

Acquisition and Restoration Council Regional Public Hearing and Meeting Results

Date: April 14, 2023

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Department of Environmental Protection
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
Conference Room 137
3900 Commonwealth Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399

And via webinar

Members in Attendance:

Ms. Alissa Lotane, DHR
Mr. Rick Dolan, FFS
Ms. Lynetta Griner, Citizen Member
Dr. Thomas Eason, FWC
Dr. Bill Palmer, Citizen Member
Ms. Elva Peppers, Citizen Member
Ms. Mara Gambineri, ARC Chair, DEP

ARC Staff Director: Ms. Shauna Allen, DEP

REGIONAL PUBLIC HEARING

- Welcome and Introductions
- ARC Role in Project Selection and Ranking Process
- Overview of 2023 Cycle 1 Florida Forever Project Proposals
- Public Testimony

COUNCIL MEETING

Item 1: Call to Order at 9:44 a.m.

Item 2: Consider the February 10 meeting and March 13 and 14 regional hearing summaries.

ARC Action: The meeting summaries were presented for consensus. There being no objections, the meeting summaries were approved by unanimous consent.

ARC STAFF REPORTS

Item 3: Items approved by the Division of State Lands via the online negative response process since the February 2023 ARC meeting.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 4: Consider a revision to the Interim Management Guidelines.

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the proposed revision with Dr. Palmer seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

FLORIDA FOREVER

Item 5: Consider project evaluation reports for the Avalon Phase II, Carter Quail Ranch, Creek Ranch, Floyd's Mound, Quail Creek Ranch, and Williamson Cattle Company 2023 Cycle 1 Florida Forever proposals.

ARC Action: Ms. Lotane made the motion to approve the project evaluation reports with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 6: Vote on whether to add six 2023 Cycle 1 Florida Forever proposals to the 2024 Florida Forever Priority List.

ARC Action: ARC voted by six members to add Avalon Phase II and Floyd's Mound proposals to the priority list with Dr. Palmer recusing himself from the vote. ARC voted by seven members to add Carter Quail Ranch, Creek Ranch, Quail Creek Ranch, and Williamson Cattle Company proposals to the priority list.

Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the staff recommendation to add approved projects to existing project boundaries with Ms. Peppers seconding.

ARC voted unanimously by seven votes to amend the Avalon Florida Forever project boundary to add the Avalon Phase II project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven votes to amend the Volusia Conservation Corridor Florida Forever project boundary to add the Carter Quail Ranch project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven votes to amend the Lake Hatchineha Watershed Florida Forever project boundary to add the Creek Ranch project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven votes to amend the Myakka Ranchlands Florida Forever project boundary to add the Quail Creek Ranch project.

MANAGEMENT PLANS

Item 7: Consider a 10-year update to the Watson Island State Forest Management Plan (Lease No. 3556).

ARC Action: Ms. Griner made the motion to approve the management plan update with Ms. Peppers seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 8: Consider a 10-year update to the Juno Dunes Natural Area Management Plan (Lease No. 4161).

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the management plan update with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

LAND ADMINISTRATION

Item 9: Determine that an approximately 5.4-acre parcel of state-owned conservation land within Anastasia State Park is no longer needed for state conservation purposes.

ARC Action: Ms. Griner made the motion to approve the change in designation with Ms. Lotane seconding. After public comment and further discussion, Dr. Eason offered an amendment to defer the vote with Mr. Dolan seconding. ARC approved the motion to defer unanimously.

Item 10: Determine whether an approximately 0.49-acre private electric utility easement to Solar FL 2018, LLC within the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenways State Recreation and Conservation Area is consistent with the Board of Trustees' Linear Facilities Policy.

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the easement with Ms. Peppers seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 11: Consider whether an approximately 9.3-acre private overhead electrical transmission line easement, ranging from 5-foot to 75-foot wide, within the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area is consistent with the Board of Trustees' Linear Facilities Policy.

ARC Action: Ms. Lotane made the motion to approve the easement with Ms. Peppers seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 12: Consider whether an approximately 31.29-acre private overhead electrical transmission line easement, and a 0.03-acre temporary construction easement within the Hilochee Wildlife Management Area and Tenoroc Public Use Area is consistent with the Board of Trustees' Linear Facilities Policy.

ARC Action: Ms. Peppers made the motion to approve the easement with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Item 13: Florida Communities Trust Program Update

ARC Action: No action required.

CLOSING COMMENTS

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.