

Babcock Ranch, Inc.
Board of Director's Teleconference
July 25, 2011, 1:30 p.m.
Minutes - Approved

Board members on call:

Dr. Hilary Swain – Board of Trustees appointee (Chair)
Liz Donley – Lee County appointee
Dr. Bill Hammond – Kitson and Partners, LLC appointee

Board members not on call:

Dr. George Tanner – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation (FWC) appointee
Mr. Manley Fuller – Board of Trustees appointee (Treasurer)
Dr. William H. Wilcox – Charlotte County appointee
Vacant – Board of Trustees appointee
Vacant – Board of Trustees appointee
Vacant – Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division/of Forestry (DOACS/DOF) appointee

Other Attendees present:

Andy Stevens – Charlotte County
Cathy Olson – Lee County
Ed Flowers – Division of Forestry
Steve Smith – Babcock Ranch Management, LLC
Marianne Gengenbach – FDEP
Jeff McGrady - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Lee Taylor – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Erica Rogan – Kitson and Partners
Jo Harder – Equestrian Rider
Debbie Upp – Archbold Biological Station

Meeting commenced at 1:35pm.

Welcome by Hilary Swain, Chair of the Board.

Hilary Swain read the Florida Administrative Weekley announcement requirement stating it had been met for this meeting and the August 25, 2011 meeting. The public was invited to listen in to this call, and reminded that the next meeting in August should be an in-person meeting where public comments will be welcomed.

A majority quorum was not present. Three of the six members were present.

Old Business

Minutes from the June 10, 2011 meeting was distributed. Table approval until the August meeting.

Action Items:

Vice Chair position is still vacant. There were no nominations received. It was discussed that the Board wait until the other appointments to the Board are made before filling the position. Also it would be best to wait until we have an in-person meeting.

Marianne Gengenbach (DEP, State Lands) suggested a BRI Board member approach the Cabinet members responsible for the vacant positions. The Cabinet is not moving forward; possibly Manley Fuller would be willing to approach the Cabinet. Gengenbach stated she would help Fuller get organized on

whom to contact regarding the vacancies and re-appointments. She also indicated there has not been any movement from Adam Putnam's office in Agriculture.

Action Items: Hilary Swain to ask Manley Fuller to follow up on this.

Bill Hammond was checking with Governor Rick Scott's office about a site visit, but to date has not had the opportunity to make the connection, due to being out of state. He will follow up.

The Special Report Audit requested by DEP for Babcock Ranch Management has had no further action. A proposal was received from the auditing firm used by Kitson. A contractor has been hired to develop a template for the Special Report Audit to meet the assurances the Cabinet requested. A revised Scope of Work was sent out on July 15, 2011. Waiting for word on the new proposal/new template.

Ed Flowers (DEP) and Bill Wilcox (DOF) have not yet worked on the Legislative Funding Request (DOF). Gengenbach emphasized their Legislative Budget Requests are due in next month. Flowers will check on the timeline and start working with Wilcox on this.

Liz Donley reported some progress on the website. Debbie Upp is working with Rebekah Harp in getting Babcock documents to the Regional Planning Council. Upp will send the documents on a CD for Harp to upload to the website. The goal is to have a demo at the August meeting.

Swain distributed the draft 2010 Annual Report for comments. There were no comments submitted. Swain will submit the report to the State as required by legislation.

Swain will draft letters of thanks for services to James Bryan and Sandy Safley.

Donley will prepare a proposal regarding a Transition Plan Workshop for presentation at the next meeting.

Liability and Sovereign Immunity Update – Lee Taylor (FFWCC) discussed the Florida Statute up for amendment - 375.251, which states that public land made available for outdoor recreational activity will be limited on their liability to persons accessing the property. However, this not an option for Babcock Ranch.

Steve Smith reported that he received word of approval from their insurance agent regarding the umbrella insurance plan as of July 22, 2011. The policy change is in process. This will now allow guided equestrian tours on the Ranch. Smith will work out the details regarding available dates; target start date will be October. The details will also be posted on the Babcock Ranch Preserve website.

Jo Harder was invited to speak regarding the equestrian rides. She asked for clarification on the term "guided" tour of the ranch. Smith explained it will be a contracted Ranch person who will provide information about the Ranch and guide riders along paths. Harder will follow up with Smith for details.

Bill Wilcox Master Naturalist meetings, Southwest Chapter of Audubon Citizen Scientist are putting a monitoring program. Jeff McGrady is working with Audubon, but it will be a low intensive one or two day surveys of trees in the area. SW Audubon will take ownership of the monitoring effort and FWC will be responsible for accepting the data and getting it uploaded into FNIA database. Swain asked Steve Smith to clearly document what will happen, who will be involved, how data are reported, as this was noted in the management review. Smith stated this will also be a part of the Babcock Ranch Management Annual Report.

Hammond suggested organizing a Protocol workshop. Smith indicated this is FWC's role. McGrady has put Steve Shattler in charge, **RSVW**, manages the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) surveys for many areas in the southwest. Shattler will look at the meta-populations and work with Audubon on training.

Swain suggested contact between Reed Bowman and Shattler to document the RCW populations.

Smith reported the biofuel fields are off the table. Grazing leases are pending. A couple of farm leases are signed and there are a few verbal commitments for farm leases.

The next meeting should be in person and is on August 25, 2011 at the Cypress Lodge at Babcock Ranch.

There was no other business.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Member/ Position	Email	1 st Year Appointed	Appointed By:	Term Length	Reappointed / Resigned	Expertise (as written in the original legislation)
Hilary Swain/ Chairman	hswain@archbold-station.org	2006	BOT <i>Governor Jeb Bush</i>	4 years		Sustainable management of forest lands for commodity purposes.
R.Z. "Sandy" Safley/ Vice-Chair	rsafley@penningtonlaw.com	2006	BOT <i>CFO Gallagher</i>	4 years	Resigned 6/9/2011	Financial management, budget and program analysis and small business operations.
Manley Fuller, III/ Treasurer	wildfed@gmail.com	2006	BOT <i>AG Crist</i>	4 years		Management of game and nongame wildlife and fish populations, including hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.
Cary Lightsey/ Resigned (the replacement will serve rest of term)		2006	BOT <i>Comm. Bronson</i>	4 years	Resigned 2008	Domesticated livestock management, production, and marketing, including range management and livestock business management.
James Bryan	jbryan@lykes.com	2006	DOACS/DOF	2 years	Resigned 2011	Agricultural operations or forestry management.
Bill Hammond	naturalcontext@gmail.com	2006	Kitson & Partners	2 years	11/09/2010 for 4 year term – next appointment 2012	Activities and management of the Babcock Ranch on the date of acquisition of the ranch by the state. Shall serve on the board of directors only until the termination of or expiration of the management agreement attached as Exhibit "E"...
Liz Donley	ldonley@swfrpc.org	2011	Lee County	4 years	2011	Must be a resident of Lee County and who shall have experience in land conservation and management. Appointee shall serve as a member of the board of directors so long as the county participates in the state land management plan.
Bill Wilcox	bill.wilcox3030@gmail.com	2006	Charlotte County	2 years	11/25/2008 for 4 year term – next appointment 2012	Must be a resident of Charlotte County and who shall be active in an organization concerned with the activities of the ranch.
George Tanner	tannerg@ufl.edu	2006	FWC	2 years	05/19/2009 for 4 year term – next appointment 2012	Hunting; fishing; nongame species management; or wildlife habitat management, restoration, and conservation.