

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

DECEMBER 15, 1972

The monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was called to order in the Commission Room in Columbia on December 15, 1972 at 10 o'clock A. M., Chairman Joseph W. Hudson, presiding. Those also in attendance included Vice-Chairman Glenn, Commissioners Dennis, Lumpkin, Major Cantey, General Harris, Executive Director Webb, Wash Belangia, Pat Ryan, Dr. Timmerman, Ed Latimer, Fred Ramage, Gene Howell, Brock Conrad, representatives of Lockwood-Green Architects, and members of the press. *and Rhone*

Items in the Minutes of the previous month's meeting were reported as follows:

OLD BUSINESS

Commission

- (1) Governor's letter from Sport Fishing Guide has been obtained.
- (2) Members of South Carolina Congressional Delegation from Commission Chairman have been sent (relating to rediversion) and some have already responded.

Executive Director

- (1) Berkeley County Delegation has been contacted as to paving road at Dennis Wildlife Center.

Marine Resources - GLINES OYSTER LEASE

- (1) Mr. Pritchard, representing the Sullivan Island Marina Company, was present and asked the Commission to validate the assignment of the lease from Mr. Glines to Mr. Pritchard's firm (see Marine Resources report attached to these minutes).
 - (a) Dr. Timmerman recommended to the Commission that the lease be cancelled, subsequently that a survey of the leased area be conducted to see if it could be re-leased; and if so, that Sullivan Island Marina Company be considered preferentially providing they agree to replant that which had been harvested this year, and to abide with the management and conservation requirements of oyster leases.



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- (b) Mr. Latimer explained that if the Commission cancelled the lease, that reissuance would have to be publically open to applications and that if the lease were instead assigned to Mr. Pritchard, it would not be open and that special requirements could be placed on the assignment.
- (c) Dr. Lumpkin made a motion to adopt Dr. Timmerman's recommendations and cancel the lease. It was seconded, and passed unanimously.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

- (1) Jack's Hole Boat Landing and proposed lease agreement between the Department and the Santee-Cooper Authority.
 - (a) General Harris recommended rejection of the proposed lease as it is a secondary choice of location - Supervisor A. M. Flood added his agreement.
 - (b) Dr. Lumpkin moved that the Department notify Santee-Cooper Authority of its rejection of the proposed lease and request to come before the Santee-Cooper Authority board regarding the matter.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Glenn stated that for clarity the format of the report had been changed to show the comparison of last year's cost to the present year's.

NEW BUSINESS

- (1) Game and Freshwater Fisheries Report (Ryan) See Copy of Report Attached
 - (a) Enforcement of Marine Laws - Three (3) Conservation Officers have been transferred to District #9 for this work, one more will be hired for Edisto Island later, and thirteen (13) men are undergoing training in Marine Fisheries Laws.
 - (b) Reported that the new boating laws will not begin to be enforced until April 1 because of the need to give proper notice to public and to get setup.
 - (c) Nature Trail Program - By Spring, it is hoped to have up to six (6) of these ready for simultaneous opening to the public.
 - (d) Work at the Dennis Wildlife Center is continuing on schedule and the plans for construction are set.
 - (e) Deer hunting in the State - reported 3,214 harvested so far.
 - (f) Bear Island Duck Hunting - Commission discussed possible ways to enhance the duck hunting there but made no motion to act



since previous efforts have been made and additional work would be expensive.

- (g) Night Hunting - As a result of General Harris' recommendation, the Commission told I & E Division to cooperate with Law Enforcement Section in gaining public's support against night hunting. Senator Dennis further recommended that Mr. Latimer prepare legislation to (1) enact a prima facia evidence law, and (2) increase the penalty, and (3) to make a second conviction for night hunting grounds for revoking privilege to hunt or fish for a period of ten (10) years.
- (2) Marine Resources Report (See Copy Attached)
- (a) South Carolina has been selected for site for relocation of the National Marine Fisheries Services Food Technology Laboratory presently located in Maryland. This facility will employ approximately seventy-five (75) professional and non-professional personnel.
 - (b) Agreement to construct a cooperative research facility building at the Charleston Marine Resources Center for use by higher education institutions in the State as agreed to by the Commission and the Higher Education Commission and the Governor. One building would be a dormitory for students and another would be an addition to the present laboratory - also storage facility.
 - (1) Lockwood-Greene Architects gave a report showing suggested plans and locations, and submitted these, along with a projection of costs and such (see attachment).
 - (2) Total cost involved, Dr. Timmerman reported, would be \$1.7 million. He asked for permission to go before the Budget and Control Board with a request (E-1 form attached to minutes).
 - (3) Chairman Hudson was asked to write the Governor regarding the overall financing, State and Federal, for this project to explain the details as set out in Marine Resources report.
 - (4) As to the National Fisheries Services Food Technology Laboratory building, Dr. Timmerman asked Commission approval to submit an E-1 for a revenue bond (E-1 copy attached) to Budget and Control Board for consideration. This would be a bond financed at 5%, then the Federal government would lease the building for a term of years, paying rent plus 10% interest on bond. At end of lease, building paid for and belongs to the State, which has option as to renewing lease with Federal government.
 - (5) Senator Dennis made a motion to authorize Marine Resources to submit the Bond applications to the Budget and Control Board. It was seconded and passed unanimously.



- (6) As to proposed written agreement between the Commission and the High Education Commission, the Commission passed a motion to agree in principle to the agreement, reserving final decision until after review by the Department legal council and recommendations by the Commission members.
- (3) Capital Improvements - Mr. Webb stated that the capital improvements list as approved by the Board at the November meeting had been sent to the Budget and Control Board.
- (4) New Legislation - Boating Laws. Mr. Welch recommended various changes in the Boating Laws (Title 70-29S) to bring State law into compliance with Federal law.
- (1) Senator Dennis motioned that the individual changes be proposed as separate bills and recommended to the legislature for passage. The motion passed unanimously.
- (2) Rules and Regulations - Two (2) rules and regulations passed; one regulating the speed of boats in the Foster Creek, and the other was for the I & E Section to publish all Federal (Coast Guard) rules for the public.
- (5) Appointments - The Commission accepted and approved all appointments made during the month, subject to any disagreement by those Commission members absent.
- (6) Boat Ramp in Jasper County - A request that the Department build a boat ramp costing \$207,000, which would be paid back by PRT and the Highway Department when the project is completed. Mr. Webb made a motion to approve the project. It was seconded and passed.
- (7) Committee Reports
- (a) Department Owned Facilities - Mr. Hudson read the Committee's recommended rules, which the Governor had already approved. Mr. Rhame motioned that the Commission adopt. This was passed unanimously and Executive Director was told to implement.
- (b) Working Hours and Conditions - Mr. Rhame said a committee meeting was scheduled for December 20, 1972 and the Committee will report to Commission in January.
- (1) Senator Dennis recommended that each Conservation Officer be given one full two-day weekend per month off.
- (2) Mr. Hudson said a change in rules needed to be made so when a week is taken off, only 5 days is charged to leave instead of 6.
- (3) Senator Dennis recommended that work assignments for Conservation Officers be made out early in the working day by Unit Leaders so no agent would have to work all night and following day.



- (4) Finance Committee had worked with Ramage on Finance Report.
- (8) Southeastern Association of Game Fisheries request South Carolina to participate in a special study (along with Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia) by zoning dove seasons together. Mr. Ryan opposed the measure as holding no biological benefit. Mr. Webb recommended South Carolina not participate. The Commission rejected the proposal.
- (9) Mr. Rhame asked Mr. Fuller to discuss the artificial reef program being conducted on Santee-Cooper - efforts to mark and locate crappie beds using tires.

Motion to adjourn entertained and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Wash

"Wash" W. Belangia

