

BEAUFORT COUNTY RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

The Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board meeting (hereafter known as the Board) was held on November 10, 2016, at the Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Board Room a 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mike Mathews (Chairman)
Mr. Mark Baker (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. Bob Bender
Ms. Susie Fripp-Gordon
Mr. York Glover
Ms. Gail O’Kane

Mr. Ed Riley
Ms. Dorothy Scanlin
Ms. Norma Stewart
Mr. Richard Walls

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Denise Sullivan

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Amanda Flake, Beaufort County Natural Resources Planner
Ms. Lisa Lord, Beaufort County Open Land Trust

GUESTS PRESENT:

Ms. Alice Howard, Beaufort County Councilwoman
Ms. Allison Coppage, Beaufort County Assistant Attorney
Ms. Nancy Moss, Beaufort County Planning Department
Ms. Heather Spade, Beaufort County Planning Department
Ms. Cindy Baysden, Beaufort County Open Land Trust

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Mathews called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Mathews asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the September 8, 2016 Board meeting. Hearing none, Vice-Chairman Baker made a motion and Ms. O’Kane seconded the motion to accept the Minutes as written from the September 8, 2016 Board meeting. **The motion was carried unanimously to accept the minutes as written from the September 8, 2016, Board meeting** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Fripp-Gordon, O’Kane, Riley, Scanlin, Stewart, Walls).

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Financial Update

Ms. Lisa Lord gave a financial update. Currently the R&C Program has a total amount of \$4,946,485.00 in funds. Of this amount \$3,609,452.00 is unrestricted and \$1,337,033.00 is restricted. The restricted funds have donor specific restrictions on how these funds can be used. The Finance Department intends to issue the \$20 million referendum (approved in November 2014) by December 2016. Chairman Mike Mathews had some questions on how to access this information online and emailed the Chief Financial Officer with these questions. To date Chairman Mathews has not received a response to his September 13, 2016 email to the Chief Financial Officer.

Program Update

Ms. Lisa Lord gave an update on the R&C Program. The Mobley tract was finalized for \$2,500,000.00 and will close at the end of November. As part of the Boundary Street Project, Sea Eagle Market was purchased by the City of Beaufort and they will be moving across the street into the old La Hacienda building on December 1, 2016. The excess REPI money from the Marine Corps Air Station got approval locally but was stalled when it reached Washington, D.C. The deadline passed and the R&C Program did not receive the money. However, the Marine Corps Air Station liked the project idea and encouraged the R&C Program to apply for future funding. Ms. Lord presented at the National Land Conservation Conference about the R&C Program which was well received. She also met with representatives from the Trust for Public Land who told her that they found some money to fund the benefits analysis study. Ms. Lord typically produces an annual R&C report for County Council at the end of each year. In December Ms. Lord will submit a draft report to all the Board members for review before sending a final copy to County Council. Ms. Lord stated that the R&C Retreat is being planned for March 2017.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mathews entertained a motion by Ms. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Walls, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:18 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: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Fripp-Gordon, Glover, O’Kane, Riley, Scanlin, Stewart, Walls).

Chairman Mathews adjourned Executive Session and convened Open Session at 4:13 p.m.

Chairman Mathews made a motion; seconded by Ms. Stewart, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel F 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 F under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Fripp-Gordon, Glover, O’Kane, Riley, Scanlin, Stewart, Walls).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Mathews entertained a motion at 4:19 p.m. from Vice-Chairman Baker, seconded by Ms. Stewart, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Fripp-Gordon, Glover, O’Kane, Riley, Scanlin, Stewart, Walls).

Submitted by: Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Approved: Michael Mathews
Mike Mathews, Chairman,
Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board

Date: 3/9/17