

## MINUTES

### SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Lions Club, Myrtle Street  
Edisto Island, South Carolina  
August 21, 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., August 21, 1987, at the Lions Club on Myrtle Street, Edisto Island, South Carolina with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included: Commissioners Webster, Compton, Quackenbush, Bennett, Thomason, Stokes, Owen and Harrelson. Directors and Staff present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Paul Sandifer, Bill Chastain, Brock Conrad and various other individuals and guests.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

#### ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the July 17, 1987 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

#### ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that we had appeared before the Joint Bond Review Committee and the State Budget and Control Board concerning replacement of the aircraft and such has been approved by both bodies. Dr. Timmerman noted that the Governor commended the Department for the manner in which this aircraft replacement funding was handled.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that our FY 88-89 budget hearing before the Budget and Control Board will be held at 10:15 A.M., August 26, 1987 in Room 148 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that we will have a Staff Meeting on August 26 and 27 at Webb Wildlife Center and he invited any of the Commissioners to join in this meeting.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he attended the Awards Banquet for the S. C. Law Enforcement Association on August 11, 1987 and that the Department received the Southern Bell Law Enforcement Award for the best law enforcement organization in the state.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that the Conservation Officer of the Year luncheon will be held at 12:30 P.M., September 18, 1987 at the Town House Hotel.



Larry Cartee updated the Commissioners on the recent striped bass/hybrid bass meetings as it relates to the study team of geneticists, law enforcement, and proposed economic studies.

Dr. Timmerman noted that several newspaper reports have been published lately concerning the new conservation easement on Dewees Island. Dr. Timmerman noted that he met yesterday with the Heritage Trust Advisory Board and he has been working to have all questions adequately answered on this matter. Dr. Timmerman noted that he will ask Ed Duncan to send the Commission some background information on this issue. Dr. Timmerman further noted that we will be preparing a development plan which we will ask the Commission to review and approve before such is implemented. Dr. Timmerman noted that a special meeting, sometime in October, may be needed to consider this development plan.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he had received some recent contact from Representative Gregory, noting concerns with alligators. Larry Cartee gave an update on the preliminary plans for an alligator program and further details will be provided to the Commission when these plans are completed.

#### ITEM III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins distributed the 1987 Comprehensive Legislative Report to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Dobbins discussed this report with the Commission and went over the legislative progress made during the 1987 session. Commissioner Owen noted that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board had emphasized the need to secure proposed legislation on the size limit for largemouth bass and he urged the staff to try and secure passage of this legislation in 1988.

#### ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update - License Sales and Projections: Benny Reeves distributed a license sales analysis for FY 86 and FY 87 to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Reeves discussed the changes in revenue collections for our licenses, WMA program, and major changes by license type.

#### ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Reorganization - Law Enforcement District #3: Bill Chastain noted that the proposed reorganization of Law Enforcement District #3 was sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Chastain recommended that Aiken County in Law Enforcement District #3 be separated to create a new unit. Mr. Chastain noted that the land area of Aiken County is such that it is felt that closer and better supervision of the men and activities would be accomplished by this change. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this proposed reorganization as submitted.

B. Proposed Blue Catfish Legislation: Brock Conrad noted that the proposed blue catfish regulations are being discussed by the Law Enforcement and Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Boards. Mr. Conrad noted that following the review of the proposed regulations by both of these Advisory Boards, a final recommendation will be presented to the Commission at a later date. Miller White discussed



the background of the problem relating to blue catfish and went over the draft recommendations which have been discussed today.

C. Proposed 1987-88 Duck Seasons: Brock Conrad noted that the proposed migratory bird hunting regulations for 1987-88 were sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Tommy Strange presented an in-depth status report with forecast and projections for the 87-88 waterfowl season to the Commission. Mr. Conrad discussed the proposed migratory bird hunting regulations, including date, shooting hours, bag limit and possession limit and other special regulations. During this discussion, Commissioner Stokes moved for the Commission to add Horry and Berkeley Counties to the list of counties where there is no open season on black ducks. Commissioner Thomason seconded the motion and upon a vote by the Commission, the motion did not pass. Following other discussion, the Commission adopted a motion approving the regulations as submitted with the season framework being adjusted to December 14 - January 18 and other appropriate adjustments in the framework and for the Department to encourage hunters to harvest drake pintails only during the hunting season due to the plight of this species.

D. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves informed the Commission that the FY 85-86 audit has been completed and there were no significant problems in this audit.

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

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain showed the Commission the Southern Bell Award of Excellence awarded to the Department by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Association. Mr. Chastain further informed the Commission that the Department's officers won trophies in eleven (11) of thirteen (13) categories in the pistol competition and we placed Second in the weight lifting competition.

4. Conservation Education & Communications: Bob Campbell went over the numerous awards received recently from the AACI for different categories in the Division of Conservation Education & Communications. Commissioner Thomason noted that he had met recently with the Law Enforcement Captains and we hope to have a fishing rodeo in each Law Enforcement District next year as was done this past year in Law Enforcement District #1. Commissioner Thomason noted that problems still exist with Project WILD as additional funds are needed to fully implement this program.

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer and Charlie Bearden distributed a proposed recommendation to allow the Division of Marine Resources to open the 1987 season for shrimp trawling and channel netting (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation as submitted. Paul Sandifer informed the Commission that the shrimp baiting problem will continue and it appears that such will be a problem this year as it was last year.



E. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted the Board met on August 20, 1987 and endorsed the proposed moratorium on pump-back storage for Lake Russell. In addition, the Board endorsed the establishment of a policy on fish kills whereby the Department would recover costs as it relates to the value of the fish and administrative costs for investigating such fish kills. Commissioner Owen noted that proposed shooting preserve regulations were also discussed by the Board and these will be presented to the Commission for consideration at the September Meeting. Following other discussion, Commissioner Owen moved for the Commission to adopt the Board recommendations on the moratorium on pump-back storage at Lake Russell and to endorse the policy to recover costs of fish values and administrative costs as it relates to fish kills. The motion was seconded and adopted by the Commission.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Quackenbush noted the Board met on August 11, 1987 and approved four (4) recommended changes in the points legislation. Bill Chastain went over these four (4) proposed changes with the Commission and following discussion, a motion was adopted for the Commission to approve these changes as recommended. Dr. Timmerman noted that we will make these legislative changes a part of the legislative package for the Department.

3. Marine Resources: Commissioner Harrelson noted that the Board met on July 31, 1987 and he went over the major items discussed by the Board. Commissioner Harrelson noted that Walt Zachowski has resigned from the Board and he recommended that the Commission appoint Paula Bethea to fill this unexpired term. In addition, Commissioner Harrelson recommended that Mr. Roy Faulks be recommended to the Governor for reappointment to the Marine Resources Advisory Board. Following discussion, a motion was adopted by the Commission to approve these recommendations as presented by Commissioner Harrelson.

4. Heritage Trust: Commissioner Compton discussed the Heritage Trust Advisory Board meeting and noted that the Minutes of this meeting will be prepared and sent to the Commission.

F. Other Remarks: Commissioner Owen recommended to the Commission that Kenneth Williams be appointed by the Commission to the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board and he further recommended that the Commission recommend to the Governor, the reappointment of Tom Eleazer. A motion was adopted to approve both of these recommendations, as presented by Commissioner Owen.

Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session, at this time, to discuss personnel and contractual matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that the Commission would now recess the regular meeting to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and contractual matters.

---





RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting. Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the following motions:

- a) Approve the temporary placement of trailers at the Waddell Mariculture Center pursuant to a suitable agreement being worked out between the parties involved.
- b) Approve the promotion of H. O. Morris to Sergeant.
- c) Approve the assignment of two (2) conservation officers to the Governor for security purposes.
- d) Approve the appointments and reappointments of conservation officers and DWCOs (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

Commissioner Quackenbush seconded the motion to approve these items and it was adopted by the Commission.

H. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to have its next meeting in Columbia on September 18, 1987, at 10:00 A.M. In addition, Commissioner Stokes invited the Commission to meet at the Kingstree Inn on October 16, 1987 and facilities would be provided for overnight accommodations on October 15th at Springfield Plantation. The Commission adopted a motion to meet in Kingstree on October 16, 1987.

ITEM VI. ADJOURN

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

