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 September 15, 2011 in the Conference Room at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Malcolm Goodridge (Chairman)

Mr. Ed Pappas (Vice-Chairman)

Ms. Selena Brown

Mr. York Glover

Ms. Janice Johnson

Mr. George Johnston

Mr. Jacob Preston

Mr. Steve Riley

Mr. Ray Tudor

Mr. Joseph Vercellotti

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Pete Dawson

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Ms. Patty Kennedy, Mr. Garrett Budds, Beaufort County Open Land Trust

Mr. Ken Driggers, Attorney for BCOLT

Mr. Rob Merchant, Beaufort County Planning Department

Mr. Brian Flewelling, County Councilman

Mr. Paul Sommerville, County Councilman

GUEST PRESENT:

Mr. Joe Croley

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Malcolm Goodridge called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Chairman Goodridge asked if there were any changes to the Agenda and there was one: add approval of the minutes from the July 14, 2011 Board meeting.

Chairman Goodridge asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from July 14, 2011 Board meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Vercellotti made a motion and Mr. Riley seconded the motion to accept the Minutes from the July 14, 2011 Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairman Malcolm Goodridge introduced Ms. Patty Kennedy who is now the Executive Director of the Beaufort County Open Land Trust. Ms. Kennedy has worked for the Coastal Conservation League, Palmetto Bluff, and used to be a member of the Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board.

Mr. Garrett Budds stated that during the August meeting, members present had a discussion about making an amendment to the Beaufort County Comprehensive Plan as a first step to the framework of the property classification system. To accomplish this, the Natural Resources section of the Comprehensive Plan would be written in a general manner about the classification system and then would reference it in the Form Based Code. Staff from the Beaufort County Open Land Trust and the Beaufort County Planning Department will develop a draft of this amendment to send to the Natural Resources Committee and then bring the draft back to the Board for review.

Mr. Budds reported the County Council Chairman Weston Newton had formally requested an official recommendation of a 2012 bond referendum to County Council by the Board. Mr. Steve Riley drafted a motion about proceeding with a 2012 bond referendum as stated below:

I move that the Board recommend that County Council proceed with a land acquisition referendum on the November 2012 ballot for an amount that can be supported by a one mil increase in property taxes financed over a 20 to 25 year period. And that up to 20% of the proceeds may be used to improve properties acquired under the program; consistent with the program guidelines. County Council, working with County Staff, should identify a specific dollar amount for the referendum question based on the best available estimates of property values at the time they adopt the referendum ordinance. Mr. Riley made a motion and Mr. Ray Tudor seconded the motion to accept the 2012 bond referendum request. The motion carried unanimously.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Goodridge entertained a motion by Mr. Riley, seconded by Ms. Brown, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:54 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 3:46 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Goodridge entertained a motion at 3:46 p.m. from Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Tudor, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

| Submitted by: | Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner |
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| Approved: | |
| | Malcolm Goodridge, Chairman, Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board |
| | Date: |