

T H E C A B I N E T
S T A T E O F F L O R I D A

Representing:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND

The above agencies came to be heard before
THE FLORIDA CABINET, the Honorable Governor Scott
presiding, in the Cabinet Meeting Room, LL-03, The
Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida, on Wednesday, January 19,
2011, commencing at approximately 9:04 a.m.

Reported by:

MARY ALLEN NEEL
Registered Professional Reporter
Florida Professional Reporter
Notary Public

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APPEARANCES:

Representing the Florida Cabinet:

RICK SCOTT
Governor

PAM BONDI
Attorney General

JEFF ATWATER
Chief Financial Officer

ADAM PUTNAM
Commissioner of Agriculture

* * *

I N D E X

Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection

Vote Approved 5

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
(Presented by JIM KARELS)

ITEM	ACTION	PAGE
1	Approved	7

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND
(Presented by HERSCHEL VINYARD)

ITEM	ACTION	PAGE
1	Withdrawn	11
2	Approved	11
3	Withdrawn	11

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 13

P R O C E E D I N G S

(The agenda items commenced at 9:26 a.m.)

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3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Today we have an appointment
4 before us requiring Cabinet approval. I would like
5 to ask the Cabinet to approve my appointment of
6 Herschel Vinyard as the secretary of the Department
7 of Environmental Protection.

8 Mr. Vinyard practiced environmental law for
9 more than a decade before serving as the director
10 of business operation for BAE Systems Southeast
11 Shipyards.

12 Where is Herschel? All right. There you are.
13 I wanted to make sure.

14 His unique background in environmental
15 compliance and innovation will ensure that
16 government and business find new ways to partner in
17 growing Florida's economy while protecting our
18 environment.

19 Is there a motion to approve Mr. Vinyard as
20 the secretary of the Department of Environmental
21 Protection?

22 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So move.

23 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I second proudly.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Moved and seconded. Without

1 objection, the motion passes.

2 Thank you, Secretary Vinyard, for being here.
3 Would you like to say a few words?

4 MR. VINYARD: Governor and Cabinet, thank you
5 so much for giving me the opportunity to serve this
6 great state of Florida. I look forward to working
7 with each one of you to make Florida a better place
8 to live. Thank you, sir.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you very much. So
10 congratulations. You've got a lot of work to do.

11 So the next Cabinet meeting is Tuesday,
12 February 1, 2011.

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1 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So our first agenda is from
2 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
3 and will be presented by Jim Karels. So now we're
4 going to go to . . .

5 MR. KARELS: Governor and Cabinet, good
6 morning again. I'm usually not up here this often.

7 The Department's agenda item is the donation
8 of the Circle Pine Farm to the Rural and Family
9 Lands protection easement program. The request is
10 the consideration of (1) an acceptance of the
11 donation of an 82-acre perpetual conservation
12 easement on lands lying within the Circle Pine Farm
13 project of the Department of Agriculture and
14 Consumer Services' Division of Forestry's Rural and
15 Family Lands program, and this is from Ms. Jean
16 Wonser. And the second is designation of
17 DACS/Division of Forestry as the monitoring agency.

18 This donation has been evaluated by the
19 Department of Ag, Division of Forestry, under its
20 Rural and Family Lands program. It's the fifth
21 perpetual easement under this conservation program
22 proposed for acquisition totaling now more than
23 3,647 acres preserved under the program.

24 Currently Circle Pine Farm is ranked as a
25 Tier III project in the approved projects of the

1 Rural and Family Lands. Circle Pine Farm is
2 focused on restoration of previously disturbed
3 sandhills, flatwoods, and natural communities,
4 while maintaining a viable silvicultural operation
5 mixed with pasture and horse ranching.

6 Ms. Wonser is very interested in seeing that
7 her property not be subdivided for development in
8 the future. This easement is provided -- provides
9 for an additional -- one additional single-family
10 residence.

11 A title insurance commitment, a survey, and an
12 environment site assessment of the property will be
13 provided by DOF prior to closing.

14 Staff on this one recommends approval of this
15 conservation easement donation for Rural and Family
16 Lands.

17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Karels.

18 Is there a motion to approve Item 1?

19 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So move.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

21 CFO ATWATER: Second.

22 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Approved without
23 objection. Thank you very much.

24 MR. KARELS: Governor, the Nature Conservancy
25 would like to speak just briefly on the Rural and

1 Family Lands program, I think Janet Bowman, and
2 just talk about the values of it from their agency.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

4 MR. BOWMAN: Governor Scott and members of the
5 Cabinet, I'm Janet Bowman. I'm director of
6 legislative policy and strategy with the Nature
7 Conservancy.

8 And what a wonderful project to start out the
9 land acquisition work and preservation work of this
10 Cabinet. The Rural and Family Lands Act is part of
11 Florida Forever, receives money from the Florida
12 Forever program. This particular project was
13 donated, which is great.

14 But I just wanted to talk about how important
15 the program is for conserving ag land, conserving
16 conservation land, and talk about the increasingly
17 important role of conservation easements, which
18 this provides. Conservation easements are a great
19 land protection tool because the owner continues to
20 maintain the property so the State does not incur
21 continuing maintenance costs.

22 In 2008, the Florida Forever program was
23 expanded to include the Rural and Family Lands Act
24 and to include funding for that program. And we
25 hope that the Legislature will again provide

1 funding for the whole program, but particularly for
2 this portion of the program as well. And we look
3 forward to working with you all on land
4 preservation in the years to come. Thank you.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you very much.
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1 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So the next agenda is the
2 Board of Trustees presented by Secretary Herschel
3 Vinyard.

4 MR. VINYARD: Governor and members of the
5 Cabinet, the items on today's Board of Trustees
6 agenda are sovereignty submerged land leases. And
7 by way of background, I would like to paraphrase a
8 part of the Florida Constitution:

9 The title to lands under navigable waters is
10 held by the State in trust for all people. Private
11 use of portions of such lands may be authorized by
12 law, but only when not contrary to the public
13 interest. And the Board of Trustees administers
14 these lands, and the leases presented to you today
15 require Trustees approval. So "not contrary to
16 public interest" is the test that you all will be
17 evaluating in the future.

18 Governor, the Department recommends that
19 Agenda Item Number 1 be withdrawn for the agenda.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Yes, Governor. I
22 move to withdraw Item 1.

23 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

24 CFO ATWATER: Second.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. So it's approved

1 without objection.

2 MR. VINYARD: Agenda Item 2, which is Snook
3 Bight Marina, is consideration of a five-year
4 sovereignty submerged land lease which you'll see
5 on your screen. And the proposed project would
6 consist of 74 slips for a commercial docking
7 facility in Matanzas Pass in Lee County. The
8 consideration paid to the State in year 1 is almost
9 \$31,000, and DEP recommends approval.

10 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

11 CFO ATWATER: So move.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: And a second?

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So approved without
15 objection. Item Number 2 is approved without
16 objection. Thank you, sir.

17 MR. VINYARD: Item Number 3, the Department
18 recommends to the Cabinet that this agenda item be
19 withdrawn.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Governor, I move to
22 withdraw Item Number 3.

23 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. Is there a second?

24 CFO ATWATER: Second.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Approved without objection.

1 So thank you, Secretary Vinyard. This
2 concludes our meeting, and we are adjourned. Thank
3 you very much.

4 (Proceedings concluded at 9:34 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA:

COUNTY OF LEON:

I, MARY ALLEN NEEL, Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place therein designated; that my shorthand notes were thereafter translated under my supervision; and the foregoing pages numbered 1 through 12 are a true and correct record of the aforesaid proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor relative or employee of such attorney or counsel, or financially interested in the foregoing action.

DATED THIS 7th day of February, 2011.

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