

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
December 16, 1983
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held in Room 335 of the Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., at 10:00 A.M., December 16, 1983, with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present at the meeting included Commissioners Webster, Compton, Harrelson, Owen, Dawson, Stubbs, Bennett and Quackenbush (for Executive Session). Directors and staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines, Jeff Fuller, Bill Chastain, Dr. Joseph and various other staff. There were numerous guests also in attendance at the meeting.

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 approved a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the November 18, 1983 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that we had presented our request for additional funds to the House Ways and Means Committee and he went over the items which were requested. Dr. Timmerman noted the Committee approved an additional \$40,000 in our budget for equipment in the Division of Information and Public Affairs.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that he met Department of Interior Secretary William Clark while on a recent trip to Washington, D. C.

Dr. Timmerman noted that Governor Riley has re-appointed Mr. Terry Ehrlich to the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board and Mr. Roy Faulks to the Marine Resources Advisory Board.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that he has received a request from the Berkeley County Council to name the Department's boat ramp on the Tailrace Canal as the "William H. Dennis Boat Landing".



Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve this matter as requested. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a proposed design for the sign at the Waddell Mariculture Center (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the design as proposed. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that a joint law enforcement/biologist meeting will be held at the Criminal Justice Academy on December 19th. A copy of the agenda for the meeting was distributed to the Commission for information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that hearings will be held on marine resources issues on December 20th in Beaufort, December 21st in Charleston and January 11th in Georgetown. Dr. Timmerman encouraged the Commissioners to attend these hearings, if possible.

Dr. Timmerman discussed the commuter charge which will be implemented on January 1, 1984, as directed by the State Budget and Control Board. This will involve a 20¢ per mile commuter charge for driving a state vehicle from home to an office. Dr. Timmerman noted that law enforcement and various field personnel will be exempt from this charge. Dr. Timmerman went over the various exemptions and those which will be required to pay the commuter charge, especially the administrative personnel in the Columbia Office.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that a memo has been sent out recently to all personnel whereby lunch reimbursements where no overnight travel occurs, will be reported on a supplemental W-2 form for all employees.

ITEM III. CHECK PRESENTATION FROM HARRY HAMPTON WILDLIFE FUND

Mr. Charles L. Compton, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund and Mr. David Cline, a member of the Board of Directors, presented a \$2,000 check from the Hampton Fund for the OPERATION GAME THIEF Program to Bill Chastain. Mr. Chastain expressed thanks to the Hampton Fund for this contribution.

Mr. David Cline noted that he was pleased to be associated with the Hampton Fund and was glad to make another contribution of \$3,000. This check was presented to Mr. Compton who expressed thanks to Mr. Cline for this contribution to the Hampton Fund.



Each Commissioner endorsed their semi-annual checks and presented them to Mr. Compton as their contribution to the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. 1984 Legislative Proposal: Dan Dobbins distributed a copy of the final 1984 Legislative Proposal (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) and went over various changes which have been made since the draft proposal distributed in November. Mr. Dobbins noted that each proposal has been put into a bill form by the Legislative Council. Mr. Dobbins stated that Tom Linton and Richard Todd provide a great service to the Department in drafting these bills. Following discussion, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the 1984 Legislative Proposal as presented. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing further to report.

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

3. Law Enforcement and Boating: Bill Chastain recommended the Commission give permission to use the Department's radio frequency to Michael Smith and James G. Burch of Oakley Club in Berkely County, and George Houck, a DWCO in Darlington County. These individuals would bear all expenses for these radios. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation. Mr. Chastain recommended the Commission approve a change of authority for DWCO Paul Ethridge to Georgetown Countywide Authority. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

4. Information and Public Affairs: Sonny Baines passed around a copy of the special thirty-year issue of the magazine to the Commissioners for their information. Dr. Timmerman noted this is an excellent issue and will be a valuable asset to the state.

5. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph noted the Commission had been polled and approved extending the shrimp season in the sounds and bays through December 31, 1983 and the three-mile territorial sea until further notice. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to ratify this action taken by poll. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.



B. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen stated the Board met on December 8, 1983 in Columbia and he briefly went over the items discussed at the meeting. He noted that the Board discussed Senator Waddell's suggestion that successfully drawn hunters on our public hunts not be allowed to apply for next year's drawing. Commissioner Owen noted the Board concluded that the present system is the most workable solution and we should stay with our current procedure. Commissioner Owen suggested that Senator Waddell be written a letter to provide him more details of our current system.

C. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommended appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission adopted a motion to approve these as recommended. Dr. Timmerman noted that Mr. Jimmy Langley, a Conservation Officer in Williamsburg County, has transferred to the Hunter Safety Program. The interview for this vacancy will be held on December 20, 1983. Commissioner Dawson moved for the Commission to be polled on the individual selected so the Officer can go to work as soon as possible. Commissioner Harrelson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Other Remarks: Commissioner Compton noted that hearings have been scheduled in the coastal area and he requested the Commissioners to attend these hearings.

Following other discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session following the regular session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that the Commission would hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters at the end of the regular meeting.

E. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Webster announced that the next meeting of the Commission will be held in Columbia on January 20, 1984 at 10:00 A.M.

ITEM VI. ADJOURN

The Commission adopted a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and go into Executive Session as previously approved.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the Commission returned to regular session and invited participants into the meeting. Chairman Webster



announced that the Commission took the following actions while in Executive Session:

1. The Commission adopted a motion taking the position that the only thing the Commission is called upon is to make a determination regarding damages on the Lynches River fish kill during 1983, and the Commission has determined that the fish kill damages are \$23,066.04. The question of causation is not before the Commission relative to the fish kill.
2. The Commission adopted a motion to approve the transfer of Conservation Officer Betty Jean McCaskill from Charleston County to Dorchester County with the duty assignment to remain as currently exists in District #9.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt and ratify these two actions. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. There being no further business, the Commission adopted a motion to adjourn.

