

## **BEAUFORT COUNTY RURAL AND CRITICAL LANDS PRESERVATION BOARD**

The Beaufort County Rural and Critical Lands Preservation Board (hereafter known as the Board) was held on November 8, 2018, at the Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Conference Room, 3:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Mike Mathews (Chairman)  
Mr. Bob Bender  
Mr. Terry Hill  
Mr. Beekman Webb

Ms. Gail O’Kane  
Ms. Dorothy Scanlin  
Mr. Richard Walls  
Mr. Douglas Koop

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ms. Susie Fripp-Gordon  
Mr. Walter Mack

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Eric Greenway, Beaufort County Community Development Director  
Ms. Amanda Flake, Beaufort County Natural Resources Planner  
Ms. Barbara Holmes, Beaufort County Open Land Trust  
Ms. Diane McMaster, Beaufort County Community Development Admin Asst

### **GUESTS PRESENT:**

Ms. Stefanie Nagid, Beaufort County Passive Parks Manager  
Ms. Melissa Peagler, Beaufort County Long Range Planner  
Mr. Ed Pappas, Beaufort County Councilman  
Mr. Brian Flewelling, Beaufort County Councilman  
Mr. Mike Rahn, Wal/Cam Property Manager  
Mr. Stroh Morrison, Forestry Consultant  
Ms. Elaine \_\_\_\_\_, Member of the Public  
Ms. Kate Schaeffer, Coastal Conservation League  
Ms. Kristin Williams, Beaufort County Open Land Trust

### **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

Chairman Mike Mathews called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Douglas Koop – recently moved to Beaufort County, Business Manager, Port Royal Veterinarian Hospital, 20+ years of land trust experience and 4 years as a county government planner

Mr. Beekman Webb – born in Beaufort County, retired general contractor - historical restoration work

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Mathews entertained a motion by Douglas Koop, seconded by Richard Walls, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:12 p.m. and convene Executive Session. **The motion was carried unanimously to enter into Executive Session** (FOR: Mathews, Bender, Hill, O’Kane, Scanlin, Walls, Webb, Koop).

Chairman Mathews entertained a motion and Ms. Gail O’Kane seconded the motion to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Open Session at 4:11 p.m. **The motion was carried unanimously to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Open Session** (FOR: Mathews, Bender, Hill, O’Kane, Scanlin, Walls, Webb, Koop).

### **MATTERS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Mathews made a motion; seconded by Ms. Dorothy Scanlin, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Project 2018E under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion was carried to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Project 2018E under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Mathews, Bender, Hill, Scanlin, Walls, Webb, Koop and ONE OPPOSED: O’Kane).

Chairman Mathews made a motion; seconded by Ms. Gail O’Kane, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue the New Riverside/WalCam land swap proposal under the terms and conditions as recommended by the Beaufort County Passive Parks Manager, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion was carried to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue the New Riverside/WalCam land swap proposal under the terms and conditions as recommended by the Beaufort County Passive Parks Manager, discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Mathews, Bender, Hill, O’Kane, Scanlin, Webb, Koop and ONE ABSTAINED: Walls).

### **REVIEW OF AGENDA**

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

### **REVIEW OF FINANCIALS**

Stefanie Nagid, Beaufort County Passive Parks Manager, presented the R&C financial information noting that she had not received updated financials from the Beaufort County Finance Department. Therefore, current projects and next steps discussion were estimates at best. Chairman Mathews suggested that quarterly R&C financial updates would be acceptable in the future.

## REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Mathews asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the August 9, 2018, Board meeting. Ms. Gail O’Kane requested a revision to the Adjournment paragraph wording which states, “Due to a board member leaving the meeting early which made for an insufficient quorum, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.” Ms. O’Kane does not agree with the time reported in the minutes and feels like her departure time was closer to 5:05 p.m. She proposes a revision to the wording as follows:

“ After two motions relating to the business from the Executive Session failed due to a lack of a second, and the time being after the usual 5:00 p.m. ending time, a Board member left which made for an insufficient quorum so the meeting was adjourned.”

Amanda Flake was directed to check with the County Legal Department regarding the required wording and reference to the time adjourned. Therefore, Chairman Mathews stated that the approval of the August 9, 2018, minutes would be postponed until the next scheduled Board meeting. Those Board members not in attendance at the August 9, 2018, Board meeting will abstain when the vote to approve said minutes does occur.

## REGULAR MEETING

Ms. Kate Schaeffer, Coastal Conservation League, commented on the November election results in general and the \$25M Rural & Critical bond referendum and 1% sales tax in particular. She pointed out the positive, widespread voter support and defined primary voter focus as the threat of growth and traffic concerns. The small number of precincts showing less support is primarily located in the middle of protected lands, making the threat of growth not as strong.

Chairman Mathews noted the need to appoint an interim Board Vice Chair to serve until February 2019. Ms. Gail O’Kane nominated Mr. Richard Walls and there was unanimous support for Mr. Walls’ Vice Chair nomination.

The Board members were tasked with approving the R&C Policies and Guidelines as presented and then forward to Beaufort County Council for their review and approval. **Chairman Mathews made a motion to approve said Policies and Guidelines document and forward to County Council for review and approval; Mr. Terry Hill seconded the motion.** (FOR: Mathews, Bender, Hill, O’Kane, Scanlin, Walls ABSTAINED: Beekman and Koop).

The 2019 R&C Board Meeting Schedule was presented and approved. There was discussion regarding possible changes to date, time, and/or location. There was unanimous agreement to continue meeting at the Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., for 2019.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Mathews entertained a motion at 4:45 p.m.; seconded by Ms. Dorothy Scanlin, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously** (FOR: Mathews, Bender, Hill, O’Kane, Scanlin, Walls, Webb, Koop).

Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board meeting  
November 8, 2018

**Submitted by:** Diane McMaster, Beaufort County Community Development Adm Asst

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

Date: 1/10/19