

GA Natural Resources Foundation Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting of Friday, October 20, 2017, 11:00 a.m.
DNR Board Room, East Tower, Atlanta, GA

The meeting was called to order by Georgia Natural Resources Foundation Board Chair, Amy Hillman. Board members in attendance were Joe Hatfield, Cathy Hill, Lonice Barrett, and Chris Albrecht. Board Members participating by conference call were Dr. Richie Bland, Sara Clark, Edens Davis, Philip Wilheit, Jr, DNR Commissioner Mark Williams and guest Amber Carter. Guests attending were DNR Deputy Commissioner, Walter Rabon, and Wes Robinson.

The minutes from the August 11, 2017 meeting held in the DNR Board Room in Atlanta, GA were officially approved following a motion by Lonice Barrett and a second by Joe Hatfield.

The financial report was given by GNRFF Secretary/Treasurer, Cathy Hill. Secretary/Treasurer Hill called on GNRFF Executive Director, Mark Walker, to give the report for the first part of the first quarter in the new Fiscal Year 2018. The Financials presented were approved following a motion by Edens Davis and a second by Sara Clark.

Chair Hillman then called for the Commissioner's Report. DNR Commissioner, Mark Williams, reported that he was excited to see what the 30th anniversary will bring as he is sure it will be one for the record books. Coordinator Amber Carter continues to work diligently with her team and will be giving an update later in the meeting. Commissioner then stated that as you all know, many are still recovering from Hurricane Irma, including members of the DNR family, and he wants to continue to show support for them and their loved ones as they get through this difficult time as well. He stated that funds were collected internally during the last several weeks to support staff members in need, and he was proud of team DNR for coming together to support one another. Commissioner said he is always impressed with DNR's response when we are called to action, and he is thankful to each and every person who worked the storm and then helped pick up the pieces. Lastly, Commissioner Williams reminded everyone of the GNRFF Reception at the Governor's Mansion is this week on October 25th. We are excited once again to thank those who have contributed to the Foundation, and he hopes to see you all there.

Chair Hillman welcomed Weekend for Wildlife Coordinator, Amber Carter, to give an update for the 2018 Weekend for Wildlife. Amber reported that currently we are at \$255,000 received for Weekend for Wildlife which is higher than the \$200,000 at this time last year. Three Gold Sponsors have already been received, General Registration is opening, and the Weekend for Wildlife Fundraising Committee has been meeting and working with its last full meeting at the end of October. Edens Davis stated that he has a couple of other items to add for the Auctions, and Amber encouraged everyone to continue contacting her with any other sponsorships, registrations, or auction items.

At this time, Chair Amy Hillman directed everyone's attention to the next agenda item calling for the GNRFB Board Action Items. She stated that GNRFB Board of Officers slate presented were as follows: Edens Davis, Chair; Joe Hatfield, Vice Chair; and John D'Andrea, Secretary/Treasurer. The floor was open for discussion, or any other nominations. There being no further discussion, the slate as presented was approved following a motion by Lonice Barrett, and second by Commissioner Williams.

The next item was a suggested set of Terms of Office for each GNRFB Board Member serving, as well as new members whom may be added. Sara Clark asked the question in discussion about the Terms being synced with the officers their terms now at the end of January so everything is now at the same time of service. This is according to the revised By-laws presented for approval and needing a revision only in Section 3 for Board approval. A motion was made by Lonice Barrett, and seconded by Sara Clark, that subject to the amendment for Section 3 and that change being made, the revised By-laws would be approved.

Grants Committee Chair, Sara Clark, was then called on for the last item on the Education Fund for the Foundation. She stated that the recommendation of the Committee is to simply track the Fund as a Sub-Account in the General Fund of the Foundation since there is not as much money there to be on its own accord and does not need to be separately managed. It will be more of an internal, accounting of the Education Fund for the Foundation, more like the directed-giving. This being the recommendation, no action was required.

Other Business included Chair Hillman recognizing the passing of Cornelia Walker Bailey of Sapelo Island, Georgia, and former host to the GNRFB Board's educational experience year before last.

Lastly, Chair Hillman recognized and thanked Cathy Hill of Georgia Power for all of her time and service, and in really helping GNRFB move forward by her serving as Secretary/Treasurer in the short time she has been here. Chair Hillman read a Resolution from the Office of the Governor of the State of Georgia, and a framed signed and sealed original was presented to Mrs. Hill in grateful appreciation for all of her service as she retires from Georgia Power as well. Mrs. Hill stated that she appreciated it very much, and that she will still be involved in the community serving as a loan executive for the Georgia Chamber, and of course, working with her Georgia Tech Alumni.

There being no further business, Chair Hillman called for a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion was made by Cathy Hill, and seconded by Sara Clark. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

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