

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 Thursday, February 8, 2007 in the Conference Room of Beaufort-Jasper Water and Sewer Authority at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Steve Riley (Chair)	Ms. Gloria Cartwright	Mr. Pete Dawson
Ms. Dorothy Giddens	Mr. York Glover	Mr. Malcolm Goodridge
Ms. Terry Murray	Mr. Ray Tudor	Mr. Allen Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Emory Campbell Mr. Andy Shapiro

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. W.R. 'Skeet' Von Harten - Vice Chairman, Beaufort County Council
Mr. Gerald Dawson – Beaufort County Council, District 6
Mr. John Holloway - Natural Resources Planner, Beaufort County Planning
Mr. John Miller – Northern Director, Beaufort County Parks and Leisure Service
Mr. Slade Gleaton, Mr. Frederick Lewis, Mr. Glenn Stanford, Mr. Raleigh West - Trust for Public Land (TPL)

CALL TO ORDER--

Chairman Riley called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Mr. Dawson indicated that he would like to discuss an item during General Discussion. Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the January 11, 2007 Board meeting. Hearing none, Chairman Riley asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the January 11, 2007 Board meeting. Ms. Murray made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 11, 2007 Board meeting; Mr. Goodridge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION—

Mr. Dawson asked if the policy regarding email discussion among County Council members, and the issue that it may not be good practice or legal, would also apply to this Board. Chairman Riley indicated that it probably would and that Board members should refrain from discussing issues via email.

Chairman Riley updated the Board on the bond issue recommendation that went to the Finance Committee of County Council. The Committee approved the first bond issuance for \$20 million and will forward that to County Council for the next Council meeting on February 12, 2007 for the first of three necessary readings plus a public hearing.

Chairman Riley was asked if he received a response from the Mayor of Bluffton regarding the letter that the Board sent concerning the request by a developer for additional density to the Buckwalter PUD. Chairman Riley indicated he has not received

an “official” letter, but has received a verbal response that there will be no new density but transferred density from other areas of the Town.

Chairman Riley noted the presence of interested citizens and asked if they desired to make public comment.

Mr. Joe Croley wanted to make two comments:

1. Annexation of the Graves tract on Hwy 278 (earlier proposed site by Gordon Faulkner for the Chevy dealership) into the Town of Bluffton would enable the Town’s “access” to the other side of the Okatie River and Hwy 278.
2. He would like to know the status of the Okatie Headwaters Park and what is happening with the funds to develop the park associated with that tract. He is concerned that the money is just sitting or being wasted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—

Chairman Riley entertained a motion by Ms. Cartwright, seconded by Mr. Tudor, to adjourn the open session at 3:10 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 5:05 p.m.

Mr. Tudor made a motion, with Mr. Goodridge seconding it, to direct TPL to pursue Property “J” as discussed in Executive Session. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT--

With no further business, Chairman Riley entertained a motion at 5:10 p.m. from Mr. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Goodridge, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimous to adjourn.

Submitted by: John D. Holloway, Jr., Natural Resources Planner

Approved: _____
Stephen G. Riley – Chairman, Beaufort County Rural and Critical
Land Preservation Board