

**MINUTES
RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD**

November 19, 2023

The electronic and print media duly notified in
accordance with the State Freedom of Information Act.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Ford Bartholow, Walter Mack, Lucia O’Farrell, Beek Webb

Absent: Chariman Art Baer, Vice-Chairman Mac Bennett, Stodd McEwan

County
Council: Alice Howard, York Glover

Staff: Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Visitors: Kate Schaefer, BCOLT Director of Land Protection; Rob Merchant, Beaufort
County Planning Director

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Kate Schaefer called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m.

Since both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were absent, a vote was taken to elect a temporary Chairman.

It was moved by Walter Mack, seconded by Mr. Bartholow to elect Mr. Webb as the temporary Chairman. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Bartholow, seconded by Mr. Mack to approve the agenda. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 14, 2023

Motion: It was moved by Ms. O’Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bartholow to approve the minutes as amended. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Project Rawstrom Drive

Ms. Kate Schaefer presented this project that consisted of 11.66 acres in Okatie off of Bailey’s Circle for consideration of due diligence. This property abuts Altamaha Town Preserve which is co-owned between Beaufort County and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The owner may also have an additional 8 acres next to this piece that might be under consideration.

It was moved by Mr. Bartholow and seconded by Ms. O’Farrell to approve due diligence for the application. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

Project Seaside Road

Ms. Kate Schaefer presented this project that consisted of 10.73 acres off of Seaside Road on St. Helena. 9.36 acres on the northern side of Seaside Road would be for a conservation easement and 1.37 acres on the southern side of Seaside Road would be for fee simple purchase. The fee simple piece would protect a vista along the marsh as well as a cemetery next door.

It was moved by Mr. Mack and seconded by Mr. Bartholow to approve due diligence for the application. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

Project Barrell Landing Orr

Ms. Kate Schaefer presented this project that consisted of 1.82 acres in Okatie off Barrell Landing Road for consideration of purchase. This property would fill a donut hole that is surround by previous Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program properties as well as protect the Okatie River watershed.

It was moved by Mr. Bartholow and seconded by Ms. O’Farrell to approve the purchase Barrell Landing Orr. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

Monthly Project Update

Ms. Kate Schaefer shared that in Quarter 4 there were two applications submitted. Project Cotton Hall was closed and was now owned by Beaufort County. A public information meeting for Camp St. Mary’s was being held today. There were still some due diligence items to be completed for Project Beach City Road, Project Lucy Creek (Windland), Project Station Creek, and Project Boundary Street Logan.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Bartholow, seconded by Ms. O’Farrell to adjourn the meeting at 3:23 pm. The vote: YAYS – Mr. Bartholow, Mr. Mack, Ms. O’Farrell, and Mr. Webb. The motion passed.

Submitted by: Amanda Flake, Beaufort County Community Development
Natural Resources Planner

Approved: _____
Art Baer, Chairman
Beaufort County Rural and Critical Lands Preservation Board

Date: _____