

MINUTES

BOARD OF THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina
July 15, 1994
10:00 A.M.

The initial meeting of the Board of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was held at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, July 15, 1994, in Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, S.C. 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, J. M. Pendarvis, Knox Haynsworth, George Vickery, Jake Rasor and Dr. Howard Poston. Dr. James Timmerman and staff members of the Department of Natural Resources were present at the meeting as well as various guests.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. MEDITATION

Captain Van McCarty lead the meeting with an opening prayer and time of silent meditation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The Board adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the June 17, 1994, South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission meeting and approved them as submitted.

Chairman Burnside introduced Mr. Buck Limehouse, Chairman of the South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission for his comments. Mr. Limehouse went over the recent changes at the Department of Transportation under restructuring and discussed the structure and role of the South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission. Mr. Limehouse noted that they have been working with the DNR staff to seek ideas for providing better customer service and that efforts will be undertaken to seek legislation to restrict the shooting on Highway Department right-of-ways. Mr. Limehouse noted that the Department of Transportation staff are working with Buford Mabry and others on this proposal and that it will be sought in the General Assembly in 1995.



IV. DISCUSSION OF DNR BOARD MEETING FORMAT

Dr. Timmerman went over the format for the DNR Board meeting and discussed this format in detail with the members of the Board. Following discussion, the Board agreed to the format presented with the change of Item XII. being added on the format to include comments from Board members which would preclude the proposed item on an executive session on the format.

V. PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS

There were no presentations to be made at the meeting, but Dr. Timmerman did recognize Mr. Lewis Walker in attendance at the meeting who formerly served on the S.C. Water Resources Commission.

VI. CONSTITUENCY COMMENTS

There were no constituency comments to be presented at this time and this matter will be handled in the future in accordance with the format provided and discussed with the DNR Board previously.

VII. DIRECTORS' BRIEFINGS

A. Executive Office:

1. Director -

Dr. Timmerman noted that he will seek to keep the Board informed on all activities in the Executive Office and he has therefore asked the various staff in the Executive Office to provide briefings to the Board at each meeting. Dr. Timmerman noted that he will ask the Chairman to appoint a Budget Committee to meet and report a budget proposal to the Board at their August meeting. Dr. Timmerman noted that he will ask the Board to appoint Advisory Committees for Land Resources and Water Resources and these proposals will be developed for the agenda at the August meeting. Dr. Timmerman noted that he would be filling conservation officer vacancies before the General Assembly returns to session in January, 1995. Dr. Timmerman distributed the Quarterly Vehicle Accident Report to the Board for their information. Dr. Timmerman distributed to the Board a memo regarding seeking approval from the Division of Human Resources Management for requiring a college degree for conservation officers. Dr. Timmerman noted that he has asked Brock Conrad and Bill Chastain to develop a system on how to best handle nuisance wildlife calls and this will be developed in the near future. Dr. Timmerman noted that Bob Brantly has recently completed a report on the non-game and game programs and we will be seeking to develop a biodiversity program in the agency and we hope to have



a report to the Board in the near future. Dr. Timmerman also stated that he is in the process of setting up a Blue Ribbon Committee on Water Resources.

2. Legal -
Buford Mabry noted a recent court decision now requires the Laidlaw Company to put up cash amounts for the GSX site as had previously been proposed. Mr. Mabry noted that a hunter harassment case was recently won and the 1995 preliminary legislative proposal as developed by Dan Dobbins has been sent to the Board for their review. Chairman Burnside asked that legislative proposals in the future be developed for action by the Board at their May meeting. Mr. Pendarvis asked about the problem of North Carolina trawling restrictions and it was noted that further information on this proposed two year moratorium is being developed and reviewed at this time.
 3. Legislative -
There was no further report to the Board this month.
 4. Human Resources -
Caroline Agardy discussed the expansion of staff and new people that had been hired recently in the Personnel Office.
 5. Environmental -
There was no report for the Board this month.
- B. Deputy Directors -
1. Administrative Services -
Benny Reeves reported that the Board's budget committee would need to meet this month to help prepare the FY 95-96 budget proposal. Mr. Reeves noted that the FY 92-93 audit was recently completed and there were no major findings and that it also appears to look good for us to receive \$1.1 million from the supplemental budget.
 2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries -
Brock Conrad distributed some recent articles in the newspaper relating to waterfowl, and Tom Kohlsaas discussed some items relating to nuisance wildlife calls and land protection issues associated with the effort by private organizations to develop a conservation finance project.
 3. Natural Resources Enforcement -
Bill Chastain reported that the division is in the best shape it has been in for the last four to five years. He discussed the recent hiring of officers in the division and went over various activities relating to uniforms and equipment. Dr. Timmerman noted that



within the next year, this division will be in good shape as it relates to equipment. Mr. Pendarvis noted that he had received some information on cellular phones and beepers but that he will need to ask Benny Reeves to look at this information and develop some cost information for further review. George Vickery suggested that a review be made of printing the names of people that make memorial contributions to the Department, and Dr. Timmerman asked Larry Cartee and Sonny Baines to get with Mr. Vickery to develop some recommendations regarding this matter.

4. Conservation Education and Communications -
Don Winslow discussed recent educational activities in the division and noted that a report from the Education Council is being developed for Dr. Timmerman. Mr. Winslow discussed the S.C. Maps Program, and John Davis briefly discussed plans and changes in the *S.C. Wildlife Magazine*. Sonny Baines noted that he recently attended the ACI Meeting where the awards were presented and that the CEC Division did very well and he noted that these items discussed also included the Advisory Committee Report for Conservation Education and Communications.
5. Marine Resources -
Paul Sandifer noted that a meeting on shrimp baiting will be held on August 4 at the Marine Center and he went over the division's report in the Board's package that was mailed out. He distributed projects funded by the Marine Recreational Fisheries Stamp Program to the Board for their information and went over a map of a recent archeological study for the grounds at the Marine Resources Center.
6. Water Resources -
Freddy Vang presented a video on the Doppler Radar and distributed to the Board some regional climate center information.
7. Land Resources and Conservation Districts -
Cary Chamblee went over the staff assignments in the division and discussed the recent Youth Camp held at Clemson University. He discussed the Conservation Districts Program and the NAPP Program which is available in the division.

VIII. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

- A. Draft 1995 Legislative Proposal -
This item was previously presented to the Board for their information by Mr. Mabry during an earlier report.



- B. Proposed Migratory Bird Seasons -
Brock Conrad noted these proposed seasons had been mailed to the Board for their review (copy attached to original minutes). Following discussion, the Board adopted a motion to approve the proposed migratory bird hunting framework as submitted, with Mr. Pendarvis voting no on this motion.

IX. ADVISORY COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

- A. Conservation Education and Communications -
This report was presented in a previous report by Sonny Baines.
- B. Natural Resources Enforcement -
Tom Miller noted the Committee met in District I and he went over the items that were discussed. Mr. Miller stated the Committee is working on a DWCO Policy for their next meeting and he has asked that the agenda include the PFD topic as well as issues relating to personal watercraft which were discussed previously in the meeting. The Committee discussed the proposed legislation H.3360 relating to road hunting and noted that this proposal should be for Game Zones 1, 2 and 4. Following discussion, the Board agreed to let the Highway Department proposal on shooting from Highway Department right-of-ways be developed for review and to bring this matter back up at the next meeting of the Natural Resources Enforcement Committee.

X. MISSIONS, GOALS, STRATEGIC PLANNING

Larry Cartee reported that the Strategic Planning Committee's Problems/Issues document will be presented to the Board at their next meeting. Paul Sandifer distributed a summary report to the Board on the Inter-divisional Task Force activities and went over this report with the Board.

Chairman Burnside stated that the Board had a list of questions for discussion at the next Board meeting, and Mr. Pendarvis asked about information on physical facilities of the DNR and the development of a regional concept for facilities. Mr. Pendarvis asked that the mapping capabilities and map overlays be developed for all agency facilities for review by the Board.

XI. POLICY REVIEW

Dr. Timmerman noted that Caroline Agardy will report on policies at each Board meeting and asked the Board to review these policies until they were all updated. Caroline Agardy noted that a committee with a representative from each division is being developed to come up with policy recommendations and efforts are also being undertaken to update personnel policies.



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XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Member Mr. Miller moved for the Board to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Board member Dr. Poston seconded the motion and it was approved by the Board. Chairman Burnside announced that at this time the Board would hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed, and participants were invited into the meeting.

The Board adopted a motion to follow the recommendations from the Land Resources and Conservation Districts Division to appoint O. Richard Cothran, Jr. as a District Commissioner in Greenville County.

The Board adopted a motion to grant the access license as recommended by the Game and Fisheries staff to the Union Camp Corporation.

The Board accepted as information the DWCO appointments made by Dr. Timmerman.

The Board adopted a motion to appoint Marion Sams to the Marine Advisory Board.

The Board adopted a motion to make Dr. Timmerman's position permanent as Director of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.

XIII. TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Board agreed to hold its next meeting at 9:00 a.m., Friday, August 26, 1994, in Columbia, S.C.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

