

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

JUNE 22, 1973 - EUTAW SPRINGS

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The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held on June 22, 1973, at Eutaw Springs, Chairman J. W. Hudson, presiding. Also in attendance were Commissioners Eltzroth, Glenn and Rhame along with Executive Director Webb, General Harris, Major Cantey, Pat Ryan, Dr. Timmerman, Dr. Joseph, Jeff Fuller, Tommy Welch, Bill Chastain, John Culler, Fred Ramage, Brock Conrad, Joe Logan, Charlie Bearden, Ed Latimer, Bill Cotty and Wash Belangia.

There was not a quorum present but it was decided to go through the items on the Agenda for discussion.

The Action Report for the previous month was read by the Secretary and the following comments made:

Sailing Course on Lake Murray: Commissioner Eltzroth reported that Dr. Davis and Mr. Gibbes met with the Commission on May 18th and made a presentation describing exactly what the Sailing Club is requesting. There was not a quorum present at the May meeting, so no action could be taken. Again no action can be taken at the present meeting due to lack of quorum.

Lease Land for Game Management Areas: Mr. Ryan reported that a meeting of all participating landowners is to be held at Belmont on July 2nd and 3rd and a report will be made at the July meeting.

Oyster Leases #20 and #21: This has been taken care of by the Marine Sub-Committee.

Unit Leaders' Salaries: Personnel Division is making a study of this and a ruling should be made prior to the second pay period in July. Mr. Webb reported that we should have a definite answer on this by next Commission meeting.

Naming of Lake in Cherokee County: Mr. Webb reported that this lake has been called Lake Cherokee temporarily because of possible controversy arising from the naming of the lake for an individual.



Information and Education Section: This dealt with investigation of possibly installing a "hot-line" telephone line to handle frequent calls for information on hunting and fishing. John Culler, Chief of Information and Education, reported that it would cost approximately \$500 per month to install. Chairman Hudson stated that we would hold up on this until a later date.

Agreement with Aeronautics Commission on Airplanes: Executive Director Webb has executed this Agreement and copies were sent to each Commissioner.

Policy on Accident Responsibility for Department Personnel: Commissioner Eltzroth reported that his Committee had met and considered this problem and that a recommendation would possibly be made concerning this at the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting.

The following items on the Agenda were taken up:

DENNIS WILDLIFE CENTER: Joe Logan reported that the Administration Building at the Center was 94% complete. The proposed date for moving into the new building is July 15th. The work at the Center is expected to be completed by November of this year.

MARINE RESOURCES REPORT: Dr. Timmerman gave a report on his progress in negotiating a lease with the National Marine Fisheries. He stated that he would like to request two agreements - one agreement is to retire the bond which will go back into General Services and the other agreement is to have a contract set up with Marine Resources for any services rendered to the National Marine Fisheries such as caretaking of the property, etc., so that the Marine Resources Division can set up a special account to perform these services for the National Marine Fisheries.

Dr. Timmerman reported that the exterior of The Marshland House had been painted and the roof repaired. The work on the house is approximately 95% completed.

Dr. Timmerman then presented his report for the Marine Resources Division and a copy of the report is attached to these Minutes.

The Marine Laboratory report was presented by Dr. Joseph.

Charlie Bearden presented a report for the Office of Conservation, Management and Services. He reported that most of the islands along the coast have been bought and are in the process of being developed. Dr. Timmerman asked if this Department could look into the possibility of obtaining some bonding money for the purchase of lands for recreation and sanctuaries. Chairman Hudson requested Wash Belangia and Bill Cotty to find out where federal funds are available and work with Dr. Timmerman on this.



Commissioner Eltzroth moved that this Commission commend Charlie Bearden for the tremendous job he has done in putting together the Saltwater Sportfishing Guide. Mr. Glenn seconded this and it was unanimous among the Commissioners present. Mr. Bearden also wanted to commend the I & E Section of the Department for their help in the development of this magazine.

LEGISLATION: Bill Cotty gave a brief report on pending legislation of the Department. He reported that S-80, the Boat Penalty Bill, has been signed by the Governor and enforcement of the law will begin on July 1st.

Commissioner Eltzroth commended Bill Cotty for his handling of the legislation for the Department this past year. The other Commissioners in attendance concurred.

At this point, Chairman Hudson reported on a bill that is in the United States House of Representatives at this time and which will probably be reported out of committee this week. It is H. R. 567. Chairman Hudson proposed that this Commission pass a Resolution opposing this bill. Commissioner Rhame suggested that the Commission be polled on this matter. Those members present were in agreement and Chairman Hudson is to send a copy of this bill to all Commission Members.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (Affirmative Action Conference): The Affirmative Action Plan for this Department was mailed to each Commissioner. Commissioner Eltzroth raised the point of quorum. Chairman Hudson requested that the other Commissioners be polled and state any objections to this Plan prior to July 1st.

GAME AND FRESHWATER FISH REPORT: Mr. Ryan asked Bill Chastain to report on the summer program for boys held at Belmont. Bill reported that this had been very successful. Commissioner Eltzroth recommended that this program should be made known and available to all eleemosynary institutions in the state. A Committee composed of Commissioner Eltzroth, as Chairman, along with Chairman Hudson and John Culler was appointed to schedule these camps.

Mr. Ryan reported that South Carolina was one of the two states in the United States recognized by the U. S. Coast Guard for the outstanding job in obtaining and processing boating accidents as required by the federal and state law.

A copy of the Game and Freshwater Fish Report is attached to these Minutes.



APPOINTMENTS: Commissioner Eltzroth moved approval of all the appointments subject to approval of those Commissioners who were not present. The Commissioners present concurred.

AIRPLANE - BASE OF OPERATIONS: Commissioner Eltzroth reported that at a meeting of the Law Enforcement Sub-Committee, it was determined that the Sub-Committee should recommend to the Commission that it give serious consideration to basing a twin-engine plane on the coast. The Sub-Committee would like to have the Commission think about this until such time as a quorum is present.

UNIFORMS OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL: Commissioner Eltzroth gave a report from the Law Enforcement Sub-Committee recommending that Law Enforcement personnel be arrayed in a different uniform from that of non-law enforcement personnel. This Sub-Committee also recommends that a blazer-type jacket be purchased for those personnel of the Department who are charged with making speeches or making appearance for the Department.

This item is to be put on the Agenda for action at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

FINANCE REPORT: The Finance Report as mailed out was accepted without objection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were no further Committee Reports other than the ones mentioned above in these Minutes.

UNCLASSIFIED ITEMS: Executive Director Webb called attention to the letter which is to be sent to all Wildlife and Marine Resources Department personnel assigned state vehicles setting forth guidelines in order to conserve gasoline. This required no action by the Commission but Mr. Webb wanted the Commission to be aware of the Department's action.

Jack's Hole: Chairman Hudson inquired as to the status of this project and Executive Director Webb is to make a report on this at the next Commission Meeting.

Use of Department-owned facilities: Chairman Hudson reported that several inquiries had been made to him concerning use of the facilities by Department personnel. He stated that a follow-up letter should be put out to all personnel again stating the policy on use of these facilities.



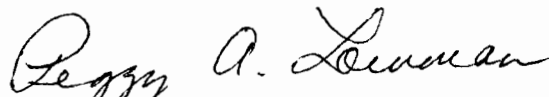


Executive Director Webb reported that he was recommending Dr. Joseph to represent our Department on a committee to evaluate the use of the electric seine. Mr. Webb mailed out this recommendation to the members of the Commission and having heard nothing to the contrary, Mr. Webb will ask Dr. Joseph to serve on this committee.

John Culler reported that the Information and Education Section had been presented three awards recently from the American Association of Conservation Information. These were: Second place for outstanding radio program; third place for news release and second place for "South Carolina Wildlife" magazine. The Commission commended John and the I & E Section for these awards.

The Commission Meeting was adjourned at approximately 12 noon.

Respectfully Submitted,



Peggy A. Lowman, Secretary  
Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission

