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 March 8, 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. Pete Dawson

Mr. George Johnston

Mr. Jacob Preston

Mr. Steve Riley

Mr. Ray Tudor

Mr. Joseph Vercellotti

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. York Glover

Ms. Janice Johnson

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

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

Ms. Billie Lindsay, Beaufort County Planning Department

Mr. Brian Flewelling, County Councilman

Mr. Paul Sommerville, County Councilman

GUEST PRESENT:

Mr. Joe Croley

Mr. Richard Brooks, Bluffton Today

Mr. Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League

Mr. Steve Eames, Coastal Conservation League

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Malcolm Goodridge called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman Goodridge asked if there were any changes to the Agenda and there was one item to be added. Item C was 2011 Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program Annual Report.

Vice - Chairman Pappas asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from December 8, 2011 Board meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Vercellotti made a motion and Mr. Pappas seconded the motion to accept the Minutes from the December 8, 2011 Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Ms. Patty Kennedy and Mr. Garrett Budds gave an overview of the 2011 Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program Annual Report that is available on the Beaufort County website. In this report, they focused on three different aspects of the program: economic impact; life, culture, and history; and environmental benefits. They highlighted the ability of this program to leverage and match dollars to acquire some important properties for great prices. During 2011, 14 properties were protected that conserved 2,816 acres. Also, the program brought in more money than was spent.

Ms. Amanda Flake gave an update on the classification of preserved properties. Staff is still working on this classification process. It goes hand in hand with the new Community Development Code that is being developed by the Planning Department. There will be an update on this process at the next meeting.

Ms. Kennedy stated that staff is working hard to open some of the passive parks that were planned for specific fee simple properties. Some of the parks have master plans, community plans, and public/private partnerships. Updates on the progress of these parks will be included in the campaign program for the 2012 Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program Bond Referendum.

Ms. Kennedy reported that the campaign committee is being formed at this time. The Trust for Public Lands will be doing a public poll in late spring and the Greenprint will be moving forward this summer. An update on the campaign will be given at the next meeting.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Goodridge entertained a motion by Mr. Riley, seconded by Ms. Brown, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:39 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 4:42 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Goodridge entertained a motion at 4:45 p.m. from Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Vercellotti, 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
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