

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Wampee - Moncks Corner, S. C.
December 21, 1979

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at Wampee, Moncks Corner, S. C., at 10:00 a. m., December 21, 1979, with Chairman Edens 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 Edens, Boykin, Dawson, Stubbs, Pendarvis, Shuler, Dennis, and Harrelson. Directors and Staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines, Jeff Fuller, Ed Joseph, Tommy Edwards, Dan Dobbins, Miller White, John Evans, and Pete Laurie. Guests at the meeting included W. Andrew Burke of the Santee Cooper Public Service Authority and Charles Lehmann of Santee Cooper Country.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Edens called the meeting to order at 10:00 a. m.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Boykin moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the November 16, 1979 meeting and approve them as submitted. Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion and it was approved by the Commission.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STATEMENT FROM MR. CHARLES LEHMANN OF SANTEE COOPER COUNTRY

Dr. Timmerman introduced Mr. W. Andrew Burke of the S. C. Public Service Authority and expressed appreciation for being able to hold the meeting at Wampee. Dr. Timmerman also introduced Mr. Charles Lehmann of Santee Cooper Country and noted that he had requested to make a statement before the Commission. Mr. Lehmann expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to appear before the Commission and noted that the Santee Cooper Country is interested in promoting tourism, fishing, and the like in the five-county area around the Santee Cooper lakes. Mr. Lehmann noted that his statement today would be in regard to striped bass fishing in these lakes. Mr. Lehmann stated that they go on the premise that the size and the number of striped bass in the Santee Cooper lakes have been decreasing over the last several years. Fishing for striped bass is a big drawing card for the business around the lakes and figures that have been developed indicates that the fishing activity in the counties around the lakes amounts to about a \$16-million business. This amount means a lot to the local tax base in these counties. Mr. Lehmann read a statement (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) citing two major issues of concern.

One area of concern is the Santee Cooper Promotion Commission's opposition to an 18-inch size limit on striped bass on the Santee Cooper lakes unless any size or creel limits are imposed statewide. Alternate recommendations include: 1) concentration of law enforcement patrols during peak striper runs; 2) increased fines for breaking creel limits; 3) consider limiting shiner sales during the fall months; and 4) licensed guides may be limited to their customers' limit only. The other issue involves exploring the possibilities of opening the sanctuary behind Lake Marion's Wilson Dam to recreational fishing. Mr. Lehmann proposed that this area be opened on a controlled basis in the years that stripers congregate behind the dam to allow the public to harvest the fish. Dr. Timmerman noted that the Santee Cooper Promotion Commission had appeared before the Commission last year and proposed that a limit be placed on the size of striped bass and asked why they had changed their mind. Mr. Lehmann noted that they did not study the problem enough and this was a hasty recommendation. Dr. Timmerman noted that he had met with some guides at Santee Cooper and they have recommended that some standard guidelines be established. Dr. Timmerman asked if the Santee Cooper Promotion Commission would support this. Mr. Lehmann noted that they probably would support this. Chairman Edens noted that some guides are certified by the Coast Guard and some are not. It has been suggested that we bring guides in to meet with the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board. This would have to be voluntary now as no authority exists. Following other discussion, Chairman Edens asked Commissioner Pendarvis to discuss this matter in the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board. In regard to fishing in the sanctuary at the Wilson Dam, Jeff Fuller noted that it could be fished under controlled conditions at this point in time. Once the new hatchery is in operation, this would have to be looked at again. Chairman Edens asked Mr. Fuller and his staff to get with the Public Service Authority to look at this matter. Commissioner Shuler noted that we need to pursue the concentration of law enforcement which Mr. Lehmann referred to as people have informed him that the creel limit needs better enforcement on the lakes. Chairman Edens suggested that Commissioner Shuler explore this further in the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that in reviewing the Commission Minutes in 1975, the Commission had approved naming some boat landings in honor of several individuals. This included naming the landing at Russellville in honor of Representative Henderson Guerry, the landing at Pinopolis in honor of former Representative E. Jarvis Morris, and the one at Cypress Gardens in honor of Clyde D. Umphlett.

Dr. Timmerman suggested that an appropriate sign be placed at these landings denoting such if it has not been done. Chairman Edens noted that without any objections, this is so ordered. Dr. Timmerman noted that we are constructing a landing at Lynches River in Johnsonville and the American Legion Post wants to put a sign at this landing in the honor of Representative W. Odell Venters and the Commission's approval of this was requested. Chairman Edens noted that without any objections, this is so ordered.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that he has talked with the Coastal Council Chairman and the Executive Director on the use of aircraft. They are all pleased with this now and there are no problems with the use policy.

Dr. Timmerman distributed, to the Commissioners, a copy of the Employee Vehicle Accident Report for the time period - January to November, 1979. Dr. Timmerman noted that, for the number of vehicles we have, this is a good report.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he had met with the Governor and Dwight Drake along with Commissioner Pendarvis. The Governor is interested in the Advisory Boards and wants to get more involved in the appointment of members to the Board. We are in the process of getting information together regarding attendance of the Board members and if there are changes in the Executive Order creating the Boards, there should be some language in there about attendance. Dr. Timmerman noted that the Governor informed him that he was re-appointing Marion Burnside to the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board and Buddy Kronsberg to the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board. The Governor also plans to make an appointment to the Marine Resources Advisory Board which has been vacant. Dr. Timmerman stated that the Governor is interested in expanding each Advisory Board with an additional member appointed by the Governor for a four-year term rather than the existing three-year terms. Dr. Timmerman asked the Commission for their guidance regarding these matters. Chairman Edens noted that he supported some reasonable requirement on attendance, such as fifty percent (50%) of the time or so, and if they do not attend then they should rotate off the Board. Other Commissioners were in favor of some type of attendance requirement. Dr. Timmerman noted that he would work with the Governor's staff to come up with language on attendance and expanding the Board and coordinating such with Chairman Edens and Chairmen of the Advisory Boards. Following other discussion, Commissioner Pendarvis moved that the Commission instruct Dr. Timmerman to come up with some guidelines and work with Chairman Edens on requirements

for attendance and expansion of each Advisory Board from six to eight. Commissioner Boykin seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman asked Tommy Edwards to present a status report on the South Island Ferry. Mr. Edwards noted that the Attorney General's Office staff and himself have conducted a lot of research on this project. To date, the Corps' files dating back to the origin of the project have been searched and nothing regarding responsibility for the ferry has been found. Almost completed are the old Georgetown County Commission records started in 1870 and searched up to about 1950, but nothing concrete has been found. It would appear from the people that have been talked to that something concrete may be in the records from 1920 to 1930. Talks have been held with Senator Doar to assist in securing any more old volumes of the Georgetown County records. The next step will be to search the Corps' records in Washington at the National Archives. Mr. Edwards noted that they hope to find some reference on responsibility for operating and maintaining access to the island. Dr. Timmerman discussed the access problem at South Island and noted that the Department is not responsible for access to the island as we are not in the transportation business. Commissioner Dennis noted that the access matter is, obviously, a federal responsibility in connection with construction of the Intracoastal Waterway. Commissioner Dennis stated that Georgetown County should not be responsible for access and that a bridge is needed for such. The approach for a bridge is through the Corps of Engineers and the Congressional Delegation. Commissioner Dennis suggested that he, Senator Doar, and others should get together with the Congressional Delegation to see if a proposition can be worked out with the Corps' support for an appropriation to provide proper access. Commissioner Dennis noted that he would pursue this if the Commission desires. Chairman Edens and the Commission agreed that Commissioner Dennis would work with Senator Doar and others to pursue this course of action.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a map to the Commission on the Mountain Bridge Project noting that the Governor, the Greenville Delegation, and some members of the Budget and Control Board are interested in this project. Dr. Timmerman discussed various tracts of land in the area that are publicly owned. Two areas have been discussed in the past with the Commission regarding being placed in the game management and Heritage Trust programs. One area is the Watson tract which we are appraising. The owner will sell for one-half the appraisal value and BOR funds can be used so the property can be acquired at no cost to the state. The other area, the Moore tract, has Raven Cliff Falls on the property. This is being appraised, but the owners may want more than

the fair market value but this is not being recommended. In talking with the staff at PRT, they have the Recreation Land Trust Fund which could be used to match federal funds to acquire this tract. We are requesting that \$600,000 from this fund be used to match federal funds and the PRT Commission is receptive to this matter. The Heritage Trust Advisory Board adopted the following resolution at their last meeting: "The Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommends to the Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission and the PRT Commission that the necessary funding be sought through the Recreation Land Trust Fund to provide the state's matching share for the acquisition of Raven Cliff Falls in Greenville County. The Heritage Trust Advisory Board also offers its cooperation in seeking legislative support for authorizing these funds. We urge that both Commissions take timely action to assure that this unique resource is made available to the citizens of South Carolina". Dr. Timmerman recommended to the Commission that matching funds be sought through the Recreation Land Trust Fund to acquire this property at fair market value. Commissioner Stubbs moved that the Commission adopt Dr. Timmerman's recommendation. Commissioner Shuler seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Edens noted that the motion adopted is for acquisition at fair market value only.

Dr. Timmerman noted that funds for wildlife and fishery programs are becoming scarce and projections for the next five (5) years bear out this problem. Currently, a bill to amend the Dingell-Johnson Act is being considered in Congress which would provide additional excise taxes to support fishery management and marine recreational fishery programs. This amendment would add \$80 - 100-million nationwide to the Dingell-Johnson Program and we are in support of this legislation. This proposed legislation has passed the U. S. Senate and a similar bill (H.R. 6074) has been introduced in the House of Representatives. Dr. Timmerman stated that this bill has been referred to a House Ways and Means subcommittee of which Congressman Ken Holland of South Carolina is a member. Dr. Timmerman noted that he would like to contact Congressman Holland regarding this bill to inform him that the Commission supports this legislation and seek his assistance in getting this bill reported out of subcommittee. Following other discussion, Commissioner Dennis moved that the Commission support this bill and that Dr. Timmerman be authorized to contact Congressman Holland seeking his support for this legislation. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that he had received a letter from Gary Myers, Executive Director in Tennessee, regarding a Southeastern

Association subcommittee, chaired by Ted Clark in Texas, that will be studying dove baiting regulations. Dr. Timmerman recommended that the staff study this matter in developing comments and work with the Commission on such. Dr. Timmerman noted that the dove baiting pamphlet which the Commission had requested has been published. Chairman Edens commended the staff for getting this out in such a short time period.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that he had received a letter from the S. C. Wildlife Federation noting that Commissioner Bennett has been selected as Legislative Conservationist of the Year. Dr. Timmerman noted that Chairman Edens may want to send a letter of congratulations to Commissioner Bennett.

Dr. Timmerman stated that he thought it would be appropriate if we came up with some type of certificate for meritorious service to recognize any outstanding contributions to the Department such as DWCOs, Advisory Board members, etc., that work with the Department. Dr. Timmerman recommended this to the Commission for presentation whenever the occasion for such arises. Commissioner Pendarvis moved for the staff to develop such an award to be given upon recommendation by the staff or others to the Commission and approved by the Commission. Commissioner Shuler seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman stated that he and Jeff Fuller have been talking about land procurement in order to develop some type of methodology or workable solution if the Department is going to acquire hunting lands in the future. Dr. Timmerman requested that this information be forwarded to the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board for their comments and present to the Commission at a later date. Without objection, Chairman Edens referred this to the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board for their comments.

Dr. Timmerman noted that Chairman Edens has received a letter from a Mr. Mendelson concerning hunting on private property within a GMA Hunt Unit. Mr. Mendelson was hunting on private property with an international orange vest on and he got hot and took it off. He was cited by a Conservation Officer and fined \$30.00 He went before the Magistrate, pleaded guilty and the fine was reduced to \$20.00. Mr. Mendelson recognizes this is an important safety feature, but in looking at the brochures, the requirement to wear international orange while hunting on private land within a Hunt Unit is only

in the GMA brochure. Mr. Mendelson noted that he does not hunt on game management land, thus, there is no reason to have a GMA brochure and he feels this is unfair. Mr. Mendelson has suggested that we look into this to ensure that it does not happen again and in order that information is put in the right place. Dr. Timmerman noted that this is a confusing matter. Chairman Edens stated that he feels Mr. Mendelson has a very valid point regarding this matter. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that he has people in his area that have private land within the Hunt Unit and cannot hunt on Sunday, which has caused some complaints. Dr. Timmerman noted that this is another problem as we are getting calls asking why we are enforcing the "no Sunday hunting" more strictly in the Piedmont area than in the coastal area. Dr. Timmerman stated that the blue laws apply to both hunting and fishing. Chairman Edens asked if we are going to continue enforcing the wearing of orange on private property within the GMA Hunt Units. Dr. Timmerman noted that this should be looked at before we print the new brochures. Commissioner Boykin suggested that we pick up the man's fine and cancel this off his record. As such, Commissioner Boykin moved that we pick up the fine and go back to the Magistrate in order to do away with this man's problem. Commissioner Harrelson noted that if wearing the orange is valid, then all hunters should have to wear it which would cause problems or those that hunt with a game management permit should be required to wear it. Commissioner Dennis noted that the purpose of the orange is safety and not wearing it while hunting puts an individual in a hazardous situation. Commissioner Dennis stated that this individual should have appealed to the Magistrate to dismiss the case against him. Dr. Timmerman noted that since the individual has pleaded guilty on the case, he is unsure if we can legally ask the Magistrate to forfeit the money back to the individual. Commissioner Dennis suggested that our attorney confer with this man to see if he wants to make a motion to re-open the case and to ask that the case be dismissed. As a result of this suggestion, Commissioner Boykin withdrew his motion. Commissioner Dennis noted that the Commission may want to ask for a statute on this regulation to require that orange be worn by landowners in a Hunt Unit whether the property is in the game management program or not. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that many people in his area are complaining about not being able to hunt on Sunday and having game management regulations applying to private property. Commissioner Shuler stated that he did not think game management regulations should apply to private property as it violates private property rights. Chairman Edens noted that the Commission accepted Commissioner Dennis' suggestion

regarding this case on Mr. Mendelson for the attorney to work out along the lines suggested. Commissioner Dennis noted that this matter involves some real fine constitutional questions. As such, our attorney and the Attorney General's Office should look at this carefully and bring back any recommendations to the Commission. Chairman Edens noted that this matter needs to be looked at before we publish the rules and regulations again.

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Status Report - South Island Ferry: This matter was covered in Dr. Timmerman's comments.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Savannah River Plant Wildlife Management Program: Jeff Fuller noted that this agreement was being developed and in the process, there was a hunter fatality. The staff working on this agreement were diverted to work on this fatality and the agreement has not been completed. Mr. Fuller noted that when it is finalized, it will be brought back to the Commission. Dr. Timmerman stated that he had received a letter on this yesterday and we will have a final recommendation at the January Commission meeting.

B. FY 1980-81 Budget and Five-Year Projections: Dr. Timmerman asked Benny Reeves to discuss this matter. Mr. Reeves noted that we have done a 5-year budget plan and have made budget projections. An 11% cost of living increase and an inflation factor were used to make these projections. Charts were passed out to the Commission regarding these projections. These charts do not include any new programs or new personnel. One chart shows license sales revenue and shows about a 4% increase each year since FY 73-74. Dr. Timmerman noted that we project revenue will go to about \$4-million annually and level off at that point. Our last license fee increase was in 1969. Mr. Reeves noted that the second chart shows personal service compared to operations. An ideal operating level is 60% for personal services and 40% for operating. This chart reveals that operating funds will be decreasing over a period of time with personal services increasing. By FY 81-82, we will need approximately an additional one-million dollars to meet our needs. Dr. Timmerman noted that by FY 84-85, we will need about \$10-million more than this year to maintain our current programs. With revenue and federal funds staying about the same, additional state funds will be needed or we will have to reduce services and personnel. Mr. Reeves noted that while our revenue increases somewhat, it is used up for base pay increases for personnel paid out of revenue.

Commissioner Dennis noted that with a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee of the U. S. Congress voting for a balanced budget, we cannot look for additional federal funds. The additional needs for the Department will have to come from additional state funds or an increase in license fees. Probably, additional funds needed will come from some combination of the two sources, possibly in 1981. Dr. Timmerman noted that about fifty percent (50%) of our employees are paid out of non-state appropriated funds and each time the state gives a cost of living and merit increase, it must come out of the revenue which could be used for operating funds. We are unlike agencies like PRT that can raise cabin rentals or the universities that can raise tuition in that our license fees are set by statute. Chairman Edens asked if there is any way we can seek a permanent cure to the problem on people that are paid out of revenue. Dr. Timmerman noted that about fifty percent (50%) of law enforcement is paid out of revenue and it would be a big help if law enforcement could be put on the state payroll. Commissioner Dennis noted that it is obvious that an additional million dollars will be needed by the Department and we need to talk about shifting these personnel like Dr. Timmerman suggests and we need to talk about some revision in license fees in 1981. Commissioner Dennis stated that it is unreasonable to expect the Department to operate on the same license charges since 1969 in these inflationary times. Chairman Edens noted that it is generally agreed to include in our legislative proposal, a license fee increase in 1981. Commissioner Harrelson stated it would be difficult to pass this in an election year and we may want to talk about this and see what kind of response we get. Commissioner Dennis suggested that we get geared up in FY 80-81 with a blue ribbon committee approach by getting some people outside the Department and the legislature that enjoy hunting and fishing to work with the Wildlife Federation and other sportsmen groups to understand the fiscal facts under the 5-year Plan and to know that if the Department is to fulfill its mission in the next five years that additional funds are needed. Chairman Edens noted that he felt we could get cooperation from several different sportsmen groups in the state. Commissioner Dennis also suggested that we seek support of the news media in pinpointing the problems and financial needs. Dr. Timmerman stated that it may be more beneficial to the Department for this committee to come up with suggested legislation on license fee increases rather than a proposal from the Department. Commissioner Dennis noted that he agreed and the group should also come up with some options to be considered. Chairman Edens noted that he and Dr. Timmerman would proceed with putting together this group as Commissioner Dennis has suggested. Chairman Edens asked Dr. Timmerman and Benny Reeves to work with Commissioner Dennis on this

fringe benefit problem. Mr. Reeves noted that the last chart points out some of the primary needs we will have by FY 84-85.

C. 1980 Legislative Proposal: Dan Dobbins noted that the 1980 Legislative Proposal has been mailed out to the Commission. Dr. Timmerman stated that another proposal that has just been included in the package is a bill on deer hides. Dr. Timmerman noted that we have scaled down our number of proposals from last year. Mr. Dobbins went over each of these proposals by title and briefly discussed the nature of each proposed bill. Following discussion by the Commission, Commissioner Harrelson moved that these proposals be recommended to the legislature. Commissioner Boykin seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing to add to the written report.

2. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Jeff Fuller informed the Commission that the Corps of Engineers will complete an inventory of phragmites along the coast this week. Some thought is currently being given to a control program in the Georgetown area.

3. Law Enforcement and Boating: There was nothing to add to the written report.

4. Information and Public Affairs: Sonny Baines reported that he and some of the staff went to Missouri to look at their anti-hunting program. Some ideas were gained which could be useful as we develop such a program in the Department. Mr. Baines noted that the SLAM banquet honoring seven winners was held on December 13th. Relative to the dove baiting brochure, Mr. Baines stated that a lot of people in the Department cooperated with this and he expressed his appreciation for such. Mr. Baines noted that guidelines for publications in the Department have been developed which the Commission and Dr. Timmerman had requested. Each Division will set priorities and a budget each year for publications and publications will be combined where practical. The Department will form a brochure committee comprised of a representative from each Division. If this committee decides a publication will be sold, it will decide which ones to sell and at what cost to be approved by the Executive Director. Chairman Edens asked about getting the SLAM banquet sponsored. Mr. Baines noted that this is being pursued for the next banquet.

5. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph presented a copy of the Recreational Shellfish Guide to the Commissioners noting that 10,000 were printed with foundation funds. There are orders now for 1,000 of these and we expect to recover the funds spent and make a profit for the next publication in the spring. Dr. Joseph informed the Commission that the dockside value of the commercial fishing will probably exceed \$24-million which is a 33% increase over the previous record high. Chairman Edens noted that when the final figures are tabulated, a press release should be put out on this matter. Commissioner Dawson complimented Dr. Joseph and the staff on the Recreational Shellfish Guide.

E. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Pendarvis noted that the Board discussed setting of deer seasons and recommended that the Commission seek authority to set deer seasons and that this request to the legislature be tied to other business such as endorsement of the concept of a state duck stamp and license fee increase. The Board discussed hunting on mountain property owned by PRT. The Board also discussed the use of CB radios while hunting and did not have a recommendation this matter. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that maybe we could use legislation on controlling hunting from a public road to control this problem. Dr. Timmerman stated that he had talked to Senator Tom Smith about this and informed him that we would look at getting something out to the news media on how these should be properly used. Commissioner Pendarvis stated the Board suggested that the Department give more publicity on the wood duck boxes and what we are doing for wood duck throughout the state. A check for \$13,785.50 was presented to Coy Johnston of Ducks Unlimited at the meeting. The next meeting will be held February 14, 1980, at the Yawkey Wildlife Center. Chairman Edens noted that in regard to setting deer seasons and tying it to a state duck stamp, that the Commission has not approved or agreed to endorse or seek a state duck stamp. Commissioner Pendarvis noted this was only a recommendation from the Board to the Commission and that a legislator has already pre-filed a bill for a state duck stamp.

2. Law Enforcement and Boating: There was no report from this Board this month as they will meet in January.

3. Marine Resources: There was no report from this Board this month as they will meet in January.

4. Heritage Trust: Dr. Timmerman stated that the Board met at Table Rock State Park on December 13th and toured the Moore property. The Board

approved four or five registration agreements. Representative Mangum is interested in a tract called Forty Acre Rock in Lancaster County and \$45,000 has been appropriated to acquire this property. Dr. Timmerman noted we will go slow on this until some type of management plan is developed on this area.

F. Salary Review Committee: Dr. Timmerman reported that this committee has met and everything is in order. Dr. Timmerman noted that starting in April, 1980, there will be a stricter review of merit increases as we have too many superior ratings this year.

G. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and re-appointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers and Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Dr. Timmerman noted that the DWCO re-appointments are in order. Chairman Edens noted that three of the DWCO re-appointments are not tied to acreage requirements as in the Commission policy. Dr. Timmerman stated that the re-appointments have been handled as in the past and the new proposed legislation may satisfy this in the future. Commissioner Stubbs stated that when people come up for re-appointment, the Conservation Officers should check to see if they render a service to the Department. Dr. Timmerman stated that Mr. Raymond Walters is recommended as a new DWCO appointment. At the last meeting, William Rudisill, Bob Sargent and C. Spears Westbrook were held up until this meeting. Sonny Baines read a letter from Bob Sargent in which he requested that he be appointed as a DWCO. Commissioner Stubbs noted that he knows Mr. Rudisill and Mr. Sargent and he recommended they be approved. Dr. Timmerman stated that he had talked to Cliff Moyer at the Criminal Justice Academy and he will send a letter on C. Spears Westbrook. As such, Dr. Timmerman stated that he did not have a recommendation on Mr. Westbrook. Following other discussion, the Commission approved all proposed DWCO re-appointments and new appointments as recommended. The Commission also approved the DWCO re-appointment of William P. Rudisill and the DWCO appointment of Bob Sargent. The Commission took no action on C. Spears Westbrook. Dr. Timmerman went over the recommendations for re-appointment of Conservation Officers and the appointment of two new Conservation Officers. Upon a motion by Commissioner Boykin, seconded by Commissioner Pendarvis, the Commission approved these as recommended.

H. Other Remarks: Commissioner Shuler noted that it was brought to his attention that a law had passed last year where we would not allow out-of-state crabbers to crab in this state unless they allowed us to crab in their state. He noted that it was his understanding that we are allowing that and it is not being enforced. Tommy Edwards reported that papers will be served on an individual from Virginia to show cause as to why his license should not be revoked. This license was sold in McClellanville and the license dealer was not aware of the new statute. Dr. Timmerman noted that we will check into this to see that the law is properly enforced.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we own Capers Island which is a very unique area in its natural habitat. Recently, Representative Clyde Dangerfield, Mac Flood and staff at the Marine Center toured the island. During the hurricane, there was a lot of damage on the island. This island is used a lot by people in Charleston and others. The problem we have is that we acquired the property, but have no operating funds for the island. Dr. Timmerman noted that he had received a letter from Representative Dangerfield requesting that we obtain a funding base for operating this island. Mac Flood discussed the tour of the island pointing out the needs for management of the island and stated that about \$50,000 is needed to maintain the island. Mr. Flood noted that access to the island is a problem and fire lines are needed to protect the island. Commissioner Dennis stated that he has talked to Representative Dangerfield about this and he is interested in this project. Commissioner Dennis noted that he felt this is a separate project and we should ask the legislature to appropriate funds as a special project. Commissioner Dennis ask for the Commission's endorsement of this project noting that he felt the \$50,000 suggested is a reasonable amount. Dr. Joseph noted that about \$25,000 to \$40,000 has been spent over the last three to four years on Capers Island for docks, maintaining the dikes, and the like; however, there has never been a source of funds for this and it has come out of our operating revenue. Dr. Timmerman recommended that the Commission endorse Commissioner Dennis' suggestion in that this would be a special item and not a part of our overall budget. Commissioner Dennis noted that some of the needs are of an emergency nature and maybe we should ask for a supplemental appropriation. Commissioner Dennis moved for the Commission to endorse the concept of making some repairs at Capers Island and asking the legislature for funds for those repairs, and at the same time asking the legislature for a reasonable amount of money

to make Capers Island accessible to the general public under the direction and control of the Commission. Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Commissioner Shuler suggested that we ask the State Forestry Commission about plowing fire lines on the island. Dr. Timmerman stated that we would talk to them about a total forestry management program.

I. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Edens noted that the next meeting will be held in Columbia on January 18, 1980.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

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