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Riley entertained a motion by Mr. Goodridge, seconded by Mr. Tudor, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:49 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 4:36 p.m.

The following to be presented to Natural Resources Committee:

Mr. Goodridge made a motion; seconded by Mr. Tudor, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel I under the terms and conditions as recommended by CCC, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion carried.**

Mr. Pappas made a motion; seconded by Mr. Tudor, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel M under the terms and conditions as recommended by CCC, as discussed in Executive Session. **8 Yes, 1 No (Mr. Dawson).**

Mr. Goodridge made a motion; seconded by Mr. Tudor, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel P under the terms and conditions as recommended by CCC, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Riley entertained a motion at 4:38 p.m. from Mr. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Preston, 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: _____