

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Marine Resources Center
Charleston, S. C.
April 15, 1983
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at the Marine Resources Center, Charleston, S. C. at 10:00 A.M., on April 15, 1983, with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present at the meeting included Commissioners Webster, Compton, Stubbs, Dawson, Altman and Harrelson. Directors and staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Jeff Fuller, Ed Joseph, Pat Ryan, Sonny Baines and various other staff. Guests at the meeting included Al Cannon of the South Carolina Wildlife Federation, Mike Rowe of the Governor's Office, Bo Stokes and Haig Porter of Florence, and several shrimpers from the coastal area.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and introduced all guests at the meeting.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission approved a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the March 18, 1983 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commissioners that a copy of the Policy Manual has been passed out and he briefly went over this document. Dr. Timmerman noted that every employee will be given a copy of this manual.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Minutes of the April Staff meeting to the Commissioners for their information.

Dr. Timmerman noted the Waddell Mariculture Center will include a residence for someone to manage the property. Dr. Timmerman requested approval from the Commission for an employee to live in this residence and be responsible for the payment of all utilities. Commissioner Dawson moved for the Commission to approve this request. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.



Dr. Timmerman stated that in accordance with the Commission's policy on the Certificate of Meritorious Service, he is recommending the Commission approve this award for Jean Bradford who is retiring this year. Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve this award for Jean Bradford. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. The Commission also adopted a motion to award the Certificate of Meritorious Service to another employee who is retiring.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a memo from Jeff Fuller (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) concerning a water intake being installed by the City of Bennettsville at Lake Wallace. This has been reviewed by the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and Dr. Timmerman recommended that the Commission approve the project in accordance with the plans developed subject to the City of Bennettsville signing an agreement to provide safeguards to maintain water levels needed for the Department's purposes. Bob Perry presented some background information on this matter noting the success of wood duck nesting in the area. Following other discussion, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt the recommendation made by Dr. Timmerman. Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposed Easement - City of Bennettsville: This matter has already been discussed and acted upon by the Commission.

B. Enforcement of Three-Mile Limit: Dr. Timmerman noted the Commission last year acted on the enforcement of the three-mile limit for shrimping. In 1982, the Commission action was as follows: "to postpone enforcement between the old and new line for one year, ask the shrimping industry to work with the Department on reporting data needed by the Department, and for a committee of staff and industry representatives to be set up to develop recommendations prior to the time to act next year". Dr. Joseph discussed this matter noting that due to the cold weather, there was no spring fishery, thus, no monitoring could be done. Charlie Bearden presented some charts showing the federally adopted three-mile line and the traditional law enforcement line. Following discussion, Dr. Joseph recommended that for fishery purposes, other than shrimp, it is recommended the Commission adopt the federal (new) line as shown on the NOAA charts for enforcement and that the old, or traditional, line for enforcement of shrimping be continued for this year. Commissioner Stubbs recommended the Commission adopt Dr. Joseph's recommendation. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was approved by the Commission.



ITEM IV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins noted the recent copy of the Legislative Report has been distributed to the Commission and he went over the status of various bills in the General Assembly.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion - 1983 Shrimp Season: Chairman Webster recognized Mr. Wally Schaffer of the S. C. Shrimpers Association. Mr. Schaffer discussed the new organization of the Shrimpers Association and advised the Commission that the organization recommended the shrimp season open this year on May 2nd. Dr. Joseph discussed the shrimp stock noting the shrimp are running about two weeks behind in size and spawning development. Dr. Joseph recommended the Commission approve opening of the shrimp season on May 16th. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve opening of the shrimp season on May 16th. Commissioner Altman seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

B. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing further to report.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Jeff Fuller advised the Commission that the waterfowl hearing for the Pee Dee, Samworth, etc. areas is scheduled for April 28, 1983, 7:30 P.M., at the National Guard Armory in Georgetown.

Mr. Fuller also advised the Commission that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board met yesterday and approved a detailed mottled duck study. Commissioner Dawson moved for this study as approved by the Board to get started as soon as possible. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: There was nothing further to report.

4. Information & Public Affairs: There was nothing further to report. Commissioner Stubbs congratulated the IPA Division on their recent successful press outing at Oconee State Park.

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report.

C. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: There was nothing further to report.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: There was nothing further to report.

3. Marine Resources: Commissioner Compton noted the Board will meet on May 13th.



4. Heritage Trust: Dr. Timmerman noted the Board will meet on April 28th.

D. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and re-appointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers and Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). In addition to this list, Commissioner Harrelson recommended that William H. Woods of Colleton County be re-appointed as a DWCO with statewide authority. All re-appointments and appointments were approved by the Commission as recommended.

E. Other Remarks: Commissioner Dawson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss the proposed sale of property. Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced the Commission would hold an Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss the proposed sale of property.

F. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Webster announced the next Commission meeting will be held on May 20, 1983, at 10:00 A.M. in Columbia.

ITEM VI. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting, the Commission adopted a motion to recess the regular meeting and go into Executive Session.

Following the Executive Session, Chairman Webster announced that no formal actions were taken in Executive Session and the Commission adopted a motion to adjourn.

