Acquisition and Restoration Council Meeting Results

Council Meeting: October 9, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Webinar meeting

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Tim Parsons, DHR

Mr. Erin Albury, FFS

Ms. Lynetta Griner, Citizen Member

Dr. Thomas Eason, FWC

Ms. Elva Peppers, Citizen Member

Mr. Shawn Hamilton, ARC Chair, DEP

ARC Staff Director: Ms. Shauna Allen, DEP

Item 1: Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.

Item 2: Consider the August 21, 2020 meeting and September 1 and 2, 2020 regional hearing summaries.

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the August meeting and September regional hearing summaries with Dr. Eason seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

ARC STAFF REPORTS

Item 3: Items approved by the Division of State Lands via the online negative response process since the August 2020 ARC meeting.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 4: 2020 Annual update on the Division of State Lands conservation easement monitoring program.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 5: Annual Land Management Review Team findings and the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council 2020 Annual Report and Biennial Report.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 6: Division of State Lands Acquisition Progress Review Presentation.

ARC Action: No action required.

FLORIDA FOREVER

Item 7: Hear presentations and take Public Testimony on the Florida Forever 2020 Cycle 2 Proposals and other Florida Forever Projects.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 8: Consider project evaluation reports for Abington Ranch, Bluefield to Cow Creek, Crayfish Habitat Restoration, Welannee Watershed Forest and Withlacoochee River Addition 2020 Cycle 2 Florida Forever proposals.

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

Item 9: Vote on whether to add five 2020 Cycle 2 Florida Forever proposals to the 2021 Florida Forever Priority List.

ARC Action: ARC voted unanimously by six members to add Abington Ranch, Bluefield to Cow Creek, Crayfish Habitat Restoration, Welannee Watershed Forest and Withlacoochee River Addition to the 2021 Florida Forever Priority List.

ARC voted unanimously by six members to amend the Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector boundary to add Abington Ranch.

ARC voted unanimously by six members to amend the Withlacoochee River Corridor boundary to add Withlacoochee River Addition.

Item 10: Consider a staff recommendation to remove Tippen Bay Ranch, Caber Coastal Connector, Estero Bay and Upper St. Marks River Corridor projects from the 2021 Florida Forever Priority List.

ARC Action: Ms. Griner made the motion to approve the project removals with Mr. Albury seconding. ARC voted unanimously by six members to remove each project from the 2021 Florida Forever Priority List.

Item 11: Vote on whether to amend the Florida's First Magnitude Springs Florida Forever Project Boundary to add two parcels totaling approximately 37.6 acres in Hernando County with a tax assessed market value of \$535,365.

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the boundary amendment with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC voted unanimously by six members to approve the amendment.

Item 12: Vote on whether to amend the Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem Forever Project Boundary to add three parcels totaling approximately 79.63 acres in Polk County with a tax assessed market value of \$61,310.

ARC Action: Ms. Peppers made the motion to approve the boundary amendment with Dr. Parsons seconding. ARC voted unanimously by six members to approve the amendment.

Item 13: Vote on whether to amend the Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem Forever Project Boundary to add one parcel totaling approximately 221 acres in Highlands County with a tax assessed market value of \$187,502.

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the boundary amendment with Mr. Albury seconding. ARC voted unanimously by six members to approve the amendment.

Item 14: Vote on whether to amend the Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem Forever Project Boundary to add two parcels totaling approximately 354 acres in Highlands County with a tax assessed market value of \$179,638.

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the boundary amendment with Dr. Eason seconding. ARC voted unanimously by six members to approve the amendment.

LAND ADMINISTRATION

Item 15: Consider whether a 0.98-acre± parcel of land managed by City of Doral under Board of Trustees Lease No. 4617 is more appropriately owned by the City of Doral pursuant to Chapter 18-2.021, F.A.C.

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the recommendation to the Board of Trustees with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC concurred with six members in favor of the recommendation.

Item 16: Consider whether an approximately 0.28-acre parcel of state-owned land managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) as part of the Florida Keys Wildlife and Environmental Area is no longer needed for conservation purposes in exchange for approximately 1.01 acres of private property.

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the recommendation to the Board of Trustees with Ms. Peppers seconding. ARC concurred with six members in favor of the recommendation.

MANAGEMENT PLANS

Item 17: Consider an update to the Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area Management Plan (Lease No. 2785).

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

Item 18: Consider an update to the Half Moon Wildlife Management Area Management Plan (Lease No. 3789).

ARC Action: Chair Hamilton made the motion to approve the management plan with Dr. Parsons seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

CLOSING COMMENTS

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.