

## MINUTES

### S. C. WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION Walterboro, South Carolina

January 17, 1975

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at the Southland Restaurant in Walterboro, South Carolina on January 17, 1975 at 10:00 am with Chairman Hudson presiding. Other Commissioners present were Lumpkin, Harris, Bennett, Dennis, Rhame, Glenn, and Boykin. Advisors present were Frank Ford and James W. Webb. Others in attendance were Dr. Timmerman, Dr. Joseph, Pat Ryan, Jeff Fuller, Wash Belangia, Dr. Laurent, John Culler, Mac Flood, Bill Chastain, Ned Pendarvis, Bill Cotty, Pat Robertson, Tommy Welch, Brock Conrad; Clark Surratt with the State Newspaper and various others.

#### CALL TO ORDER

ITEM I. READING OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: The minutes were approved as mailed out.

#### COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman reported that he has gone back through all the Commission Meeting Minutes for 1974 and he gave a status report on Commission requests. A copy of this was passed out to the Commission. One of these items was the ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HERITAGE TRUST PROGRAM which Dr. Timmerman stated that the Commission has not formally approved this program and requested the Commission to take action to approve or disapprove. Commissioner Dennis made a motion that the Commission go on record as approving this program, seconded by Commissioner Rhame and passed. On the Policy of Trespassing, Commissioner Dennis requested that our legal staff look into trespassing and make some recommendation to the Commission for Legislation to stiffen the penalties on this. It was reported by Bill Cotty that this is being looked into not only for stiffer penalties, but also for a point system and revocation of hunting and fishing privileges. He will report back to the Commission on this. Dr. Timmerman went over the Department Improvement/Construction of Facilities and a copy of his report was passed out to the Commission, for their information.

#### ITEM II. OLD BUSINESS

A. MANAGEMENT PROBLEM - J. W. WEBB WILDLIFE CENTER: Dr. Timmerman reported that he has asked Bill Cotty and Jeff Fuller and staff to look into the problems at Belmont. He stated that the worth of Belmont is going to incorporate public hunting, but also to a large degree, management and research. There is a problem with the present permit system. Bill Cotty submitted a written draft of his recommendations for Belmont and went over this with the Commission noting particularly that two main things that could be done would be to have a quota on drawing hunts for non-residents and increase the cost of a non-resident GMA permit. This information was given for the Commission's review and at the next meeting a definite proposal for this will be made. Jeff Fuller made a brief statement in regard to the report on the Webb Center and went over the proposed Management Plan for the Period of November 1974 through July 1, 1976. The Commission felt that the agricultural practices at Belmont should be handled by the staff.

B. SELECTION OF ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS: Dennis Center, Lake Long and Panel: Dr. Timmerman submitted to the Commission the staff's selection of eight architects for a panel to be used for small jobs for a period of eighteen months on a rotating



basis and then a new panel of eight will be chosen. He asked for Commission approval so these can be submitted to the Budget & Control Board. There was a motion made to approve this panel, it was seconded and passed.

The staff and Commissioner Hudson met with three firms on January 16th on the Dennis Center and four firms on the Lake Long projects. The two firms recommended on the Lake Long project are Davis & Floyd Engineers, Inc. of Greenwood and Prather and Thomas of Spartanburg. Commissioner Boykin made a motion that Davis & Floyd of Greenwood be recommended to the Budget & Control Board for their consideration. This was seconded by Senator Dennis and passed.

Dr. Timmerman stated that the recommendation for the Dennis Center be Lockwood-Greene Engineers of Spartanburg, Blume, Ott & Cannon of Florence and Smith and Fuller of Columbia. Senator Dennis recommended that the selection be in a 1-2-3 order to go before the Budget & Control Board with #1 being Lockwood-Greene, #2 being Blume, Ott & Cannon, and #3 being Smith and Fuller. A motion was made to approve this selection, it was seconded and passed.

Chairman Hudson introduced his guest, Mr. Eugene duPont III. Mr. duPont asked the Commission to reconsider on the next coming dove season and have a long season through at least the 15th of January. Commissioner Dennis made a motion that we propose to the Fish & Wildlife that the dove season be extended to go through the duck season and that the last day of duck hunting be the last day of dove hunting. This was seconded and passed. Mr. Webb stated that the final decision on this will be in July. Mr. duPont also suggested that the snipes limit be increased from eight to twelve. There was a motion made by Commissioner Dennis that the Commission request of the Department of the Interior an increase in the bag limit on snipe as an official resolution of this Commission. This was seconded and passed. This item will be taken up in March at the North American Wildlife Meeting.

C. AGE - BONA FIDE OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATION: Wash Belangia reported that at the last meeting, the Commission asked him to see that we are in compliance with any state or Federal law pertaining to personnel. For a matter of record this includes Fair Labor Standard Act, Age Discrimination & Employment Act and the Human Resources and Commission and the Equal Pay of Members to the Fair Labor Standard Act. We are in compliance.

D. COMMUNICATIONS INVOLVING TRESPASS: The toll free telephone is being installed and the public will be notified of this number. The cost of this line is approximately \$165 per month and will be handled by our radio operator in the Columbia office. This number will be listed along with the Fire Department, and Police and emergency numbers in the new phone books and will be mainly used for emergency law enforcement situations. Publicity will be given to this number, and when we send this number out, we will also send out the proper numbers to call for the individual Divisions. Chairman Hudson asked the staff to look into the possibility of getting a similar system set up for information purposes. John Culler and Wash Belangia will get together with Dr. Timmerman and will report at the next meeting.

E. INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT: Dr. Timmerman passed out a list of these vehicle, boat, etc. assignments along with guidelines, and went over this with the



Commission. This was accepted as information by the Commission.

F. PERSONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE: Wash Belangia reported that a firm has been negotiated with for \$300,000 worth of liability insurance at a rate of \$7.50 per person per year. All persons in the agency would come under this plan. The total cost for all employees would be \$3,500. It is recommended that the Commission accept this recommendation. A motion was made by the Commission to accept this recommendation, it was seconded and passed. Wash Belangia was instructed to effect this coverage. Commissioner Boykin asked him to check into the possibility of the Commission being insured under this plan.

G. DECALS ON EQUIPMENT: Dr. Timmerman stated that he has sent out a notice that all vehicles including airplanes, boats, etc., except the three undercover and all Supervisory Personnel (to be determined) must bear the Decal. All state cars will bear the SG tags except undercover. There was much discussion on who would be considered as Supervisory Personnel and Senator Dennis made a motion that we receive this as information at this time. It was seconded and passed.

H. LICENSING OF GUIDES: Commissioner Rhame recommended that this action be postponed at the present time, in order not to create additional work for the Administration. Chairman Hudson suggested a voluntary program where the guide does go through a particular test on safety standards, etc. and he would be listed and this list would be available to the public. Jeff Fuller reported his findings and offered suggestions such as the fee for such a license would be \$25 per year or near that, also recommended that a graduated penalty section be included which would allow revocation of the license after three convictions, and would suggest that the first conviction carry a minimum fine of \$60. His feeling is that from a legal standpoint, it would be very difficult at this time. Bill Cotty commented that such a bill would be extremely difficult to enforce as well as an additional burden administratively at a time when we need to concentrate on doing what we are doing well. Commissioner Rhame agreed to take this new information back to his Advisory Board for consideration and will report back to the Commission at a later date.

### ITEM III. NEW BUSINESS

A. SALARY REVIEW COMMITTEE: It was reported that there are no exceptions at this time.

B. 1975 TURKEY SEASON: These recommendations have been given to the Commission and Jeff Fuller went over them and a motion was made to adopt these recommendations for Rules & Regulations & Seasons. It was seconded and passed.

C. HUNTER SAFETY PROGRAM: Pat Ryan went over this and a brochure was passed out. He asked that the Commission take this information and go over it and offer recommendations. As far as funding is concerned this is mandatory on the federal level. If there are any questions please contact Mr. Ryan or Dr. Timmerman.

D. DIVISION REPORTS: Jeff Fuller passed out a copy of his report on Herring and Proposed Regulations for the 1975 Herring Season. The Commission made a motion to approve these recommendations if there are no objections within ten days. It was seconded and passed.



Jeff Fuller reported to the Commission on the Mottled Duck Program. Louisiana will provide us with the eggs and downy size ducks. Are planning a trip to the Rockefeller Refuge to see what they are doing with this same type program and following that we will go ahead with pen construction, etc. Commission asked John Culler to get some information out on this so the public will have an opportunity to get in on these pen locations.

Commissioner Rhame and Harris invited all Wildlife Personnel to a cookout on the 27th of February, Thursday night at the Pinetree Hunting Club, stag, which is being given by the Advisory Board. Details will be sent out at a later date.

Dr. Timmerman stated that the original site on Lake Long is not feasible for many reasons, and therefore asked the Commission for authority to go ahead and exercise the option on another site and proceed with construction. Senator Dennis made the motion that this request be approve. It was seconded and passed.

E. APPOINTMENTS: New appointment recommendations for Phillip T. McDaniel of Horry County and Henry Craig Whitfield of Hanahan, South Carolina were given to the Commission. These are salaried personnel. There was a motion made to approve these recommendations, it was seconded and passed.

Reappointment of John D. Prince, Jr. of Sumter and William A. Holmes, Jr., salaried personnel, was requested. There was a motion made to approve these recommendations, it was seconded and passed.

Commissioner Rhame requested the Commission to extend the authority of Paul K. Wiles, a non-pay officer, from county wide to state wide. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this.

There was a recommendation for James Hill of Berkley as a paid officer that was not mailed out prior to this meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve.

There was a recommendation for the appointment of A. K. Lain, of Aiken as a non-pay and a recommendation for the reappointment of Bobby G. Livingston of Eastover as a non-pay. There was a motion made to approve these appointments it was seconded and passed.

Commissioner Dennis told the Commission that we previously agreed to participate with the Highway Department in Berkley County in the construction of three boat landings in that County. He proposed to the Commission that we name the landing at Russellville in honor of the late Rep. Henderson Guerry, the landing at Pinapolis in honor of former Rep. E. Jarvis Morris, and the one at Cypress Gardens in honor of Clyde D. Umphlett, County Supervisor. A motion was made, seconded and passed to honor this request with the usual procedure for construction.

There being no further business, there was a motion made, seconded and passed that the Commission go into Executive Session for discussion of personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

*Christine Stapleton*  
Christine Stapleton,  
Secretary to the Commission

