

## MINUTES

### SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building  
Columbia, S. C.  
August 22, 1986  
10:00 A. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., August 22, 1986, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C. 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, Owen, Quackenbush, Thomason and Bennett. Directors and Staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Brock Conrad, Bill Chastain, Paul Sandifer and various other staff and guests.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 10:00 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 18, 1986 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

#### ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that the Department's Budget Hearing will be held on September 16, 1986, at 10:45 A.M. in Room 149 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building. In addition, Dr. Timmerman noted that the Conservation Officer of the Year Awards Banquet will be held at 12:30 P.M. on this date at the Radisson Hotel. He noted that Representative Bob Sheheen will be the Guest Speaker for this Awards Banquet and encouraged the Commissioners to attend the Budget Hearing and Awards Banquet, if possible.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that he recently held a two-day Staff Meeting at the Webb Wildlife Center and notes from that meeting were mailed to the Commission. He noted that some discussion has been held about a potential budget cut this year and plans are being made in the Department to accommodate this matter. Dr. Timmerman noted that one of the major items discussed at this Staff Meeting included Public Relations Plans and Needs for the Department which will be a major goal over the next few years. He advised that further public relations plans will be developed and brought to the Commission in the near future.

Commissioner Compton stated that he attended this meeting which was a good meeting and the Staff will follow up on these various plans and bring certain recommendations to the Commission for consideration.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that the following individuals' terms on the Advisory Boards are expiring the end of September or early October, 1986:

Law Enforcement and Boating - Yancey McLeod (Commission Appointee) and Marion Burnside (Governatorial Appointee); Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Ed Muckenfuss (Commission Appointee) and Buddy Kronsberg (Governatorial Appointee); and Marine Resources - Ben Hardesty (Commission Appointee) and X. O. Bunch (Governatorial Appointee). The Commission agreed to reconsider these reappointments at the September Commission Meeting.

Following other discussion, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and to have an administrative briefing. Commissioner Owen seconded this motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM III - LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dan Dobbins distributed a copy of the first draft of the 1987 Legislative Proposal to the Commissioners for information. He noted this proposal is in a draft form and a final proposal will be submitted to the Commission for its consideration at the September Commission Meeting.

ITEM IV - OLD BUSINESS

A. Law Enforcement Health and Fitness Awareness Program: Bill Chastain noted that a proposed recommendation for the Law Enforcement Health and Fitness Awareness Program was submitted to the Commission at the July Meeting. He noted that he recommended that the Commission approved this Program and presented such for their consideration. Dr. Timmerman stated that he has reviewed this proposal and supports this recommendation. Following other discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation as submitted. (Copy attached to original Commission Minutes.)

ITEM V - NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed 1986-87 Waterfowl Seasons and Regulations: Tommy Strange presented a slide show and discussion to update the Commission on the status of waterfowl in the North American Continent and projections for the coming waterfowl season. Following this presentation, John Frampton discussed with the Commission, the results of the recent waterfowl survey and distributed various documents pertaining to this survey. After discussion of the waterfowl survey, Brock Conrad distributed the proposed Migratory Birdhunting Regulations for 1986-87 (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion of these proposed regulations, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the regulations as submitted with the duck season being changed to the following dates: November 26-29. and December 13-January 17.

B. Proposed Regulations - Trawling Efficiency Device (TED): Tom Kohlsaet advised the Commission that the Marine Resources Advisory Board and the Non-Game & Heritage Trust Program have been dealing with the question of whether the state should promulgate regulations requiring the use of TEDs on shrimping gear in order to reduce sea turtle mortality. Mr. Kohlsaet stated that while it is too early to

formulate recommendations, it is necessary to begin the lengthy process of promulgating regulations now in order to have regulations to the General Assembly in 1987. As such, the Marine Resources Advisory Board decided at its meeting on August 1, 1986, to recommend publishing notification of a drafting period which is the first step in issuing regulations under the Administrative Procedures Act. It does not commit the Department to actually issue regulations, but informs the public that such regulations are being considered and provides an opportunity for public comment early in the process. Mr. Kohlsaet noted that he was seeking the Commission's approval to begin the notice for the drafting period on the proposed Trawling Efficiency Device regulations. Mr. Charles Sweatt presented a letter on behalf of the Town Council of Sullivans Island, dated August 21, 1986, which supports this recommendation. (Copy of original letter attached to original Commission Minutes.) Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to authorize the staff to begin the notice for drafting regulations dealing with TEDs.

C. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves discussed the upcoming Budget Hearing and expressed appreciation for the Commission's support of this Hearing on September 16, 1986. Mr. Reeves advised the Commission that the Department has sent a letter to the State Budget and Control Board to seek the release of bond money for the Department's new Communications System and renovations of the Marshlands House at Fort Johnson. Mr. Reeves noted that an on-line accounting program will be operational in his Division by January, 1987. He also noted that the audit for FY 85-86 will begin in October, 1986. Mr. Reeves noted the auditors are currently in the Department reviewing our purchasing procedures manual and this should be complete in about two weeks.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Brock Conrad noted that his staff has been reviewing proposed changes in WMA regulations, including regulations dealing with man-drives. This question on man-drives will be included on the survey questionnaire to be submitted to hunters in the early part of 1987. John Frampton distributed to the Commissioners, a survey to WMA Cooperators and a letter from the U. S. Forest Service concerning the subject of Sunday hunting. In addition, he distributed a schedule for the September deer survey in Game Zones 2 and 4 to be submitted in early 1987. The Commission advised that the question of a day of rest, other than Sunday, should be included in all questionnaires and surveys conducted by the Department.

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

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

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

D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted that the Board met last Thursday and he went over the items discussed at this meeting. He stated that the Board took action on proposed steel shot zones in South Carolina and this proposal will be sent to the Commission for its consideration at the September Meeting. In addition, Commissioner Owen noted that the Board took action

to change the regulation at Lake Wallace to allow for night-time fishing and recommends such to the Commission for approval. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation to allow night-time fishing at Lake Wallace with all other regulations remaining in effect as stated.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Quackenbush noted the Board met August 8th here in Columbia and he went over the items discussed at the Board Meeting which included penalties concerning commercialization of fish and wildlife and the approval of three reward payments under the Operation Game Thief Program.

3. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer noted that the Marine Resources Advisory Board met recently and he went over the items discussed by the Board. He advised the Commission that one of the major items of discussion included the Trawling Efficiency Devices which are currently under study by the Marine Center Staff and further details of this study will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

4. Heritage Trust: Tom Kohlsaas reported that the Board met recently in Myrtle Beach and he advised the Commission of the various items discussed at this meeting. Mr. Kohlsaas advised the Commission that, at this meeting, The Nature Conservancy transferred the deed to the property in Kershaw County called "Savage Bay" to the Department. Mr. Kohlsaas noted, also, that the Board approved a land acquisition budget at this meeting.

5. Conservation Education & Communications: Commissioner Quackenbush noted the Board met on August 8th and three (3) new members have been appointed to this Board. These new members include Paula Bethea from Hilton Head, Pinckney Skinner from Florence, and John White from Spartanburg. Commissioner Quackenbush noted that the Board adopted a policy dealing with the South Carolina Magazine subscribers list and the use of Department photographs which is currently being reviewed by the Legal Staff and will be submitted for consideration by the Commission at its September Meeting.

D. Other Remarks: Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that another major thrust in the Department will be the recodification of Title 50. He asked Dan Dobbins to give a status report on this process. Mr. Dobbins advised the Commission that a draft structure and format for Title 50 recodification has been developed and work is under way with the Staff on this matter. It is our hope to present a recodification proposal to the General Assembly during the 1987 session.

Following other discussion, the Commission recessed the regular meeting to hold an Executive Session as approved earlier during the meeting.

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RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting. Chairman Webster asked Commissioner Thomason to report on the action taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Thomason reported

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that the Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments, reappointments and promotions of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission adopted a motion to approve and ratify this action.

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Webster announced that the next meeting will be held at the Moose Lodge, Kingstree, S. C., at 2:00 P.M., September 19, 1986.

ITEM VI - ADJOURN

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

