

**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 July 14, 2011 in the Conference Room at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ed Pappas (Vice-Chairman)
Ms. Selena Brown
Mr. Pete Dawson
Mr. York Glover
Ms. Janice Johnson
Mr. George Johnston
Mr. Jacob Preston
Mr. Joseph Vercellotti

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Malcolm Goodridge (Chairman)
Mr. Steve Riley
Mr. Ray Tudor

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Tony Criscitiello, Planning Director
Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner
Ms. Ann Bluntzer, Mr. Garrett Budds, Beaufort County Open Land Trust
Mr. Ken Driggers, Attorney for BCOLT
Mr. Brian Flewelling, County Councilman

GUEST PRESENT:

Mr. Joe Croley

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Ed Pappas called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Pappas asked if there were any changes to the Agenda and there were none.

Vice-Chairman Pappas asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the May 12, 2011 Board meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Vercellotti made a motion and Mr. Johnston seconded the motion to accept the Minutes from the May 12, 2011 Board meeting.

Motion carried.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Garrett Budds gave a quick review of the property classification system that the Beaufort County Open Land Trust (BCOLT) staff and County staff had been working on during the past few months. Mr. Budds thought that the five categories staff chose were well defined and handed out a draft list of property classifications. This classification system was intended to define the highest and best use of the fee simple properties, but did not include conservation easements. Vice-Chairman Ed Pappas questioned whether or not conservation easements should be included. Ms. Ann Bluntzer said if they were, they would all be classified in category 1 (Research Preserve) because we could not allow public on private property. More discussion ensued about whether or not this classification system document should be put into a code, used only for internal guidance, or had some other appropriate application. BCOLT and County staff asked the RCLP Board members to take home the draft property classification list and add their input so it could be discussed in more depth at the August Board meeting.

Ms. Bluntzer met with Mr. Gary Kubic who said that drawing down the last ten million of the bond referendum is a priority to the County, but that timing is essential and the County was waiting until the public bonds were refinanced. Ms. Bluntzer also stated that BCOLT is planning on sending out a poll this fall to get a feel of whether or not the public is in favor of another bond referendum. This type of poll was performed for the last two bond referendums and the results were fairly accurate. Ms. Bluntzer commented that if the results show that the public is not in favor of another bond referendum, staff could stretch out the last ten million by using matching funds and taking advantage of the current cheap prices of land.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice-Chairman Pappas entertained a motion by Mr. Dawson, seconded by Ms. Brown, to adjourn the Open Session at 4:18 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 4:54 p.m.

The following to be presented to Natural Resources Committee:

Mr. Glover made a motion; seconded by Mr. Johnston, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel F1 under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Vice-Chairman Pappas entertained a motion at 4:55 p.m. from Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Preston, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Submitted by: Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Approved:

Malcolm Goodridge, Chairman, Beaufort County Rural and
Critical Land Preservation Board

Date: _____