

MINUTES OF MEETING

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA - JANUARY 21, 1972

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission was called to order by Chairman Eltzroth at 10:05 A. M. , January 21, 1972, in the Commission Room in Columbia. The Commission immediately went into Executive Session and continued until it adjourned for lunch at 1:05 P. M. Those present for the Executive Session were Chairman Eltzroth, Vice-Chairman Glenn, Commissioners Mishoe, Rhame and Eppes, Major Cantey and General Harris. Also in attendance for a portion of the session were Executive Director Webb, Pat Ryan and Dr. Timmerman.

Business transacted during the Commission Meeting included the establishment of a policy by the Commission which provides that any employee having attained 19 years of satisfactory service upon his 65th birthday, may continue employment for one additional year, provided his health is suitable and he is so recommended for continuation of employment to the Executive Director. This continued one year of employment beyond the age of 65 is for the purpose of said employee completing 20 years of service at the time of retirement.

Executive Director Webb requested that the Commission appoint a committee to make recommendations concerning the proposed closing of the Berry's Mill Hatchery facilities. Mr. Webb suggested that this committee evaluate the present condition of the hatchery facilities, ascertain the costs which will be necessary to re-develop the hatchery to provide for proper production, evaluate the need for the hatchery facilities and to make recommendations relative to this proposal.

The Commission entertained Mr. Webb's recommendations and authorized Vice-Chairman Glenn, who was presiding in the absence of Chairman Eltzroth who had left because of a prior commitment, to appoint such a committee. Thereupon, Vice-Chairman Glenn appointed a committee consisting of Commissioners Eppes and Thompson to work with Executive Director Webb on this matter.

When the Commission adjourned at 1:05 P. M. , Vice-Chairman Glenn announced that the meeting would continue at 2:00 P. M. to discuss those items found on the agenda.



At 2:00 P. M. Vice-Chairman Glenn called the meeting to order. Present at the afternoon session were Vice-Chairman Glenn, Commissioners Mishoe, Rhame and Eppes, General Harris, Executive Director Webb, Pat Ryan, Dr. Timmerman, Dr. Joseph, Fred Ramage, Joe Logan, Jeff Fuller, Ed Latimer, John Culler, Brock Conrad, T. C. Welch and Ken Hare of The State newspaper. The first item of business was the reading the Minutes.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Eppes, the Minutes were approved as submitted.

There being no items of Old Business, the first item of New Business was the matter of Appointments.

Executive Director Webb noted that all of the Appointments had previously been mailed to the Commissioners and on the motion of Commissioner Eppes, all of the Appointments which were re-appointments were approved. Those applications which were for new Appointments as non-pay Game Wardens were delayed at this time until a later date.

The next item of business was the Accident Reports. Executive Director Webb reported that these reports consisted of those which had been mailed previously to Commission Members and the two additional Accident Reports which were distributed at this time concerning accidents in which Gerald L. Hutcheson and Tom Curtis were involved. The Commission approved all of the Accident Reports as recommended by the Executive Director.

The monthly Finance Report was distributed and reviewed. In addition to the regularly prepared Finance Report, two additional reports were distributed. These consisted of a six months summary of expenditures by accounting classifications and the second of the quarterly allotment summaries. Both of these were prepared for the purpose of indicating the expenditure experience of the Department by Divisions for the first two quarters. These two reports were accompanied by an explanation and an oral review was given by the Administrative Assistant. After a brief discussion, the reports were accepted by the Commission for information.

The proposed 1972 Spring Gobbler Season was discussed by Brock Conrad. He noted that the season selected reflected the legislation enacted during the 1971 session for Game Zones 2 and 4 which extended the period within which a season may occur to May 1st. He also explained that in these two Zones, where both the Western and Central Piedmont Game Management Areas exist, that the proposed April 22nd closing date provided an opportunity for an extension of the season to May 1st if weather conditions greatly reduced hunting opportunity and the harvest was not sufficient to meet good management criteria.



After limited discussion, the seasons were approved by the Commission as recommended.

The only item of new legislation which was considered related to the proposed change in the title of the Department. No action was taken upon this proposal and it was voted to hold this over until the February meeting.

Mr. Ryan, for the Division of Game and Freshwater Fisheries, presented the monthly progress report, a copy of which is attached to the file copy of these Minutes.

In addition to the materials found in the printed report, Mr. Ryan noted that several Conservation Officers were retiring and he noted that he would discuss these positions with the Executive Director and determine whether all vacancies should be filled at this time. He also called on Joe Logan to expand on the printed comments dealing with disease in our hatcheries. Mr. Logan noted that this inspection survey was a part of the cooperative disease arrangement which we have with Auburn University and we were most fortunate to have this accomplished because it was learned that some of our reduced large mouth bass productivity was the result of tape worm infestation. Mr. Logan noted that he was presently in the process of locating new, parasite-free brood stock to replace the infested fish.

Dr. Timmerman presented the Marine Resources monthly report. A copy of this report is attached to the file copy of these Minutes.

In addition to the materials included in the report, Dr. Timmerman explained that his personnel were in the process of discussing with the Corps of Army Engineers the possibility of utilizing Morris Island as a salt water fishing pond. It had been proposed that possibly shrimp could be produced within the impoundment, but because of several deep holes within the diked area, this did not seem feasible. Much of what can be done at Morris Island will depend upon the assistance available from the Corps.

Dr. Joseph noted that several important things had occurred and he presently these orally to bring the Commission up to date. He stated that the two marine scientists which he had discussed at an earlier meeting had accepted employment with the Division and will report to Fort Johnson during February. He also stated that he was most encouraged with his recruiting efforts for the other professional personnel which will be needed at the Center.

Dr. Joseph noted that he had recently been designated by Governor West as being the Sea Grant Program Coordinator for South Carolina. He



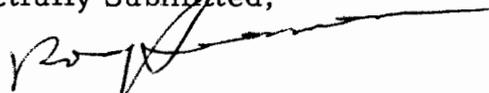
reported on a meeting which he had had in Columbia on January 17th with representatives of the institutions of higher learning and his more recent meeting with the Governor and Dr. Morris on January 20th. He felt that much progress had been made and that a clear understanding existed as to the relationship of all parties concerned in this program. He also noted that he will present by April 1st a Sea Grant Proposal for South Carolina.

Dr. Timmerman also distributed and asked for comments on Marine Resources financial report for the month of December. He also noted that a brochure had been prepared concerning public oyster grounds and copies of these were distributed. The financial statement is attached to these Minutes.

No formal committee reports were presented. Vice-Chairman Glenn and Commissioner Mishoe discussed informally the results of their Commission sub-committees, stating that they had been organized and had formulated some plans on how they would proceed to carry out the desires of the Chairman. Vice-Chairman Glenn noted that his Salt Water Committee had visited the Marine Center at Fort Johnson to request assistance from the staff of the Division and had been briefed on needs and programs. He also noted that at an early date the committee and Marine Resources staff will meet with interested personnel associated with the Marine Fisheries industry in the Beaufort area. He felt that this type of meeting would be helpful in perhaps obtaining suggestions of areas where assistance was needed by commercial interests and also informing the commercial interests of the Department's interest and plans.

No further business having been scheduled or presented to the Commission, the Commission Meeting adjourned at 3:05 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,



ROGER A. SEAMANS, Secretary  
Wildlife Resources Commission

RAS/pal



ADDITIONAL MINUTES RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

OF JANUARY 21, 1972

Executive Director Webb presented to the Commission a suggestion that had been developed by Mr. Ryan concerning the appointment of non-pay Game Wardens. Mr. Ryan expressed his concern that such persons were being given appointments without any training in this work and that to him this appeared to be a most important necessity. Executive Director Webb concurred in these concerns.

The Commission, not having had an opportunity to consider this proposal prior to the Commission Meeting, accepted the proposal as information and agreed that it would consider this proposal at its February meeting.

Commissioner Mishoe reported that he had received a communique from Senator Gasque concerning non-pay Warden Robert Byrd of Marion County. Commissioner Mishoe moved that Mr. Byrd's present commission be revoked. This motion was carried.

Commissioner Mishoe also discussed the performance of non-pay Game Warden R. V. Larimore. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that this Commission would not be renewed when it expires in April.

Respectfully Submitted,



ROGER A. SEAMANS, Secretary  
Wildlife Resources Commission

RAS/pal

Distribution: These additional Minutes of the Executive Session distributed only to Commission Members, General Harris, Executive Director Webb, one copy in Commission Files.

