

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
July 16, 1982
10:00 a.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held in Room 335, Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., at 10:00 a.m., on July 16, 1982, with Chairman Edens presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present at the meeting included Commissioners Edens, Stubbs, Dawson, Quackenbush, Owen, Compton Harrelson, Altman and Dennis. Directors and staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Ed Duncan, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines, Ed Joseph, Bill Chastain, Jeff Fuller, Pat Ryan and various other Staff. Guests at the meeting included Danny Johnson of the S.C. Water Resources Commission, Jim Fitzpatrick of Columbia, Trish Jerman and Ann Nolte of the Governor's Office, DeVeaux Quackenbush of Columbia, Pat Robertson of the "Columbia Record", Hank Stallworth of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, Roy Faulks of the Marine Advisory Board, Sam Crouch of the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board, Dr. Jackie Jacobs of the South Carolina Wildlife Federation, Ben Campbell of the Senate Fish, Game and Forestry Committee, Jimmy Chandler, Mike Livingston of the "State" newspaper, and Vic Evans and John Rakowsky of the Attorney General's Office.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Edens called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introduced all guests at the meeting. Chairman Edens announced that Commissioner Harrelson has been re-appointed to a new six-year term, representing the First Congressional District, and he introduced Commissioner James H. Quackenbush, Jr., who has been appointed to a six-year term, representing the Second Congressional District.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Stubbs moved to dispense with the reading of the regular and Executive Session minutes of the June 18, 1982 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman announced that Chairman Edens' term on the Commission and as Chairman has been extended by the Governor for an indefinite period of time, and the Chairman now serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Dr. Timmerman further noted that during Chairman Edens' term on the Commission, beginning July 1, 1976, he has only missed two meetings and these were due to having major surgery.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commissioners that forms for IAFWA/AFS Conference at Hilton Head have been passed out for their use and reservations, if they plan to attend the Conference.

Dr. Timmerman also noted that the Atlantic Flyway Council will meet in Charleston from July 27-30, 1982.

Dr. Timmerman distributed minutes of his recent staff meeting and noted the various reductions in the Department's budget.

Chairman Edens noted that various problems with the magazine were discussed at the last meeting and he asked Commissioner Quackenbush to work with the staff on this matter. In addition, Chairman Edens appointed Commissioner Quackenbush as Chairman of the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board.

ITEM III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins distributed a comprehensive legislative report to the Commission for their information.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Conservation Officer Vacancies: Bill Chastain noted a recommended priority for filling Conservation Officer vacancies had been mailed out to the Commissioners (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Chairman Edens relinquished the chair to Vice-Chairman Dawson and moved to transfer the vacancy in Orangeburg County to York County as the number one priority. Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Edens reassumed the chair and further discussion was held on this listing. Following this discussion, the Commission agreed, without objection, that the York County position would be the number one priority--all others moved down a notch in priority to be filled--with the Orangeburg position being deleted.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Edens announced that an Executive Session will be held at this time to discuss personnel matters.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the Commission returned to regular session and invited participants into the meeting. Chairman Edens announced that, in Executive Session, the following items were acted upon:

1. The Commission adopted a motion to give the Attorney General's Office a two-week extension to put a SLED report - concerning certain allegations in Law Enforcement District 5 - into final form for presentation to

the Commission, and for the Commission to hold a special called meeting at 1:00 p.m., July 30, 1982, in Room 335 of the Dennis Building in Columbia to deal with personnel matters, including a report on the District 5 investigation.

2. The Commission adopted a motion for the minutes of the June 18, 1982 Commission Meeting to be corrected to reflect that Conservation Officer John Jordan's resignation is accepted by the Commission, rather than being dismissed.
3. The Commission adopted a motion to revoke its action at the June 18, 1982 Commission Meeting appointing Priscilla Massenburt Knight as a Conservation Officer in District 9 and that she not be hired as a Conservation Officer.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve and ratify these actions. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

3. Update on Lake Oak Grove: Commissioner Stubbs noted that the Dove Tree Community Club has been working on alternatives to improving the dam at Lake Oak Grove. They plan to meet with the Commission at its August meeting to discuss this matter. Dr. Timmerman suggested that staff of the Land Resources Commission be at the meeting to discuss this with the Commission. Chairman Edens suggested that we contact the Land Resources staff and invite them to the August meeting.

4. Radio and TV Program Presentation: John Evans presented an in-depth discussion of the dollar value received from radio, TV, news releases, films, etc., in the Information Section. Mr. Evans noted that the program provides a service to all Divisions and a large return is realized on the investment made for this program. Chairman Edens commended Mr. Evans, noting that he has served as one of the best spokesmen for the Department.

5. Update on Policies: Larry Cartee distributed a packet of proposed changes in Commission policies to the Commissioners for their information. The Commission noted they would like some time to review this matter and Chairman Edens announced this would be on the agenda for the August meeting.

6. Update on Carolina Refinery Permit Application: Ed Duncan advised the Commission that the Water Resources Commission has approved the Carolina Refinery permit application over our objections. Under the regulations, we have the option to appeal this with the Budget and Control Board. Following other discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the

Commission to appeal this permit application approved by the Water Resources Commission and to go to the Budget and Control Board to express our opposition. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was approved by the Commission.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Migratory Bird Seasons (1982-83): Brock Conrad noted the proposed migratory bird seasons were mailed out to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Proposed duck seasons will be discussed next month. Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt the proposed migratory bird seasons as recommended. Commissioner Harrelson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

B. Proposed Size Limit on Striped Bass: Commissioner Owen noted that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board had adopted a proposed eighteen-inch (18") size limit on striped bass for the Santee-Cooper area and this proposal has been sent to the Commission for consideration (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion of this proposal, Commissioner Owen moved for the Commission to adopt this proposal and recommend such to the legislature in the Department's legislative package. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

C. Proposed Revision in Fur Trapping Season: Commissioner Owen stated that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board had adopted a proposal to seek a change in the fur trapping season to open December 1 and close February 1 in Game Zones 1, 2, and 4. Following discussion, Commissioner Owen moved for the Commission to adopt this proposal and recommend such to the legislature in the Department's legislative package. Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves distributed, to the Commissioners, the changes in our FY 82-83 budget request for their information. Chairman Edens requested that the county funds list include a total at the bottom each month.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: There was nothing further to report.

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

4. Information & Public Affairs: There was nothing further to report.

5. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph distributed a copy of the "Ecological Characterization of South Carolina Wetland Impoundments" to the Commissioners for their information.

E. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted that the Board will meet on August 12th.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: There was no report from the Board this month.

3. Marine Resources: Commissioner Compton noted that the Board will meet on August 13th in Charleston in the morning and the Impoundment Committee will meet that afternoon to develop a report to the Commission at the August meeting.

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

F. Salary Review Committee: Dr. Timmerman noted that this report is in order and a copy has been forwarded to the Chairman.

G. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve these recommendations as submitted. Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. In addition, Dr. Timmerman noted that a letter was received (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) requesting the Commission extend the authority of DWCO David L. Tindal to include Clarendon and Sumter Counties. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve this as requested. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

H. Other Remarks: Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that a tentative agreement has been worked out with Clemson University for fish and wildlife programs, as well as, the aquaculture program which will be a cooperative effort.

I. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Benny Reeves noted that the budget hearings are scheduled in August and the Commission may want to meet on the date scheduled for the budget hearing. Commissioner Dennis stated that he would request that our budget hearing be scheduled for August 19th. Chairman Edens noted the date for the next Commission meeting will be held in abeyance until a confirmed date for the budget hearing has been received.

ITEM VI. ADJOURN

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

