

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina
June 15, 1984
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held in the Dennis Building, Room 335, Columbia, South Carolina, at 10:00 a.m., June 15, 1984, with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the State's media. Commissioners present included Commissioners Webster, Compton, Harrelson, Owen, Bennett, Stubbs, and Dawson. Directors and Staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines, Jeff Fuller, Bill Chastain, Dr. Paul Sandifer, and various other staff. There were also various guests at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Stubbs noted that the Minutes of the May 11, 1984 Commission Meeting should be clarified to note that his negative vote on a Conservation Officer appointment was not cast against the individual but against the process. Subject to this amendment, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 11, 1984 Commission Meeting.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that Pat Ryan is retiring effective June 30th and he was recognized by the Commission's Certificate of Meritorious Service and a plaque from the Department. Dr. Timmerman noted these will be presented to Mr. Ryan later since he was not able to attend the Commission Meeting. Dr. Timmerman read some prepared remarks to note the various contributions he has made during his career which are made a part of the record (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

Dr. Timmerman noted that he has interviewed for the position of Director of Law Enforcement and Boating and he recommended Bill Chastain for this position. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation by acclamation.



Dr. Timmerman stated that the Commission had originally approved the system of drawing for deer hunts at the Webb Wildlife Center and the staff has developed an alternate proposal. Sumter Moore distributed an alternate proposal (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) and discussed such with the Commission. The new system would provide preference to unsuccessful applicants from the previous year. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to adopt the alternate proposal as presented by Mr. Moore.

Dr. Timmerman reminded the Commission of the Waddell Mariculture Center dedication on July 20th noting the Commission Meeting has been scheduled for 2:30 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel on Hilton Head Island.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Department's 5-Year Permanent Improvement Plan to the Commission for information (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Dr. Timmerman noted the major item on this list is \$4 million for FY 86-87 for radio equipment.

Dr. Timmerman presented the Commission with an update on the budget process.

Following other discussions, the Commission adopted a motion to hold an Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters, and for an administrative briefing. Chairman Webster announced that an Executive Session will be held following the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters and an administrative briefing.

Chairman Webster noted that he had received a letter from Senator Waddell requesting that the Commission suspend the enforcement of a federal regulation to require windsurfers and sailboarders to have personal floatation devices on board (copy of letter attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to suspend the enforcement of requiring windsurfers and sailboarders to have personal floatation devices on board.

Chairman Webster and Dr. Timmerman presented plaques to Commissioners Stubbs and Dawson to express appreciation for their service on the Commission from 1978 to 1984.

ITEM III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Judy Storey distributed a copy of the Legislative Report, and went over the status of various bills.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed 1984-84 Duck Stamp Budget: Brock Conrad noted this proposed budget has been sent to the Commissioners (copy attached to the original Commission Minutes) and this proposed budget was



discussed. Mr. Conrad noted this proposed budget has been approved by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the 1984-85 Duck Stamp Budget as presented.

B. DIVISION REPORTS:

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

2. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Darrell Shipes advised the Commission that we have had a limit on bobcat and otter tags at 500 each since 1977. The limit was raised to 750 and then to 1,000 through regulations promulgated by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We have been advised that we can drop these limits and, due to the stable populations and harvest, Mr. Shipes recommended that the Department lift the quota on the number of tags and sell as many tags as are ordered by licensees. Mr. Shipes stated that he did not feel this action would have any affect on the harvest. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve Mr. Shipes' recommendation.

3. Law Enforcement and Boating: Bill Chastain recommended the Commission approve the use of the Department's radio frequencies for two Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers from Horry County. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

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

5. Marine Resources: Dr. Sandifer advised the Commission that a Marine Recreational Fisheries Fair will be held at the Marine Center on June 23rd and 24th. Dr. Sandifer noted that shrimp season opens today and the outlook is not very encouraging for the next couple of weeks. Dr. Sandifer recognized two employees--Will Lacy and Lois Richter--for performing first-aid at a serious automobile accident on I-26 on June 9th.

D. ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS:

1. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted the Board met last Thursday. The Board discussed turkey tags and fees, but deferred this matter to the Blue Ribbon Committee, to be established. Commissioner Owen stated the Board adopted some criteria for check stations and this will be on the Agenda for the July Commission Meeting.



2. Magazine Advisory Council: Sonny Baines distributed a list of members and reappointees of the Council. Mr. Baines noted the Council met recently in Charleston and he went over the various items that were discussed. Mr. Baines stated the next special issue of the magazine will feature marine resources. The Council also recommended that prints be sold to help raise funds.

E. APPOINTMENTS: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and reappointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments and reappointments as recommended.

Chairman Webster announced that the Commission will go into Executive Session as previously approved by the Commission.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the Commission returned to Regular Session and invited participants into the meeting. Chairman Webster asked Commissioner Harrelson to report on actions taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Harrelson stated the Commission took the following actions in Executive Session:

1. The Commission met with Staff of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission and have taken their recommendations and requests under advisement.

2. The Commission adopted a new Conservation Officer Hiring Procedure to be effective July 1, 1984 (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to adopt and ratify these actions taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

F. OTHER REMARKS: There were no further remarks from the Commissioners.

G. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: Chairman Webster noted the next meeting will be held on July 20, 1984, at 2:30 p.m., at the Marriott Hotel on Hilton Head Island.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

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

