

## MINUTES

### SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

WAMPEE CONFERENCE CENTER  
Pinopolis, S. C.  
April 17, 1987  
11:00 A. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 11:00 A.M., April 17, 1987, at Wampee Conference Center, Pinopolis, S. C., with Vice-Chairman Compton presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included Commissioners Compton, Stokes, Thomason, Bennett, Quackenbush, Harrelson, Owen and Dennis. Directors and Staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Paul Sandifer, Brock Conrad, Bill Chastain, Sonny Baines, and various other staff and guests.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting. On behalf of the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund, Vice-Chairman Compton presented Commissioner Dennis with a gold lapel pin of the Department's logo. Dr. Timmerman presented a portrait of Commissioner Dennis as painted by Sonny Baines which will appear in the May-June issue of the South Carolina Wildlife Magazine. Commissioner Dennis expressed his sincere thanks to Vice-Chairman Compton, Dr. Timmerman and Sonny Baines for these presentations.

#### ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the March 20, 1987 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

#### ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman asked Jim Quinn to present a request to the Commission. Jim Quinn presented to the Commission a request for a right-of-way at Lake Thicketty and this request was approved by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the budget process is now on the calendar in the Senate Finance Committee and, at the present time, our budget reduction has been at the 3.4% level. Dr. Timmerman noted that we have secured an additional \$423,000 for our computer system and various other requests have been made to the sub-committee of the Senate Finance Committee. Commissioner Dennis noted that he is aware that the Department has additional needs and that he will recommend approval of the Department request to the Senate Finance Committee.

#### ITEM III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins distributed a copy of the latest legislative report and went over the status of various bills with the Commission. Mr. Dobbins noted that Senator Waddell had proposed an amendment to H-2267 which would allow the sale of striped

bass and hybrid bass in South Carolina and this amendment was distributed to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission discussed this proposed amendment extensively and Commissioner Dennis noted the Commission may request that the Senate refer this proposed amendment back to the Senate Fish, Game and Forestry Committee to be held until next session in order to allow time for the Department and the Commission to complete a study of this matter. Following other discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to request that the Senate withdraw this amendment or, in lieu of that, carry over the entire bill until next year. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Vice-Chairman Compton noted that the record should be clear that the Commission is supportive of mariculture in the State of South Carolina, but that the Commission's primary responsibility is to protect the resource and this proposed legislation is very premature.

#### ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Discussion - Scenic River Status (Thompson and Whitewater Rivers):

Commissioner Owen discussed the value and importance of the Thompson and Whitewater Rivers to the trout fishery and the resources of this state and moved for the Commission to request that both these rivers be made scenic rivers under the State Scenic Rivers Act. Commissioner Quackenbush seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

B. Proposed Reintroduction of the Red Wolf on Bulls Island: Tom Kohlsaas noted that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has requested concurrence from the Commission to reintroduce the Red Wolf on Bulls Island. Mr. Warren Parker of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service discussed this proposal and noted that a written report had been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion of this matter, the Commission adopted a motion to endorse this program as presented by Mr. Kohlsaas and Mr. Parker.

C. Proposed Fee Increase - Webb Wildlife Center Hunts: John Frampton noted that a proposed fee increase for the Webb Wildlife Center deer and quail hunts had been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Frampton discussed this proposal, noting that a recommended increase from \$30.00 to \$40.00 per person be approved by the Commission. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this proposal as presented.

D. Proposed Placement of Savannah River Bluffs in Heritage Trust: Brock Conrad noted that the proposal to place the Savannah River Bluffs property into the Heritage Trust has been approved by the Heritage Trust Advisory Board and this proposal has been sent to the Commission for their concurrence (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation as presented.

##### E. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Dr. Timmerman reported that property proposed for acquisition in Laurens County is being appraised and should be completed by next week.

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

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain noted that we have received requests and he was recommending the use of frequencies and call numbers for the Chief Investigator for the Workmen's Compensation Commission, DWCO Walter Baxter, and the Secret Service. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve these requests as recommended in accordance with the Commission's policy.

4. Conservation Education & Communications: There was nothing further to report.

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer noted that the Marine Advisory Board met on April 3, 1987 and at this time, the Division of Marine Resources is not prepared to recommend an opening date for the 1987 Spring Shrimp Season. Dr. Sandifer noted that the Marine Advisory Board recommended that the Commission authorize the Division of Marine Resources to open the 1987 Spring Shrimp Season based on sampling as deemed appropriate and to inform the Commission of this opening date. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

F. Other Remarks: Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that the National Fox Hunters Field Trial will be held in Kershaw County in November.

G. Appointments: This matter will be acted upon by the Commission following the Executive Session.

H. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Commissioner Thomason noted that the Commission had previously approved meeting in Spartanburg on May 15, 1987 and that the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund Banquet will be held that evening at 6:00 P.M. at Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium. Commissioner Thomason noted that the River Bend Shooting Preserve will be the site of the Commission Meeting on May 15, 1987.

Following other discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Vice-Chairman Compton announced that the Commission would now recess the regular meeting to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

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RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting. Vice-Chairman Compton asked Commissioner Harrelson to report on the actions taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Harrelson reported that the Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented

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(copy attached to original Commission Minutes) with an amended new DWCO appointment subject to a background investigation, and the Commission approved a motion for the conditions of hiring an employee in Union County. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to adopt and ratify these actions. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting, a motion was adopted to adjourn.