

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

JUNE 16, 1972

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission was held in the Commission Room in Columbia on Friday, June 16, 1972. Vice-Chairman Glenn presided in the absence of Chairman Eltzroth. Among those in attendance were Commissioners Williams, Eppes, Mishoe and Thompson. Also Major Cantey, General Harris, Executive Director Webb, Dr. Timmerman, Pat Ryan, Jeff Fuller, Brock Conrad, Joe Logan, Bob Joyner, Gene Howell, Fred Ramage, Frank Nelson, Mark Bara, Billy Durant, Ed Latimer, Dot Tringali from The Columbia Record, and John Culler.

OLD BUSINESS

BERRY'S MILL FISH HATCHERY

Executive Director Webb reported that a committee consisting of Commissioners Thompson and Eppes along with himself had been appointed to make a report. Mr. Webb reported that this committee had filed a report recommending that Berry's Mill Fish Hatchery be operated as a public fishing lake and not as a fish hatchery. Mr. Eppes moved that the Commission accept the report as rendered by the committee. Mr. Williams seconded the motion and the motion carried.

CAPE ROMAIN PROPERTY

Executive Director Webb reported that the lease had been signed and delivered. No action is required by the Commission on Cape Romain property. Mr. Mishoe took the agreement down to McClellanville. Mr. Webb reported that the Wildlife's copy of the agreement is in the safe.

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENTS

There were no objections to the renewal of commissions for Conservation Officers whose names had been submitted by mail to members of the Commission. Mr. Glenn inquired as to the proper procedure for a non-pay Conservation Officer to appear before the Commission for a hearing. Mr. Webb explained that the person desiring the hearing should write a letter to the Chairman of the Commission requesting a hearing. Mr. Glenn said he would so inform this individual of this procedure. Approval of the re-appointment of Warren O. Watts of Gable, South Carolina, was given subject to Commissioner Rhame's approval.



FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Ramage reported that the Department looked as if it were in a most favorable position at the present time and it looked as if we would end up with the estimated amount that we started with. The Budget Committee of the Commission is to meet and prepare the new budget.

MARINE RESOURCES REPORT

Dr. Timmerman asked the Commission for permission for the Director of the Marine Laboratory, Dr. Joseph, to purchase tax free alcohol for use at the Laboratory. This resolution authorizing Dr. Joseph to purchase this alcohol was signed by the Secretary of the Commission and a copy of this resolution is made a part of these Minutes and attached hereto.

Dr. Timmerman reported that the Army vessel the Dolphin, a fisheries research craft, has been transferred from NOAA for use by the Marine Center. The Navy estimated cost of some needed exterior repairs to be from \$33,000 to \$48,000. The actual bid that came out of this was \$27,000. Dr. Timmerman requested permission from the Commission to go ahead with this work and pay back the money from the next fiscal year. The Commission gave Dr. Timmerman authorization to proceed with this work immediately.

Dr. Timmerman stated that they would like to renovate a vacant house at Fort Johnson to provide office space for additional personnel who will be assigned to the Marine Center. A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Thompson that Dr. Timmerman be allowed to expend \$3,000 to renovate this property for use by staff personnel. The motion carried.

A copy of the report from the Marine Resources Division is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

PROJECTS REPORT

Mark Bara, Game Biologist, presented a very interesting and informative short program on alligators in South Carolina. This was effectively illustrated with slides.

1972-73 BUDGET

Mr. Webb stated that he had been called to appear before the Budget and Finance Committee and they were concerned that this Department was going to reduce its number of Conservation Officers. After an explanation of the budgetary needs of maintaining a Conservation Officer, the Committee added approximately



\$345,000 to the General Appropriations Bill for the Law Enforcement Section and they also transferred Pat Ryan's salary to a direct appropriation by the State. Mr. Webb stated that he was very optimistic about the Department's budget for the coming fiscal year. Mr. Glenn congratulated Mr. Webb on his accomplishments before the Budget and Finance Committee. The Budget Sub-Committee of the Commission is to meet next week to work on the Department's budget.

I & E SECTION PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Culler, Chief of Information and Education, along with Billy Durant, presented a short program with film clips showing what is being sent out to the various television stations in the state. The film spots depict the fishing and hunting in South Carolina, along with advertising what the Wildlife Resources Department does to make these things available to the public. The Information and Education Section was congratulated on the good work it is doing in this field.

EMPLOYEE'S HANDBOOK

John Culler distributed copies of the new Employee's Handbook which will be given to each employee. John stated that some of the information in the handbook was already outdated due to passage of recent Bills related to personnel but this will be updated in the future.

GAME AND FRESHWATER FISH REPORT

Mr. Ryan presented a Rule and Regulation prepared by the Boating Division relating to Randolph's Cove, Lake Marion, Clarendon, South Carolina. The adoption of this Rule and Regulation was recommended by Mr. Ryan. Motion made by Mr. Mishoe, seconded by Mr. Eppes that this Rule and Regulation be adopted. The motion carried.

Mr. Ryan presented the monthly report for his Division, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Director Webb reported that the bids had been opened on plans for Bonneau lake project and were running about 3 times higher than the original estimate. He reported that the plan had to be re-designed to eliminate some of these costs.

UNCLASSIFIED ITEMS

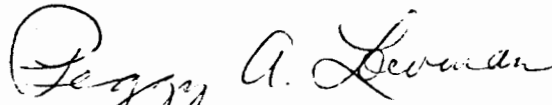
Vice-Chairman Glenn informed the Commission that the General Services Administration is releasing some military land in South Carolina - some large tracts - and



the Vice-Chairman asked General Harris to act as a Committee of one to find out whether it would be advisable for the South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to apply for some of this land. General Harris stated that he would make contact with the proper person and so advise the Commission at the earliest possible date.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:35 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Peggy A. Lowman, Acting Secretary
Wildlife Resources Commission

/pal

CC: All Commissioners
General Harris
Executive Director Webb

