

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

JULY 20, 1973

The regular monthly meeting of the Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held on Friday, July 20, 1973, in the Commission Room in Columbia, Chairman J. W. Hudson presiding. Also in attendance were Commissioners Glenn, Eltzroth, Lumpkin, Dennis and Rhame along with Executive Director Webb, Pat Ryan, Dr. Timmerman, Jeff Fuller, Charlie Bearden, Gene Howell, Bill Chastain, Brock Conrad, John Culler, T. C. Welch, Fred Ramage, Ed Latimer, Billy DuRant, Wash Belangia, Melvin Patterson of "The Columbia Record", Jan Stucker of "The State" and Major Cantey.

Items from the Action Report from the June meeting were taken up:

Lease Land for Game Management Areas: Mr. Ryan reported that a meeting had been held at Belmont with most of the major landowners present. Mr. Ryan reported that the landowners expressed satisfaction with the management of these lands and he considered this meeting very successful and hoped to continue the practice of holding these meetings annually. He requested that Commissioners be present in the future if at all possible. The landowners requested that some publicity be given regarding their participation in this program. John Culler is to see that this done.

Possible funding for islands along coast: Wash Belangia reported that he had met with personnel from the Governor's office to discuss this and other possible funding for additional areas of the Department.

Legislation (H. R. 567, U. S. House of Representatives): Chairman Hudson reported that he had written to all the Commissions and had received about twelve replies all opposing this Bill. It is his understanding that the Committee has dropped the Bill and it will not be pressed in its present form.

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Affirmative Action Plan): This is being revised and is not ready for action at this meeting.

Jack's Hole: Executive Director Webb reported that he had the plans for this project and Santee-Cooper Authority has indicated that they would enter into an agreement with the Department to construct this for the Department. Mr. Webb reported that he is awaiting a cost estimate and as soon as this is received, he will proceed to enter into the agreement with Santee-Cooper Authority.



Use of Department-owned facilities: A draft of a letter to all personnel of the Department has been drawn but not yet distributed. This will be done by next Commission meeting.

The following items on the Agenda were then taken up:

Dennis Wildlife Center: Jeff Fuller gave the report on the status of this building. He reported that the building is approximately 98% complete. The yard work and paving is to be done. The pond construction is approximately 40% complete. It is estimated that about 60 more working days will be needed to complete this.

National Marine Fisheries: Dr. Timmerman reported that a lease agreement has been drawn and has been discussed with his staff. It has been submitted to the Attorney General's office for review to make sure that the agreement meets with requirements of the bonding money.

*upgraded job?*  
*prv*  
Unit Leaders' Salaries: Wash Belangia reported that the State Personnel Division has accepted the proposal as presented by the Department regarding upgrading of Conservation Officers. This is to be implemented at the next pay period. Dr. Lumpkin moved to accept this proposal. Mr. Rhame seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Policy on Accident Responsibility for Department Personnel: Commissioner Eltzroth reported that a meeting of his committee is necessary before final action can be taken on this and he expected to have this completed by the August meeting.

Airplane - Base of Operations: Action and discussion on this topic is being deferred until August meeting.

Uniforms of Department Personnel: Commissioner Eltzroth presented a type of blazer jacket which Mr. Ryan had secured for consideration of the Commission. Commissioner Glenn suggested that more samples of jackets be obtained for consideration before making a final decision on this. Mr. Ryan was to obtain other samples for the Commission's review.

Finance Report: The Finance Report as mailed out previously was accepted by the Commission.

Game and Freshwater Fish Report: Mr. Ryan wished to commend the Boating Section for the outstanding work they have accomplished in the past year. He also commended Mac Watson for his work with private pond-owners. Mr. Ryan's written report is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.



Equipment Operation Costs: Executive Director Webb reported that this is being compiled and a complete report on this through June 30th will be mailed to each Commissioner within the next few weeks. This report will become a quarterly report that will be sent to Commissioners in the future.

Appointments: Commissioner Eltzroth moved approval of all appointments as mailed out subject to approval of those Commissioners not present. This was seconded by Dr. Lumpkin and carried unanimously.

Senator Dennis presented the name of Roger Clark from Dorchester County for position of Conservation Officer. Since this application has not been received by Commissioner Glenn or cleared through Mr. Webb, action was held up pending clearance of this application through proper channels.

Marine Resources Report: Dr. Timmerman gave the report for his Division. He reported that all state and federal projects being undertaken by the Center are going to be re-evaluated and a two-year and five-year projection is to be prepared and this will be ready for submission to Mr. Webb by the first of January, 1974. A copy of the Marine Resources Report is attached hereto and made a copy of these Minutes.

Committee Reports:

(a) Committee on State-owned facilities: Chairman Hudson reported that this Committee had met and would have a report to make at the August meeting.

UNCLASSIFIED ITEMS

Senator Dennis asked the Commission's approval that a request be made of the Highway Department that they include in their mailing of pre-registrations of vehicles, a brochure promoting the South Carolina Wildlife magazine which the I & E Section has prepared. Dr. Lumpkin seconded this and it was suggested that Mr. Webb and Mr. Culler formally apply to the Highway Department to use this mailing.

Senator Dennis requested that the matter of handling of clothing of personnel be investigated. Senator Dennis recommended that an officer be issued clothing and that the officer not be required to turn the clothing in in order to receive new clothing. This was referred to the Committee on Law Enforcement of the Commission for their review and consideration.

Senator Dennis suggested that a Sub-Committee of this Commission look into the matter of checking with biologists to harvest eels. Dr. Timmerman replied that his Division had already made a study of this and Senator Dennis requested that the Committee so appointed be authorized to go ahead with this project. Vice-Chairman Glenn appointed a committee consisting of Mr. Rhame, as Chairman, along with Dr. Lumpkin to confer with the biologists and present a recommendation for the harvesting of eels.



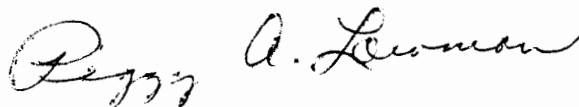
Vice-Chairman Glenn suggested a Committee composed of Senator Dennis and Commissioner Eltzroth to study the feasibility of the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department constructing a building for the Department. Commissioner Glenn suggested that this Committee draw some long-range plans for the Department to have a place of its own.

A movie which was made for commercial TV was shown by members of the Information and Section. Billy DuRant, Johnny Evans and John Culler were congratulated on the excellent quality of this film.

At this point, Commissioner Eltzroth moved for a short Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 A. M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy A. Lowman".

Peggy A. Lowman, Secretary  
Wildlife and Marine Resources  
Commission

