

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES

COMMISSION MEETING

Dutch Plaza, Columbia, S. C.
March 21, 1980

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at Dutch Plaza, Columbia, S. C., at 10:00 a. m., March 21, 1980, with Chairman Edens presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present at the meeting included Commissioners Edens, Stubbs, Dawson, Harrelson, Boykin, Pendarvis, Shuler, and Bennett. Directors and staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Benny Reeves, John Evans, Dan Dobbins, Jeff Fuller, Sumter Moore, Joe Logan, Tom Kohlsaas, Pat Ryan, Tommy Welch, Mike Creel, Duncan Grant, Sonny Baines and Dr. Joseph. Guests at the meeting included Pat Robertson of The Columbia Record, Betty Spence of the S. C. Wildlife Federation and Ben Gregg of the Governor's Office.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Edens called the meeting to order at 10:00 a. m.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Boykin moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the February 15, 1980 meeting and approve them as submitted. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman brought the Commission up-to-date on several items from the last Commission meeting. Dr. Timmerman noted that the Clarendon County Delegation has been notified of the Commission's action naming the Borrow Pit Landing in honor of Senator John C. Land. Chairman Edens asked Dr. Timmerman to notify the Commission on the date that the ceremony will be held for this event. The areas of concentration for 1980, the Blue Ribbon Study Committee and guidelines for the Certificate of Meritorious Service, are on the agenda for this meeting. Dr. Timmerman stated that the bills regarding gill netting and extension of the deer season will be discussed by Dan Dobbins. Efforts are being undertaken to beef-up the Hunter Safety Program with in-house personnel and resources.

Dr. Timmerman noted that a freeze on spending has been imposed in the Department except for emergency situations. The status of this freeze will be evaluated



after April 10th and some areas may be thawed. Dr. Timmerman reported that Pat Robertson had written two good articles on inflation and the Blue Ribbon Study Committee. Thanks was expressed to Mr. Robertson for these articles. Dr. Timmerman noted that Jeff Fuller has responded to the Santee Cooper Promotion Commission regarding some of their concerns which were expressed at a recent meeting with the Commission. The GMA regulations approved by the Commission at the last meeting have been forwarded to the General Assembly for their approval. Dr. Timmerman stated that the proposed commercial fishing bill will be discussed in the legislative report. Dr. Timmerman noted that there are three different study groups which are being developed. One is the Blue Ribbon Study Committee on Funding which will be discussed later. Another group that is proposed is a Marine Resources Study Committee to take an overall look at the marine resources program and report their recommendations to the Commission in the fall. A charge for this Committee was passed out to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) for them to read. Following other discussion, Commissioner Dawson moved that the Commission endorse this concept and for the group to conduct this study. Commissioner Boykin seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. The third group that is proposed is a shellfish study by the Marine Resources Advisory Board. Dr. Timmerman read the following statement: "As you are aware, the molluscan shellfish resources of the coastal zone of South Carolina (primarily Eastern oyster and hard clam) form the basis for one of the State's most important commercial and recreational fisheries. Over the years, the production of intertidal oysters, the most abundant shellfish resource, has declined considerably due to a combination of biological, economic and social factors. The resource base has decreased due to man-induced environmental alteration of the coastal zone, and the commercial industry has been beset by numerous economic problems including labor shortage. Hard clam and subtidal oyster production have increased since 1973 when hydraulic escalator harvesters were first introduced in S. C., but problems related to the future development of mechanical shellfish harvesting have arisen. Concurrent with these developments, there has also been an increasing demand by the public for recreational shellfish harvesting privileges and this has placed additional pressures upon the resources."

"Management of the shellfish fishery has been complicated by various problems related to information gaps, legislation and enforcement. In addition, inadequate personnel and funding have been allocated in the past for shellfish management, research and development programs in South Carolina."



"Shellfish management and development is one of the most controversial and visible of the Marine Resources Division's programs as well as one which is most in need of expansion. I would like for our Chairman to request that the Marine Advisory Board make an evaluation of the Division's shellfish program and develop recommendations as to future needs for research, management and development to upgrade the commercial industry and improve recreational shellfishing. This should include requirements for funding and legislation. Areas of major concern to be considered in this evaluation include the shellfish lease system, management and improvement of public shellfish grounds, environmental problems and the development of mechanical shellfish harvesting."

Dr. Timmerman noted that the findings and recommendations of this study would be reported to the Commission. Chairman Edens asked Commissioner Dawson and the Marine Advisory Board to evaluate this matter and he gave him a statement regarding this study. The effort will be assisted by the marine resources staff and hearings can be held for input if desired. Commissioner Dawson noted that problems exist and he feels the study is a good idea. Chairman Edens noted that the group needs to look at the whole picture including a balance between the commercial and recreational fishermen.

Dr. Timmerman passed out a new organizational chart to the Commission for their information and copies of articles by Pat Robertson in the newspaper which were referred to earlier.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we have about 1,200 license agents in the state and we are constantly getting calls from stores and businesses wanting to sell licenses. We have an administrative policy selecting license agents, but this could put us on shaky ground if legal action was ever brought against the Department. As such, Dr. Timmerman recommended that Commissioner Stubbs work with the staff in looking at how other states handle this and develop a recommendation for the Commission to adopt as a rule and regulation by the end of the calendar year. Chairman Edens asked Commissioner Stubbs to work with the staff on this matter. Commissioner Harrelson noted that we need to come up with a plan and live by it.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he, Chairman Edens and Tom Kohlsaas met with Governor Riley and staff of PRT to discuss the Mountain Bridge Project. The Governor made it clear that he is interested in the Department and PRT obtaining certain properties that can be put in trust to the state. Dr. Timmerman stated that the cost to the state will be minimal and there will be no cost to the Department's budget. Dr. Timmerman noted that we will come up with some specific



recommendations for the next Commission meeting. Chairman Edens stated that the Governor is interested in acquiring this property and we will cooperate with PRT to acquire this property. Chairman Edens noted that we will put together a program for the next meeting or the May meeting.

ITEM III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins distributed an update on the Department's legislative proposals and went over the status of these bills. Mr. Dobbins noted that H. 3359, a bill regarding opening of the deer season on September 1, was amended by the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee whereby the Department would open the season in Game Zones 1, 2, and 4 on September 1 for 1980 only and from then on it would be at the Commission's discretion as to when the season would open within the September 1 to January 1 framework. This bill has received objections on the House floor and is on the contested calendar. Commissioner Bennett noted that the bill could be put on special order, but will have a rough time in the House. Mr. Dobbins reported that a \$25 big game stamp bill for non-residents (H. 3618) has been introduced and considered by the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. The Department has made several comments on this bill and several changes in the original bill have been adopted. The primary change is to make it a permit rather than a stamp. Dr. Timmerman noted that we have not opposed this bill as the Blue Ribbon Study Committee may consider this idea and our comments on the bill were of an administrative nature. Commissioner Bennett stated that the Committee had approved the bill and asked the Commission's position on the bill. Commissioner Stubbs stated that he thought it was a good idea. Jeff Fuller reported that eleven of sixteen southeastern states have a non-resident big game permit. Commissioner Pendarvis stated that we need additional funds and he moved that the Commission endorse the bill in its concept. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion. Dr. Timmerman noted that non-residents are leasing land in the state and we are losing GMA land. Those behind this proposal feel it will reduce the number of non-residents, but it is felt that it may reduce the number for a while and then the number will go back up. Following other discussion, the Commission adopted the motion presented by Commissioner Pendarvis. Commissioner Bennett suggested that the bill be cleaned up, if needed, before it goes to the House floor. Dan Dobbins informed the Commission that a bill on shrimp nets, H. 3579, was reported out a couple of weeks ago and there was some opposition. Debate on the bill has been adjourned until March 25th. The bill increases the mesh size on a shrimp seine from one-half inch (1/2") to three-quarter inch (3/4") and it imposes a \$5.00 license fee on each seine. Mr. Dobbins noted



that there is a good deal of opposition to the bill from people in the Columbia area. Dr. Timmerman stated that we will have to let this bill take its course in the Legislature and he asked Mr. Dobbins to get a piece of this size net to send to the Commissioners. Dr. Timmerman noted that many of the sport fishermen are concerned about the big pocket on the seine and there has not been much opposition to the license fee.

Commissioner Shuler asked about the status of the proposed commercial fishing legislation approved by the Commission. Dan Dobbins noted that this has not been introduced as yet, as a final version of the bill is being drafted by Fred Zeigler. Dr. Timmerman noted that this bill affects 50-60 pieces of legislation and we have been advised that rather than trying to rush this bill and have it defeated, we should do some PR work this summer and have it introduced next year. Commissioner Shuler stated he felt someone is dragging their feet on this proposal as this is the second legislative year these comments have been presented and this is of concern. Dr. Timmerman suggested that the Commission may want to mandate that this be a priority item. Chairman Edens recommended that this proposal be placed up front as a priority item and have it ready to go first thing next year. Dr. Timmerman stated that we would put a target date on this proposal to have the final version to the Commission no later than the July meeting. Dr. Timmerman stated that this should be in his office in June in order for it to be ready for the Commission in July.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Budget Status Report: Benny Reeves passed out a report on the status of funds requested in the fiscal year 1980-81 budget (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Reeves noted that we have picked up some equipment funds in the Appropriations Bill through the Senate Finance Committee, but we are still lacking about \$620,000 in our Supplemental Appropriations Bill request. The Budget and Control Board has not recommended any funds for the Department in the Supplemental Appropriations Bill. Mr. Reeves noted that the picture looks gloomy as far as us getting any additional funds. The state will face a \$22-million revenue sharing shortfall which has to be covered somehow in the budget. Mr. Reeves stated that next year, we will be hurting for funds. Dr. Timmerman stated that he is not sure if he is getting through to the staff, but times are getting hard and will be harder next year. Dr. Timmerman noted that gasoline costs, for example, will take about \$250,000 additional for the Department this year due to increased costs and next year will be even worse.



Dr. Timmerman stated that we will be required to cut services when the time comes. Commissioner Pendarvis suggested that we look at our fleet to get 25% better gas mileage rather than speed. Dr. Timmerman noted that we are working with the Ford Motor Company to change transmissions that will give an additional 3-1/2 miles per gallon. A committee has been appointed to look at our requirements and the vehicle to meet these requirements to provide maximum service.

B. Areas of Focus and Concentration in 1980: Chairman Edens noted that this was passed out at the last meeting for the Commission's review and comments. Dr. Timmerman requested that the Commission review this list and call Larry Cartee if they have any comments on such.

C. Update on Blue Ribbon Study Committee on Funding: Chairman Edens reported that he and Dr. Timmerman have been working on this and spent a lot of time on it in order to get a good committee with a representative cross-section. Chairman Edens noted that he is ready to send out letters to invite various people to serve on this committee. A package of material was distributed to each Commissioner with individuals proposed for the committee and a charge to the group (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Chairman Edens went over this material and asked the Commissioners to contact him or Dr. Timmerman if they have any suggestions before the letters of invitation go out next Wednesday or Thursday. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that since they have just received this material, it would be good to review it and maybe wait until the next meeting. Commissioner Pendarvis also noted that we may want to have a saltwater fishing representative on this committee. Dr. Timmerman stated that the Marine Resources Study Committee will address funding of this program and make recommendations to the Commission. Chairman Edens stated that we could add someone from this area if desired. Following other discussion, Commissioner Pendarvis moved for Commissioner Dawson and the Marine Resources staff to recommend someone from the marine sportfishing area for the committee and go ahead with this proposal as presented. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Guidelines for Certificate of Meritorious Service: Dr. Timmerman noted that these guidelines were mailed out to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Chairman Edens asked the Commission what action they wanted to take on this matter. Commissioner Shuler stated that he felt the recommendations were good and moved for the Commission to approve them as submitted.



Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

E. Discussion on Manning Radio Stations on 24-Hour Basis: Pat Ryan reported that they looked into a 24-hour a day skeleton radio system. This matter was evaluated by the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board. Commissioner Shuler stated that the Board had discussed this concept and recommended that the Greenville, Columbia, Florence, Fort Johnson and Beaufort stations be operated on a 24-hour basis. Some of these stations are already manned. This will provide the initial coverage of the state and will be tried out tentatively. If other areas of the state need to be covered, then another station can be added later. This is the recommendation of the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board. Dr. Timmerman noted that this is to be done on an experimental basis now and expanded where needed. Commissioner Shuler noted that every person issued a radio will take their turn at night in manning a station with Pat Ryan and Jeff Fuller working it out as to whether or not supervisory personnel will take their turn manning a station. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that this recommendation is temporary and adjustments will be made as needed. As such, Commissioner Pendarvis moved that the Commission approve the Board's recommendation on a trial basis. Commissioner Boykin seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lake Thicketty Creek: Joe Logan reported that Lake Thicketty Creek is a 100-acre lake in Cherokee County which is a watershed lake and not productive for a fishing lake. When the lake was built in 1967 or 1968, there was a verbal commitment that the Department would put in some recreational facilities. The people that sold the land want to repurchase the land at the original price if it is not developed. The staff has recommended that facilities be put in and for the Department to retain the property. Commissioner Stubbs noted that he feels this property is a valuable asset to the Department and he moved that the Commission adopt the plans for development in Mr. Logan's memorandum to the Commission dated March 11, 1980 (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion. Mr. Logan stated that the county will construct an access road for the Department. Chairman Edens asked about funds for this project. Dr. Timmerman stated that we can do this if funds are available, but we do not have any funds in the budget for the project. Commissioner Stubbs amended his motion to approve the project, if funded from a source other than our budget. Commissioner Dawson agreed to the amendment and the motion was adopted by the Commission.



B. Proposed Land Procurement Program: Jeff Fuller reported that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board had approved this proposal with some modifications and it was mailed to the Commission. Rather than go over the entire proposal, Mr. Fuller read the following statement: "This Department and this Commission are in the business of providing places to hunt and places to fish for the citizens of South Carolina. We have done a good job in the past and are doing a good job today. Our citizens will expect us to do a good job in the future. Things are changing! Landowners fully know people will pay for the privilege of hunting or fishing on their land. In some areas of the State, a landowner can get three dollars per acre for deer hunting privileges. One duck blind may bring \$1,000.00 per year. The era of free hunting for the general public is almost a thing of the past. At the present time, we have about 1.6 million acres of land in our GMA Program and this is great. This year, we will pay almost 25¢ per acre for leasing this land which is our all time high. The problem is, how long will such land be available to us. Today we don't have a big problem. In 10 years, if we do nothing, the problem will be huge. I can't hazard a guess as to what the situation might be in 15 years or 20 years. Landowners in our GMA Program are being pressured more and more to lease the land to private individuals or clubs at considerably more money. You can't fault the landowner for wanting to make a profit. Neither can you fault the private citizen for wanting to purchase something for his own benefit. We now have approximately 18,000 acres of land owned by the Department upon which public hunting is allowed. Of nine southeastern states recently contacted, all own more land for public hunting than South Carolina. Louisiana was high with 500,000 acres. There are several benefits to owning our own land: (1) By owning the land, we are assured of having it available to the public year after year. (2) Intensive management is possible and practical on your own land in that it allows a long term approach whereby leased land is on a year-to-year basis. A long term approach allows us to manage for multi-purpose use. It also allows us to manage the wildlife, the water, the land and the timber. A combined program of this type is much more productive than piece meal management year by year. (3) By owning your own land, timber harvest can and should be scheduled basically for the benefit of wildlife. At the same time, such income is needed and can be used toward further management. I have intentionally kept this presentation brief in that the report you received provides the background. This plan is not a detailed step-by-step guide as to what is needed. Instead, it is an approach to "get the ball rolling". Some potential funding sources are known. Undoubtedly additional sources are available. It is my recommendation to the Commission that this proposed land procurement plan or a similar plan be approved. Further, that a committee be appointed from the Commission



and Staff for the purpose of designing a detailed project for the implementation and operation of a land procurement program. Such a program to be a continuing and permanent responsibility of the Commission and Department."

Chairman Edens noted that he had received the proposal in the mail and asked what funds would be used to acquire property. Mr. Fuller stated that one source of funds is Pittman-Robertson federal funds. Another potential source is a habitat stamp, as in Iowa, that is purchased when a license is bought in which part of the funds are used for land acquisition. In addition, the GMA permit could be raised to use a portion for land acquisition. Mr. Fuller noted that legislative action would be needed where these funds could be put into an account to be carried forward each year with interest so that the fund will grow each year to have funds available when a suitable tract of land becomes available. Dr. Timmerman noted that we are beginning to lose some GMA land. Senator Waddell has suggested that we ought to look into some type of tax incentive for people that lease land to use and we will be working on this proposal. Following other discussion, Commissioner Stubbs moved that Chairman Edens appoint a committee to develop a plan for land procurement and see what we can come up with. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Edens appointed Commissioners Harrelson and Dawson to represent the Commission on this committee in working with Dr. Timmerman, Mr. Fuller and other staff members.

C. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing to add to the written report.

2. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Jeff Fuller distributed a financial statement on the distribution of GMA license sales to landowners and went over this briefly. Mr. Fuller reported that in 1977, we gained 15,000 acres in the GMA program; in 1978, we gained 7,000 acres; in 1979, we lost 12,000 acres and in 1980, up to this point, we have lost 20,000 acres in the GMA program. Commissioner Dawson asked why this land was lost. Mr. Fuller noted that it is primarily due to money as people can get more money elsewhere for leasing their land. Chairman Edens asked about the possibility of a tax credit for people that lease land to us. Dr. Timmerman noted that a lot of people are receptive to this as far as the state is concerned, but we need to come up with a formula that would satisfy the counties. Commissioner Bennett asked if we had received complaints from landowners with property in the GMA program regarding the Department not cooperating on trespassing problems. Dr. Timmerman stated that we meet with landowners to work out problems on trespassing, but generally speaking, the number of problems have calmed down from a few years ago.



3. Law Enforcement and Boating: There was nothing to add to the written report.

4. Information and Public Affairs: Sonny Baines reported that the new turkey brochure is completed and a copy has been provided for each Commissioner.

5. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph noted that last spring, we had a high mortality on loggerhead turtles. Part of this can be tied to the sturgeon fishery. About 145 turtles in the Georgetown area were reported dead. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) said this was too high and they would have to take action. They started drafting federal regulations to control the fishery under provisions of the Endangered Species Act. They indicated, however, that if the state had the legislative authority to control the situation, they would prefer that we took action rather than them imposing federal jurisdiction in state waters. Dr. Joseph noted that we have authority under Section 50-17-1590 to shut down one of these fisheries. A turtle crawl has been reported now, thus, we need to take action before the next Commission meeting. Dr. Joseph ask the Commission to approve closing down the fishery when the high mortality occurs or to give prior approval for the Division to close the fishery when the mortality is significant. Commissioner Pendarvis moved that the Commission give prior authority for the Marine Resources Division to close down the fishery when it sees fit. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Pendarvis noted that the next Board meeting will be held at Eutaw Springs. A proposal for catfish farming will be discussed. In addition, a recommendation for licensing guides was passed out to the Commission to study and discuss at the April meeting. Commissioner Pendarvis stated that PRT would like to participate in the discussion of this matter.

2. Law Enforcement and Boating: Commissioner Shuler noted that it was brought to their attention that there is a problem on the Congaree and Wateree Rivers with people floating down the river and shooting deer. Various clubs hunt with dogs and the deer cross the river and are shot by these individuals. As it stands now, our officers have to see this done to make a case. It is recommended that a law be passed whereby a shotgun loaded with buckshot on a river be prima facie evidence of illegal hunting. Commissioner Harrelson noted that in some areas, the only access to hunting areas is by boat so this would have to be handled some way. Pat Ryan stated that most of the concern is up in this area



along some of the rivers rather than in the coastal area. Following other discussion, Commissioner Shuler requested that Dan Dobbins and Tommy Edwards draft up a proposal on this matter for the 1981 Legislative Package.

Commissioner Shuler reported that he held a hearing on the crabber from Virginia that was issued a license. Commissioner Shuler stated that the Department holds some responsibility for issuing the man a license initially and the individual was sincere in intending to become a South Carolina resident. Commissioner Shuler recommended that the man be granted a license with the assumption that he has become a South Carolina resident. Since the hearing, this individual has secured a South Carolina driver's license and registered a boat in the state. There is nothing in the law that defines a resident and we need to have this defined. Commissioner Harrelson noted that there is a problem of defining a resident by legislation as lots of other things get involved. Commissioner Harrelson suggested that we may consider a regulation for issuing crab licenses to provide guidance for license issuers on what constitutes establishing residency. Commissioner Shuler moved that we grant this individual a license since he has become a resident. Commissioner Pendarvis seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Following other discussion, the Commission requested that Tommy Edwards draft a regulation with guidelines for agents to use in issuing a license. Chairman Edens asked Tommy Edwards to develop something brief to recommend to the Commission. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that we could use the same rules for issuing all licenses.

4. Marine Resources: Commissioner Dawson reported that the Board will meet on April 11th. The meeting with Sister Margaret will be discussed at the Board meeting and they will come up with some recommendations.

5. Heritage Trust: Dr. Timmerman noted that the Board had met and they will be making recommendations later on including endangered species on the list. The Advisory Board would like to meet with the Commission in the near future to give a progress report on what they have done. Chairman Edens noted that we are meeting out of town next month and he asked Dr. Timmerman to invite them to the May meeting.

E. Salary Review Committee: Dr. Timmerman reported that this group has met and everything is in order.

F. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman asked Pat Ryan to report on Mr. James R. Tidwell of Lee County which was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Ryan reported that upon the Commission's suggestion, Mr. Tidwell was sent to Dr.



Latimer's office for a physical. Dr. Latimer's office examined Mr. Tidwell and referred him to Dr. Julian Adams, a neurologist, for examination. Dr. Adams examined Mr. Tidwell and noted that Mr. Tidwell has some slight disability, but he did not believe that it would interfere with his career as a law enforcement officer. As such, Mr. Ryan stated it was his responsibility and duty to recommend Mr. Tidwell for appointment as a Conservation Officer in Lee County. Commissioner Harrelson stated that if the man can do the job, we should not hold it against him if he has received injuries while in the military. Commissioner Boykin moved that Mr. James R. Tidwell be appointed as a Conservation Officer in Lee County. Commissioner Shuler seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Ryan noted that Randall A. Stone of Johnsonville has a violation and is not recommended for a new DWCO appointment. Commissioner Stubbs moved that the Commission approve all recommendations as submitted. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Commissioner Dawson asked the Commission to consider issuing a DWCO commission to Mr. Freddy Powell who was approved by the Commission six months ago, but has not been able to attend the school and it will not be held again until September. Dr. Timmerman noted that the school was scheduled, but only three people were to be trained and the session cancelled due to the low number of people. The man has agreed to sign an agreement to attend the school in September if he is issued the commission now. As such, Commissioner Dawson moved that Mr. Powell be exempted from the requirement of attending the school before the commission is issued and that he be issued the commission and attend the school in September. Commissioner Shuler seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

G. Other Remarks: There were no further remarks from the Commission.

H. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Edens asked Commissioner Pendarvis to report on arrangements for the April meeting. Commissioner Pendarvis reported that rooms have been reserved at Hickory Knob State Park to arrive Monday afternoon, April 21st, and the meeting will be held in the morning of April 22nd. Commissioner Pendarvis asked the Commissioners to inform Larry Cartee when they plan to arrive and which activities they would like to participate in.



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ITEM VI. ADJOURN

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

