

MINUTES
BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina
Friday, July 14, 1995
10:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 14, 1995, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, South Carolina. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Chairman Marion Burnside presided at the meeting and other Board members present included: Tom Miller, Joe Edens, George Graham, Mary Pope Waring, Campbell Coxe, and Phillip Lowe. Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., and staff members of the Department of Natural Resources were present at the meeting as well as various guests.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Marion Burnside called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He expressed a special welcome to the newly appointed Board members and all guests that were in attendance.

II. Meditation

Captain Van McCarty lead the meeting with a prayer of silent meditation prior to the beginning of the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

The Board adopted a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 1995 Board Meeting as submitted.

IV. Presentations/Commendations

There were no presentations or commendations to be presented at this meeting.

V. Constituent Comments

There were no constituent comments presented at this meeting.

VI. Director's Briefing

A. Executive Office

1. Director - Dr. Timmerman expressed sympathy in the recent lost of R. M. Gifford and John Evans in the Department and distributed recent news articles concerning these two individuals. He noted that both employees were highly valued in the Department and will be badly missed in the future.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a budget history to the Board for FY95-96 and went over Governor Beasley's veto message. He went over the points for the new budgetary process noting that everyone needs to understand that government is being downsized. The information on the federal budget for the Departments of Commerce and Interior were also distributed to the Board and discussed.

Dr. Timmerman expressed thanks to Caroline Agardy for her work on development of the Department and Commission policies and noted that a change in the policy on promotions in Law Enforcement will also be discussed.

Dr. Timmerman commended Mike Creel for his work on the new issue of *The Resource* noting that this publication was printed and mailed at a cost of \$0.32 per issue.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the staff is working on an Adopt a Boat Ramp Program and will be working with different groups in the implementation of this program.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we have made a test run on selling the Sportsmen's License through the mail and there has been a response rate of over 10% on these licenses. He noted that some license agents say that this is taking the business away from them and he passed out a recent letter from a Legislator and our response regarding this matter.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Quarterly Vehicle Accident Report to the Board for their information.

Dr. Timmerman asked Larry Cartee to send the Board members a copy of the minutes of the recent staff meeting which he had held in the Columbia office.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Board that the Water Resources program will be receiving an award from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he had several personnel and legal matters for discussion in executive session.

2. Legal - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.

3. Legislative Affairs - Michael Thompson stated that the 1995 Legislative Report is being completed and the 1996 Legislative Package is being prepared for the Board's consideration.
4. Human Resources - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.
5. Environmental - There was nothing further to report to the Board, and Dr. Timmerman commended Ed Duncan for his recent hard work in securing approvals for minimum instream flows. Mr. Duncan noted that a mutual agreement has been developed with Duke Power regarding the minimum instream flows at Buzzard's Roost.

B. Deputy Directors

1. Administrative Services - Benny Reeves noted that he will be working in the near future with the Board's Finance Committee on the Department's budget proposal.
2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries - Brock Conrad distributed information regarding a meeting to be held on August 9, 1995, on the Department's Strategic Plan and the Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative. He noted that a Quail Management Seminar will be held at the Webb Center. Val Nash discussed the recent new programs to enhance fishing to include the 1-800-ASK-FISH phone number, the Lexington County Library Rod-and-Reel Loan Program, and the Rod-and-Reel Program in the State Parks that have been established. Mr. Nash noted that Silstar and Shakespeare have been major contributors to these programs and are to be commended for their efforts.
3. Natural Resources Enforcement - Bill Chastain reported that the law books are located at the end of the hallway for the new Board members that desire to secure these. Alvin Taylor gave a report on saturation patrols that have been set up recently, noting that 345 citations were given on three different patrols. Dr. Graham asked about the status of jet ski legislation and Alvin Taylor discussed this matter and the legislative proposal with the Board. Chairman Burnside noted that he had received a call about qualifying with a .40 caliber Smith and Wesson for employees of a shooting preserve and Bill Chastain noted that the policy on this matter is to require a .40 caliber Glock. The Board noted that this item should be included on the agenda for further discussion at the next Board meeting. Mrs. Waring asked about a

drug testing policy and this item was discussed briefly by Bill Chastain. Mr. Lowe asked about a recent meeting with Clemson on dove baiting and what is being proposed and Mr. Chastain noted that we are trying to determine what are normal agricultural practices as it relates to dove baiting.

4. Conservation Education & Communication - Sonny Baines reported that the staff is finishing up the orientation video and he expressed thanks for all the Department staff that provided input for the new issue of *The Resource*.
5. Marine Resources - Paul Sandifer noted that a letter had been sent out recommending appointees to the Governor's Cup Board of Directors and these individuals were appointed to the Board of Directors by the DNR Board. He noted that a Senate Hearing on the Magnusson Act would be held in Charleston tomorrow and that Mr. Charles W. Stone has been appointed by the Secretary of Commerce to the South Atlantic Regional Fisheries Management Council.
6. Water Resources - Freddy Vang reported that the Water Resources Division has been a part of the DNR for one year and the transition process has worked very smoothly. He informed the Board that the Blue Ribbon Committee for Water Resources met yesterday and everything is coming along well with the work of this Committee.
7. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.

VII. Items for Board Action

- A. Proposed Early Season Migratory Bird Regulations 1995/96 - Brock Conrad noted that a copy of these proposed regulations had been sent to the Board in their packet (copy attached to the original Board Minutes). Dr. Graham asked about actions the Department is taking to study the double bagging problems after the first three days and asked about any biological problems related to this. Brock Conrad noted that we do not have any studies regarding this matter and there is a general reduction in population statewide. Mr. Conrad noted that we will make a copy of recent survey information to send to the Board members, and he further noted that the Harvest Information Program will provide better management data in the future. He also noted that the US Fish and Wildlife Service is working on some regulations regarding dove hunting, and Mrs. Waring suggested that our Department survey be

moved up one year to provide better input into the regulations being developed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Following other discussion, the Board approved the proposed early season migratory bird hunting regulations as submitted.

- B. Proposed Donation of Stoney Creek Battery to the Heritage Trust Program - Chris Judge noted that this proposed donation and the background regarding this matter had been sent to the Board in their packet (copy attached to original Board minutes). Mr. Judge discussed this donation in Beaufort County from the Department of Transportation and asked the Board to accept the donation of this property. Following discussion, the Board adopted a motion to accept the donation of this property as submitted.
- C. Proposed Budgets for Antlerless Deer Quota and Tag Revenue 1995/96 - Derrell Shipes noted that the proposed budgets for the Antlerless Deer Quota Program and the Tag Revenue Program had been sent to the Board in their packet (copy attached to original Board Minutes). Mr. Lowe asked about the budget cost per tag and Mr. Shipes noted that he would secure this information. Following discussion of both of these proposed budgets, the Board adopted a motion to approve the budgets as submitted.
- D. Proposed State Duck Stamp Funds Budget 1995-96 - John Frampton noted the proposed budget for the State Duck Stamp Funds for 1995 had been sent to the Board in their packet (copy attached to original Board minutes). Mr. Frampton discussed this proposal and distributed a listing of the carryover and total funds from this program since 1981. Mr. Coxe asked about how we can insure that boxes are installed and maintained properly, and Mr. Lowe asked about the number of boxes that are maintained and what data we have to insure the boxes are properly maintained and also if we could develop partners in maintaining the wood duck boxes. Mr. Frampton noted that the door is open for partners in maintenance of these boxes, and Mr. Lowe noted that he would like to see some dialogue established for cooperating with DU, the Waterfowl Association, or other groups that would be interested in maintaining wood duck boxes. Following discussion, the Board approved the proposed State Duck Stamp Budget as submitted.

VIII. Advisory Committee Reports

- A. Marine Recreational Fisheries - Paul Sandifer distributed a copy of the minutes of the May 25, 1995, Marine Recreational Fisheries Committee meeting and a letter from Russell Patterson was also distributed. It was noted that a letter from Dr. Timmerman had been submitted that three additional officers would be hired in the

coastal law enforcement district and Mrs. Waring asked about the status of these three positions. Dr. Timmerman stated that we have to get these approved by the Budget and Control Board and we hope to have these established by the next Board meeting.

- B. Land Resources and Conservation District - Cary Chamblee noted that the Committee met on June 1, 1995, and he went over the minutes of the meeting. He stated that the next meeting would be held on August 3, 1995.
- C. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Brock Conrad noted the Committee met on June 8, 1995, and the next meeting will be held on August 10, 1995. He went over the items discussed at the meeting and passed out a dove hunters survey to the Board members for their information.
- D. Natural Resources Enforcement - Tom Miller reported that the Committee had met recently and he went over the minutes of this meeting. He recommended that the Board approve the reappointment of David Burnside as a member of this Committee as his term had expired. The Board adopted a motion to approve the reappointment of Mr. Burnside to the Natural Resources Enforcement Advisory Committee, with Chairman Burnside not voting on the motion.

IX. Missions, Goals, & Strategic Planning

Larry Cartee went over the Strategic Planning Process and noted that a draft set of goals and objectives are currently being completed and will be submitted to the Board in the near future.

X. Policy Review

Caroline Agardy went over the new policy manual prepared and distributed to the Board and she discussed the process the staff had gone through in the development of these policies. She also distributed to the Board members a copy of the law enforcement promotion policies that had recently been developed by the Ad Hoc Law Enforcement Committee. Chairman Burnside asked the Board members to develop questions on these policies for further discussion at the August Board meeting. Mr. Edens noted that he felt that information was needed on the Compensation and Benefits Package of employees as it relates to salaries and parity. Dr. Timmerman noted that he would get this information to the Board on this matter and that a proviso was included in the budget this year to study the salaries of law enforcement in state government.

XI. Comments

There were no further comments from the Board members at this time.

XII. Executive Session

Mr. Miller moved for the Board to hold an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Board. Chairman Burnside announced that, at this time, the Board would hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

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RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

The regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

The Board approved a motion to reappoint William S. Simpson, III as a Conservation District Commissioner in Charleston and to appoint Lorraine C. McNair as a Conservation District Commissioner in Aiken.

The Board adopted a motion to approve an easement for the Charleston Public Works Department across the Department's property at Fort Johnson.

XIII. Time and Location of Next Board Meeting

The Board agreed to hold its next meeting on August 18, 1995, in Columbia, SC at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

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

