

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
June 21, 1991
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., on Friday, June 21, 1991, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., with Chairman Burnside presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included: Commissioners Burnside, Drummond, Compton, Pendarvis, Owen, Miller, Poston, Graham and Snow. Staff members present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Brock Conrad, Sonny Baines, John Miglarese, and various other staff members and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Larry Cartee introduced Mr. David M. Cline of Greenville, S. C. to make some presentations. Mr. Cline presented a check to Dr. Timmerman for \$5,000 for the OPERATION GAME THIEF Program and he presented a check to Larry Cartee for \$10,000 for the HOOKED ON FISHING - NOT ON DRUGS Program. Mr. Cline noted that these checks were donation from The Cline Foundation to the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund to be used for these programs in the Department.

Commissioner George Graham presented a check to David M. Cline as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund for \$50,800 which represented the net proceeds from the Spartanburg Banquet held on May 17, 1991.

ITEM I - READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the May 17, 1991 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.



ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that the staff has met in Washington on the Russell Mitigation Program and the House and Senate have put \$10,000,000 in the budget for South Carolina and Georgia with an equal amount to be put in next year's budget.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the staff has been working in Washington on the Fish Lift at the Santee Cooper Rediversion Project and the Senate Appropriations Committee has appropriated \$4.825-million for repairs and updates to this Fish Lift. He noted that the House Appropriations Committee has not acted on this matter yet and such will probably go to the Conference Committee.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the Budget and Control Board has required cuts in the Department's budget and a memo was passed out to the Commission on the cuts in the Department's budget, as well as meal reimbursements in the Department and related items. Dr. Timmerman noted that twenty-two (22) positions have been turned in as part of this budget cutting process. Commissioner Compton noted that not providing meal reimbursement to employees may cause a hardship and he asked if the County Game & Fish Funds could be used to seek some help for meal reimbursement for employees. Dr. Timmerman stated that he would explore this matter to see if such may be a possibility.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that he is writing a letter to the Workmen's Compensation Commission noting that our bill for next year is \$455,000 which is an increase of \$105,000 and we may not be able to pay this bill. Dr. Timmerman noted that he will ask for an audit to request why we are having such a huge increase in bills for Workmen's Compensation.

ITEM III - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins noted that the last Legislative Report had been sent out to the Commission. He noted that the General Assembly may be called back on the Bond Bill and other items. Mr. Dobbins also noted there were some cuts at the federal level and he went over these various items which have been thus far cut in the federal budget.

ITEM IV - OLD BUSINESS

A. Budget Discussion: This item was previously covered by Dr. Timmerman in his comments earlier in the meeting.



ITEM V - NEW BUSINESS

A. Division Reports:

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

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Miller White presented a report on the fish kill in the Rediversion Canal and the Santee River, noting that this was the worst fish kill on record in the State of South Carolina. Mr. Miller presented a video on this fish kill and went over the details of the kill noting that a report is being prepared. Estimates of the number of fish killed were distributed to the Commission and it was noted that this kill amounted to a total monetary value of \$525,645 using the American Fisheries Society Methodology.

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

4. Conservation Education & Communications: Sonny Baines noted that Camp Wildwood starts next week and Don Winslow gave a report on the Camp, noting that this is the largest Camp that has ever been held at Camp Wildwood with over 100 campers.

5. Marine Resources: John Miglarese informed the Commission that thus far this year, over 425,000 pounds of shrimp have been harvested which is a dramatic improvement over the harvest last year.

B. ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS:

1. Conservation Education & Communications:

Commissioner Graham gave a report to the Commission from the last Board Meeting that was held in Spartanburg on May 17, 1991. Commissioner Graham distributed to the Commission, a policy which was adopted by the Board regarding guidelines for handling outside agency requests for photographs and photographic materials from the Department. Commissioner Graham noted this policy was adopted by the Board and will be implemented in the Department (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

2. Heritage Trust: Stuart Greeter noted that the Board met recently and he went over the various items discussed at the meeting. Mr. Greeter noted that the next Board Meeting would be held on August 15, 1991.

C. Other Remarks: There were no further remarks from the Commissioners.



At this time, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Commissioner Drummond seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Burnside announced that at this time, the Commission would hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

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RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

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

The Commission adopted a motion to approve the appointments and re-appointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as distributed to the Commission with the addition of the appointment of Bobby Ellis at Mary's Island.

D. Appointments: This item was previously acted upon by the Commission.

E. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting in Columbia on July 19, 1991. Furthermore, the Commission agreed to have a retreat for two (2) days sometime during September.

ITEM VI - ADJOURN

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

