

**Oconee River Greenway Authority**  
**MINUTES**  
**24 April 2012**

**Members Present:** Peter Boylan, Chairman; Richard Bentley, Bo Edwards, Eric Mosley, Marion Nelson

**Others Present:** Heather Langston - ORGA Executive Director (via conference call)  
Jeff Gray - GMC  
Colin Moore - ORGF  
Sherrill Jones - Recorder

**Not Present:** Dennis Holder, Indiren Pillay, Daniel Schay, Bubba Williams

**Location:** President's Conference Room in the Old Capital Building

- I. Call to Order** – At approximately 1:30 PM, Chairman Boylan called the 24 April 2012 meeting of the Oconee River Greenway Authority to order. Mr. Bentley reported that a change in Mr. Williams work responsibilities is taking him out-of-town on a frequent basis, making it difficult to attend meetings. Chairman Boylan volunteered to contact Faye Smith (Chairman, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners) to request the appointment of a replacement for Mr. Williams.
- II. Approval of 7 February 2012 Minutes** – After a review of the 7 February 2012 minutes, Mr. Bentley made a motion, that was seconded by Mr. Mosley to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.
- III. Treasurer's Report** – There being no written report, Mr. Mosley reported no major changes since the February meeting.
- IV. Old Business**
  - A. Phase II Status – SPLOST Update** – Chairman Boylan reported he has spoken with four of the five county commissioners, who have assured him that ORGA will receive \$150,000 in SPLOST funds by June 30<sup>th</sup>. To achieve this, payments under the new SPLOST, beginning May 1, will be accelerated.
  - B. Greene Street Extension Status** – Mr. Bentley reported the Greene Street extension is still on schedule and that construction should begin in June or July. Mr. Gray noted that bids will be let this Friday, and if all proceeds according to schedule the project should be completed by the end of August when Phase II Greenway construction should begin.
  - C. 2009 DNR RTP Grant - Lower Fishing Creek Trail – Acquisition of ROW** – Mr. Gray reported that GMC is working with J.D. Smith on providing survey information and a legal description of the area needed for ROW. He anticipates this will be ready to present to the City Council approval in May. If not approved in May, Dr. Langston will

need to request an extension for the DNR Grant. Mr. Bentley asked to be kept informed so that he can assist in expediting the approval process with the city. Dr. Langston reported that the Georgia Power land donation can be used as an in-kind donation for matching funds.

**D. Selma Erwin Property** – Director Langston noted that she has not drafted the letter to the Georgia Forestry Commission regarding the transfer of the Selma Erwin property; however, she will get this done within the next 30 days. She has received a letter of support from the First Presbyterian Church and will include this when communicating with the Forestry Commission. Mr. Moseley volunteered to communicate with the Milledgeville Bicycle Club to secure an additional letter of support and commitment.

**E. Forest Stewardship Plan** – Mr. Mosley reported that a Forest Stewardship Plan is basically a roadmap for a Natural Resources Management Plan, and once approved it would make ORGA eligible for a long list of grant opportunities. He proposed working on such a plan for the 90-acre DNR tract, which includes approximately 80 acres of open acreage that could be planted with long-leaf pines to be harvested in the future, thus providing future income for ORGA. He further suggested contracting with a forester to draft a plan. Chairman Boylan asked Dr. Langston to work with Mr. Moseley to identify a consultant forester to create such a plan. The Board authorized Dr. Langston to hire a forester for no more than \$300 before the next meeting.

**V. New Business**

**A. FY2013 ORGA Operating Budget** – Dr. Langston noted that the proposed FY2013 Operating Budget is approximately \$500 less than the FY2012 budget (see below). Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

<b>ORGA OPERATING BUDGET FY2013</b>	
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Salary for Executive Director	\$49,152.00
Insurance and Taxes	\$4,500.00
Retirement	\$5,200.00
Education and Training	\$500.00
Subscriptions/Membership dues	\$720.00
Accountant	\$750.00
Office Supplies	\$250.00
Permits	\$250.00
Postage and delivery	\$250.00
Travel	\$500.00
Marketing	\$500.00

Legal	\$300.00
Utilities and Port-o-potties	\$5,300.00
Grounds and Landscaping	\$8,000.00
Maintenance and Repairs	\$2,500.00
Equipment	\$1,000.00
Telecommunications	\$1,800.00
Other	\$1,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$82,472.00</b>

**B. Trail Naming** – Chairman Boylan reported that he and Director Langston recently met with a group wanting to name a trail for a child who drowned in the river. He and Dr. Langston felt this was not a good precedent to set; therefore, they suggested the family provide a memorial plaque, at their expense, to be placed, with ORGA board approval, near the boat ramp. The Board fully supports this recommendation.

It was also noted that the sign warning visitors of the danger of the river has been stolen. Dr. Langston indicated the sign would be replaced as soon as possible.

**C. Civitan Club – Playground** – Director Langston reported the Civitan Club wants to make a donation to the greenway on behalf of children. Mr. Moore suggested using the donation to purchase park kits containing items such as parachutes, hula hoops, balls, etc. which could be rented by groups to use at the Greenway. Board members expressed concern about the management and storage of such equipment. It was suggested that perhaps the Foundation and/or the Civitan Club could take responsibility for purchasing and managing this kind of equipment for children. Dr. Langston was asked to determine what, if any, responsibility the Civitan Club would be willing to assume for this concept.

**D. ORGF Update** – On behalf of ORGF Mr. Moore reported the following:

- On St. Patrick’s Day 200 people participated in the Greene Mile Run that yielded approximately \$600 for the Foundation. This report spawned discussion about possibly sponsoring a 5-K Run or similar event on a larger scale. Mr. Moseley suggested exploring the idea of coordinating with Lockerly and Andalusia to sponsor an area triple-run, perhaps in the fall.
- Approximately 300 children attended the Egg Hunt sponsored in conjunction with Z97.
- The Second Saturday Concert Series began this month and yielded approximately \$200. The next concert will be from 6:00-8:00 PM on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- A Greenway Yard Sale was held this past Saturday (April 21<sup>st</sup>) and will become a monthly event on the third Saturday each month. The next sale will be on May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The Knight Foundation Grant application is on hold in that beaming a wireless transmission to the greenway has been deemed unfeasible.

**E. Schedule Next Meeting** – The next meeting of the Oconee River Greenway Authority is scheduled for 1:30 PM on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 in the President's Conference Room of the Old Capital Building. Mr. Moseley has invited an EPD Program Manager to present information about the 319 Grant Program (Stream & River Management Grant).

**VI. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:19 P.M.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Sherrill Jones, Recorder**