

MINUTES
BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina
Friday, August 18, 1995
10:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, August 18, 1995, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, South Carolina. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Chairman Marion Burnside presided at the meeting and other Board members present included: Tom Miller, Joe Edens, George Graham, Mary Pope Waring, Campbell Coxe, and Phillip Lowe. Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., and staff members of the Department of Natural Resources were present at the meeting as well as various guests.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Marion Burnside called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

II. Meditation

Captain Van McCarty lead the meeting with a prayer of meditation prior to the beginning of the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

The Board adopted a motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 1995 Board Meeting as submitted.

IV. Presentations/Commendations

There were no presentations or commendations to be presented at this meeting.

V. Constituent Comments

There were no constituent comments presented at this meeting.

VI. Director's Briefing

A. Executive Office

1. Director - Dr. Timmerman noted that he recently attended the Heritage Trust Advisory Board meeting at the Savannah River Plant and he also attended the very successful Harry Hampton Wildlife Banquet in Charleston on August 4. Dr. Timmerman noted that he attended the North American Wetlands Council meeting and he attended the Governor's Cabinet meeting

as well as the Governor's sub-cabinet meeting. He noted that he also met with the Economic Development Coordinating Council and he noted that the Board's Finance Committee needs to meet shortly in order to prepare the Department's budget. Dr. Timmerman stated that he also attended a meeting to rehearse a proposed HUGO II scenario to make plans for a disaster and all agencies were encouraged to make such plans. Dr. Timmerman noted that he attended the Quail Management Southeastern Seminar recently at the Webb Center and he has started meeting with all of the Law Enforcement Districts. Dr. Timmerman noted that he had attended the US Fish and Wildlife Service Management Team Meeting on Leadership and that he had also met recently with the sportsmen's organization and environmental groups on the strategic planning process and wildlife diversity.

Dr. Timmerman stated that the shrimp baiting funds for three law enforcement positions are being utilized to reclassify three positions and we are moving forward on this matter.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the minutes of the recent staff meeting have been passed out to the Board members for their information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he is working on a new DEO policy and a draft of this policy was passed out by John Watford and he requested this item be placed on the agenda for the September Board meeting for action. John Watford went over this proposed policy and noted the changes that are recommended.

Dr. Timmerman noted that nuisance wildlife calls have become a major problem in the Department and he asked for the Board to discuss this as an item at their September Board meeting. Billy McTeer and Alvin Wright went over the problems associated with nuisance wildlife calls and it was noted that 1,630 calls were received in the Department in the past year and a half.

2. Legal - Buford Mabry noted that we have been served papers with suits on county hiring, a boating hazard and boulder problem in Lake Wylie, as well as a challenge to the Sunday hunting prohibition in Game Zones 1, 2, and 4 for big game.

3. Legislative Affairs - Michael Thompson reported that the 1996 Legislative Proposal was completed and that he will give this to Dr. Timmerman in the near future.
4. Human Resources - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.
5. Environmental - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.

B. Deputy Directors

1. Administrative Services - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month. Dr. Timmerman asked about the make up of the Board's Finance Committee, and Chairman Burnside noted that the members of this committee include himself, George Graham, and Joe Edens.
2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.
3. Natural Resources Enforcement - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.
4. Conservation Education & Communication - Sonny Baines reported that all phases of Camp Wildwood have been completed and this camp went well this year. Mr. Baines also distributed a list of the ACI awards presented recently noting that the division was again highly recognized in various categories by this organization.
5. Marine Resources - Paul Sandifer reported that the shrimp baiting season would open at noon on September 8, 1995, and close at noon on November 7, 1995.
6. Water Resources - Freddy Vang distributed a map that tracked the recent hurricane for the Board's information.
7. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - Cary Chamblee introduced Reid Sharpe and Dennis Francisco of the Soil Classifiers Organization, and he passed out the proposed Soil Classifiers rules and regulations which will be in the legislative packet for the Board's review. Dr. Timmerman recognized Donnell Jennings of the staff of the Senate Finance Committee.

VII. Items for Board Action

- A. 1995 Video Report on Waterfowl Populations and Habitat Conditions - Brock Conrad introduced Tommy Strange who presented the US Fish and Wildlife Services 1995 video on the status of waterfowl populations and projections for the coming year.
- B. Adaptive Harvest Management Strategies - Tommy Strange discussed the adaptive harvest management strategies procedure and went over the methodology in this procedure with the Board. He noted that this new methodology is being utilized to make determinations and recommendations for waterfowl seasons, harvest and bag limits.
- C. Proposed 1995-96 Waterfowl Seasons - Tommy Strange noted the proposed 1995-96 waterfowl regulations and seasons had been sent to the Board in their packet (copy attached to original Board minutes). Following a detailed discussion on these regulations, Mr. Lowe moved for the Board to adopt these regulations and seasons as presented with a change of a limit of 4 mallards in the daily bag limit which would be added to the proposed regulations as presented by staff. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Board with Mr. Miller voting in the negative on this motion.
- D. Weapons Qualification Policy - Mr. Burnside noted that this item would be on the agenda for action at the September meeting and he asked John Watford to go over the proposal for the weapons policy. Mr. Watford discussed this proposal and distributed to the Board for their review and action at the September Board meeting. Mr. Edens asked for a list of the Deputy Enforcement Officers and Dr. Timmerman noted that this would be sent to him.
- E. DNR Policies - Caroline Agardy noted that the DNR policies were included in notebook which was distributed at the last Board meeting. Ms. Agardy went over these policies by each section and received input from the Board members on these policies. Following a detailed discussion, the Board adopted a motion to approve these policies as presented with the changes so noted during the discussion.
- F. Proposed Land Acquisition - Aiken County - Chris Judge discussed the proposed acquisition of the Gopher Branch site in Aiken County and went over the details of this site which was an important pottery site by John Landrum. Mr. Judge noted that a proposal concerning this acquisition was included in the Board's packet (copy attached to original Board minutes). Following discussion, the Board adopted a motion to approve the acquisition of this property as presented.

VIII. Advisory Committee Reports

- A. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - Cary Chamblee stated that there was nothing further to report from this Committee meeting.
- B. Heritage Trust - Dr. Timmerman stated there was nothing further to report from this Board meeting and the minutes will be sent out.

- C. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Phillip Lowe went over the items discussed at the meeting and noted that a Committee member had resigned and a recommendation to appoint Mr. Steve Jones to this Committee was presented. This item was held up on for further discussion in Executive Session.
- D. Water Resources - There was nothing further to report from the Committee meeting at this time.

IX. Missions, Goals, & Strategic Planning

Larry Cartee reported that the goals and objectives from the Strategic Planning Committee would be presented to the Board at their September meeting.

X. Policy Review

This item was previously acted upon by the Board.

XI. Comments

Mrs. Waring asked about a property acquisition in the Heritage Trust Program and when it was approved by the Board. It was noted this was approved by the Board several months earlier, and she and Mr. Coxe asked that for future property acquisitions, it would be useful to include a note on when such property acquisitions were approved by the Board so that new Board members would know when such action had been taken. Dr. Timmerman stated that this would be so noted and carried out for the benefit of the Board members.

XII. Executive Session

Mr. Miller moved for the Board to hold an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Board. Chairman Burnside announced that, at this time, the Board would hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

=====

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

The regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

The Board adopted a motion to reappoint William L. Hiott as a member of the Marine Resources Advisory Committee.

The Board adopted a motion to accept staff recommendations for the reappointment and appointment of Conservation District Commissioners.

Minutes - DNR Board Meeting
August 18, 1995
Page 6

XIII. Time and Location of Next Board Meeting

The Board agreed to hold its next meeting on September 15, 1995, in Columbia, SC at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

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