

## MINUTES

### SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building  
Columbia, S. C.  
January 16, 1987  
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 a.m., January 16, 1987, 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, Stokes, Harrelson and Bennett. Directors and Staff present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Paul Sandifer, Sonny Baines, Brock Conrad, Bill Chastain 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. Dr. Timmerman recognized, as special guests, Ms. Gail McTeer, Mike Fields, and Betty Spence.

#### ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the November 14, 1986 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

#### ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that we have established an Employee's Awards Certificate and these were presented by Dr. Timmerman and the respective Division Directors to various employees.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that the special issue of SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE magazine has been completed and is entitled, A CAROLINA TRILOGY. Dr. Timmerman recognized John Davis as Editor of the SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE magazine for his special efforts with this issue, noting that it is one of the best issues that they have ever produced.

Dr. Timmerman presented the Commission with a detailed update on the status of our revenues and Department's budget. He advised the Commission that our revenues are down, we have experienced a 2.6% cut in our FY 86-87 budget already, and a 4.8% budget cut has been planned for FY 87-88. Dr. Timmerman noted that the State Budget and Control Board is meeting now and another cut may be forthcoming in the near future. Dr. Timmerman asked Benny Reeves to pass out information to the Commission on our proposed FY 87-88 budget request priorities and our budget reductions that we have experienced. (Copy attached to original Commission Minutes.) Mr. Reeves distributed these items and went over these



with the Commission, noting that we have been cut for FY 87, a total of \$837,000. Dr. Timmerman noted that he will keep the Commission up-to-date on budget matters as they arise. In addition, Dr. Timmerman stated that he would appreciate any advice and recommendations on our budget priorities and/or budget reductions from the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the January 1st storm along the coast caused extensive damage to some of the Department's impoundments and he asked John Frampton to go over the damages that occurred. Dr. Timmerman discussed with the Commission that there were extensive damages to the Murphy Island dike at Santee Coastal Reserve as well as other damages at Santee Delta/Samworth and Bear Island Game Management Areas. Mr. Frampton noted that, at this time, it appears that approximately \$289,000 will be needed to repair these damages. Dr. Timmerman noted that we are seeking approval of funds for emergency repairs from the State Budget and Control Board and are also looking for private fund sources to help repair these damages. In addition, he noted that we have a waterfowl stamp emergency fund of \$50,000 that could be used in making these emergency repairs. Following other discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to authorize Dr. Timmerman to use the emergency duck stamp funds up to \$50,000 as necessary for making repairs at these facilities.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the Department's 1987 motto is, "Doing The Best That You Can Do". He noted that we are developing a family approach for all employees in the Department and have developed a Departmental newspaper entitled, "The Messenger" which he distributed to the Commission for information. He advised the Commission that this newsletter would be done every other month to keep employees abreast of things that are happening in the Department.

Dr. Timmerman commended the Division of Law Enforcement and Boating for the increase in fines that have been received this year. He noted that more fines had been collected in the first six months of this year than in all of last year.

Dr. Timmerman noted that there was a recent oil spill in the Savannah River and there are some impacts in South Carolina. He advised that the staff is moving forward to reclaim any losses that have occurred and Buford Mabry will file a claim in federal court on this matter in the near future.

Dr. Timmerman distributed the six-month vehicle accident report to the Commissioners for their information.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that he has developed Objectives for 1987 for the Department and these have been sent to the Commission for review (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Dr. Timmerman asked the Commission for input and direction concerning these Objectives and asked that such be included on the February Commission Meeting Agenda for discussion.



Dr. Timmerman noted that he has asked Benny Reeves and the Personnel Office to make a presentation on the status of the Personnel Study at the February meeting and he would also like to present the Commission with the newly adopted orientation program.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that he had just been advised that the State Budget and Control Board has approved \$150,000 in emergency funds for repair work to the Department's properties at Santee Coastal Reserve, Bear Island and the Santee Delta/Samworth Game Management Areas. Dr. Timmerman noted that Senator Dennis was very instrumental in securing approval of these emergency funds and we owe a great deal of gratitude to him for this effort.

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposed Recommendations on Shrimp Baiting: Chairman Webster noted that a number of legislative hearings have been scheduled concerning shrimp baiting legislation and he recommended the Commission delay any further discussion on this matter until after these hearings are completed. Commissioner Quackenbush moved that the Commission delay any discussion on this matter since Commissioner Harrelson is not present to discuss this matter. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Spring Turkey Season for Aiken, Clarendon & Williamsburg Counties: John Frampton advised the Commission that the proposed season and regulations for a spring turkey season in Aiken, Clarendon & Williamsburg Counties had been sent to the Commissioners for their review (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). David Baumann went over these proposed recommendations with the Commission and discussed these at this time. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the turkey season and regulations as presented.

B. Proposed Largemouth Bass Size Limit (Lakes Oliphant & Cherokee): Mac Watson noted that the proposed 16-inch size limit for Lakes Oliphant and Cherokee was sent to the Commission for their review (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the recommended size limit as presented.

C. Division Reports:

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

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: John Frampton presented the Commission with an update on the Deer Survey and distributed a copy of the Survey to the Commissioners for their information. He went over the Survey with the Commission and also distributed letters from the South Carolina Wildlife Federation and U. S. Forest Service concerning this matter. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion for the staff to move ahead with this survey.



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

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

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer advised the Commission that there was a problem at the Capers Island impoundment which has a breach in it that is about 100 feet wide and it is estimated that \$75,000 will be needed to repair this breach.

D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Quackenbush noted that the Board met on January 7, 1987 and he expressed thanks to Commissioner G. B. Stokes for serving as Vice-Chairman of this Board. Commissioner Quackenbush noted that the Board dealt, primarily, with discussion on the shrimp baiting issue and decided to stand by their previous action on this matter. Commissioner Quackenbush noted that this was one of the best meetings that this Board has ever had since he has been Chairman.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: There was no report from the Board this month.

3. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer noted that he was presenting the Board's report on behalf of Commissioner Harrelson. He noted the Board met on December 5, 1986 and the major items discussed included seafood sales and quality control. The Board will conduct further review on these matters. Dr. Sandifer went over the studies involving the Trawling Efficiency Devices (TED's) and he noted that the results showed that both devices would handle the turtle problem. Dr. Sandifer noted that federal regulations being drafted at this time would make TEDs mandatory in the South Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Area on January 1, 1988. Dr. Sandifer noted that the Board also discussed the shrimp baiting matter and stood by their previous recommendations concerning shrimp baiting.

Following other discussion, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss legal, contractual and personnel matters. Commissioner Owen 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 legal, personnel and contractual matters.

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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 Compton to report on the action taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Compton reported that the Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Conservation Officers as presented with one



minor change on the list as attached (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt and ratify this action. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

E. Other Remarks: There were no further remarks from the Commissioners.

F. Appointments: This matter was previously acted upon by the Commission.

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commissioners agreed to hold their next meeting at 10:00 A.M., February 13, 1987, at The Citadel, Charleston, S. C.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

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

