



RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

Thursday, November 12, 2015

3:00 pm

Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA)

Conference Room

6 Snake Rd., Okatie, SC 29909

Phone: (843) 255-2140

Members:

Mark Baker, District 8
Bob Bender, District 4
Selena Brown, District 10
York L. Glover, District 3
Gail O'Kane, District 11
Michael Mathews, District 9
Ed Pappas, District 5 (Chair)
Norma G. Stewart, District 6
Denise Sullivan, District 2
Vacant, District 1
Vacant, District 7

Staff:

Anthony Criscitiello, Planning Director
Amanda Flake, Natural Resource Planner

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME
2. REVIEW OF AGENDA
3. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 8, 2015 MEETING ([backup](#))
4. GENERAL DISCUSSION
 - A. Financial Update (Eisenman)
 - B. Passive Park Update (Criscitiello)
 - C. Status on Communications Plan and TPL Study (Lord/Driggers)
 - D. Overview from The National Land Conservation Conference (Lord)
5. EXECUTIVE SESSION
 - A. Contractual Matters Relating to Land Acquisition:
Review of Specific Parcels (Lord/Driggers)
6. OTHER BUSINESS
 - A. Next Meeting: December 10, 2015, from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) Conference Room, 6 Snake Road, Okatie, SC 29909
7. ADJOURNMENT

Note: If you have any questions, please contact the County Planning Office at (843) 255-2140

**BEAUFORT COUNTY
RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD**

The Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board (hereafter known as the Board) was held on October 8, 2015, at the Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Board Room at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ed Pappas (Chairman)
Ms. Selena Brown (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. Mark Baker
Mr. Bob Bender
Mr. York Glover

Mr. Michael Mathews
Ms. Gail O’Kane
Ms. Norma Stewart

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Denise Sullivan

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner
Mr. Ken Driggers, Beaufort County Open Land Trust Attorney

GUESTS PRESENT:

Ms. Alice Howard, County Councilwoman
Mr. Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League
Mr. Tom Keaveny, Beaufort County Attorney
Ms. Allison Coppage, Beaufort County Assistant Attorney
Mr. Eric Larson, Beaufort County Environmental Engineering Director
Mr. Alan Eisenman, Beaufort County Finance Department
Mr. Barry Johnson, Attorney At Law
Mr. Robert Graves
Mr. Ling Graves

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ed Pappas called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Pappas asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the August 13, 2015 Board meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Baker made a motion and Mr. Mathews seconded the motion

to accept the Minutes as written from the August 13, 2015 Board meeting. **The motion was carried unanimously to accept the minutes as written from the August 13, 2015, Board meeting** (FOR: Pappas, Brown, Baker, Bender, Glover, Mathews, O’Kane, Stewart).

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairman Ed Pappas stated the Board member Mr. Bill Ladson resigned from the Board on October 2, 2015. Mr. Ladson represented District 1.

Mr. Alan Eisenman gave a financial update of the Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program. As of August 31, 2015 there was a total amount of \$11.2 million in funds. Of that, \$9.8 million was unrestricted and \$1.3 million was restricted. These numbers do not include the \$20 million referendum that was approved in November 2014.

Ms. Amanda Flake gave an update on the passive park development. At this time the Planning Department is working on bringing three passive parks online; Crystal Lake, Okatie Preserve, and Fort Fremont. Crystal Lake is ready to go to bid for Phase 2 which includes renovation of the building to include an interpretive center, offices for the Beaufort County Open Land Trust and the Beaufort County Soil and Water Conservation District, solar panels on the roof, security cameras, and either a pavilion or tower. Fort Fremont is moving forward and the project to address the comments from SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) is proceeding as planned. The Planning Department is working on getting a Manure Management Plan for Okatie Preserve as a requirement by the Town of Bluffton.

Mr. Mike Mathews stated that Ms. Lisa Lord was not present today because she was invited to speak at the Land Trust Alliance International in Sacramento, California about this Program, which was a great honor. Mr. Mathews updated the Board on the communication plan status and TPL study. He stated that the new online Greenprint map should be up and running by the end of October. This will also coincide with the launch of the new Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program website. Mr. Ken Driggers discussed the TPL study that will consist of the economic benefits of the Program within Beaufort County. Once specifics of the study are identified, a price will be negotiated. Mr. Driggers hopes that this study will be under way by the end of the year.

Mr. Barry Johnson stated that if any of the Board members had any questions about the property to be discussed in Executive Session that he and Mr. Robert Graves and Mr. Ling Graves were there to answer them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Pappas entertained a motion by Vice-Chairman Brown, seconded by Mr. Mathews, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:30 p.m. and convened Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters associated with property acquisitions. **The motion was carried unanimously to enter into Executive Session** (FOR: Pappas, Brown, Baker, Bender, Glover, Mathews, O’Kane, Stewart).

Chairman Pappas adjourned Executive Session and convened Open Session at 4:46 p.m.

Mr. Baker made a motion; seconded by Ms. Stewart, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel **CH** under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion was carried unanimously to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel CH under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Pappas, Brown, Baker, Bender, Glover, Mathews, O’Kane, Stewart).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Pappas entertained a motion at 4:47 p.m. from Vice-Chairman Brown, seconded by Mr. Mathews, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously** (FOR: Pappas, Brown, Baker, Bender, Glover, Mathews, O’Kane, Stewart).

Submitted by: Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Approved: _____
Ed Pappas, Chairman,
Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board

Date: _____