

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCE COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
January 19, 1990
1:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 1:00 P.M., Friday, January 19, 1990, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., with Chairman Burnside presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included: Commissioners Burnside, Compton, Pendarvis, Owen, Miller, Stokes, and Thomason. Staff members present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Benny Reeves, Bill Chastain, Brock Conrad, Sonny Baines, Paul Sandifer and various other staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

Commissioner James O. Thomason was recognized by the Chairman and he asked Captains David Yongue and Bobby Joe Smith to join him for a check presentation. Commissioner Thomason noted the officers in Districts 1 and 7, along with other departmental staff, cooperated to have a cookout in Spartanburg for the Hugo Relief Fund. These individuals presented a check for \$6800.00 to Charles L. Compton as Treasurer of the Harry R. E. Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund, Inc. Mr. Compton expressed thanks to the staff for organizing this cookout and raising this \$6800.00 for the Hugo Relief Fund.

Dr. Timmerman introduced Mr. Knox Haynesworth who was instrumental in raising funds for the Hugo Relief Fund and noted that through his efforts, approximately two dozen individuals contributed approximately \$10,000.00 to this Fund. Dr. Timmerman presented a plaque to Mr. Haynesworth which was a Meritorius Service Award and expressed thanks to him for his efforts in raising funds for the Hugo Relief Fund.

ITEM I - READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the November 17, 1989 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that information from Commissioner Bennett concerning matters coming before the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Wildlife Subcommittee have been distributed to the Commission for their information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that in the Governor's State of The State Address, he announced an Executive Order regarding recycling for the state and Dr. Timmerman noted that the Department has already implemented a recycling program.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that the South Carolina Wildlife Federation Annual Meeting will be held at Myrtle Beach on January 27, 1990.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the six-month Vehicle Accident Report to the Commission for their information.

ITEM III - LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dr. Timmerman noted that there was no legislative report for this meeting, but the updated report will be sent out to the Commission for their information.

ITEM IV - OLD BUSINESS

A. Freshwater Fisheries Committee Report: Commissioner Owen noted this Committee had met and discussed the cost of fish production and noted that there is great interest in the farm pond program in this state. Commissioner Owen noted that the Committee felt that the hatchery program should be continued and expanded to the extent possible. Commissioner Owen noted that the Committee recommended that the production cost of .07¢ per fish, or \$77.00 per acre, should be instituted and he moved for the Commission to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

B. Proposed Changes in the Antlerless Deer Quota Program: Derrell Shipes noted that the Commission had been sent the recommended changes in the Antlerless Deer Quota Program (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Shipes noted that this proposal includes a recommended \$50.00 fee for participation in the Antlerless Deer Quota Program which would have to be approved by the Legislature and it also recommends a specific number of either-sex days for each coastal county. Mr. Shipes discussed this proposal with the Commission and went over the details with the Commission. Commissioner Pendarvis requested that two (2) to three (3) public informational meetings be held in the First Congressional District to discuss this proposal and he also noted that the Legislature should be made aware that the \$50.00 fee will not cover the cost for this program for the individual that elects to stay with the use of tags. Following other discussion,

the Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommended change in the Antlerless Deer Quota Program as presented.

C. Recommendation Regarding Personalized Watercraft:

Commissioner Stokes noted that the Chairman had appointed a committee on personalized watercraft and he distributed a proposal to the Commission for their consideration (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Stokes noted that this proposal recommends legislation whereby on all public waters of the State of South Carolina, anyone under the age of fourteen (14) must be accompanied by an adult eighteen (18) years old or older to legally operate a motorized watercraft. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the proposal as submitted.

ITEM IV - NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Spring Turkey Season in Darlington, Anderson & Lexington Counties: David Baumann noted that the recommendation for opening portions of Anderson, Lexington and Darlington Counties had been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Baumann discussed this with the Commission and following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the opening of portions of Anderson, Lexington and Darlington Counties for turkey hunting as presented.

B. Draft Heritage Preserve Dedication Agreement for Deveaux Bank: Tom Kohlsaatt noted that the proposed Dedication Agreement for Deveaux Bank had been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the Dedication Agreement as submitted.

C. Division Reports:

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

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Brock Conrad presented a five minute video on proposed striped bass regulations in Lake Murray as approved by the Commission at the last meeting. Mr. Conrad noted that a public hearing has been scheduled on January 29, 1990, at 10:00 a.m., Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building regarding these regulations.

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

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

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report.

D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Stokes noted that the Board met recently and discussed a variety of issues. Commissioner Stokes noted that the Board discussed

people catching bait fish and recommends that individuals using cast nets be included in current legislation so as to require a license. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation by Commissioner Stokes.

Commissioner Stokes noted that Mr. Charles Graham appeared at the Board Meeting and recommended that the Department develop and adopt a boat landing program and he recommended that the Chairman appoint a committee to review this matter. Chairman Burnside noted that he will appoint a committee to review this proposal and develop recommendations.

Commissioner Stokes noted that the Board members had requested special call numbers for those that have radios to correspond with the numbers that they will be securing for their license tags. The Commission agreed that some system should be developed and this could be handled when a new radio call sheet is printed.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted that the Commission has already acted on most matters which the Board took action on. Commissioner Owen asked the Commission's support for increasing penalties on bears which is legislation to be filed in the near future. Commissioner Owen also noted that a committee has been appointed to work on the development of a freshwater fisheries organization.

3. Conservation Education & Communications: Commissioner Thomason noted that this meeting has been delayed until February and he went over the appointments that have been made by the Governor to this Board. Commissioner Thomason moved for the Commission to approve the appointments of Dr. James C. Todd for one (1) year, Mr. John White, Jr. for two (2) years, and A. Pinckney Skinner, III for three (3) years to this Board. The motion was seconded and adopted by the Commission.

4. Marine Resources: Commissioner Pendarvis noted that the Board met recently and discussed the winter kill of overwintering white shrimp. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that the Board has adopted a motion to request the emergency closure of federal waters that are affected by this winter kill and Commissioner Pendarvis went over a detailed motion regarding this matter with the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, Commissioner Pendarvis moved for the Commission to endorse and approve this motion from the Marine Advisory Board as submitted. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

5. Heritage Trust: There was no report from the Board this month.

E. Other Remarks: Commissioner Thomason noted that the Commission had recently discussed long-term issues and needs and priorities which need to be set. Commissioner Thomason noted

that a committee may need to be appointed to review this matter. Dr. Timmerman stated that he would review this matter and have a report for the Commission at the next meeting.

Commissioner Stokes moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Burnside announced that at this time, the Commission would hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel 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.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Department to reasonably resolve the State Human Affairs case and the EEOC case that are before the Department at this time. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the appointments and reappointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented with the deletion of Item #19 on the recommended list of the reappointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Thomason seconded the motion and it was approved by the Commission.

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

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting in Charleston on March 2, 1990.

ITEM VI - ADJOURN

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

