

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING - MARCH 2, 1972

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

At 10:35 A. M. , Chairman Eltzroth called this special meeting to order. In attendance were Vice-Chairman Glenn, Commissioners Eppes, Thompson, Mishoe and Rhame, Major Cantey, General Harris, Executive Director Webb, Pat Ryan, Dr. Timmerman, Implementation Director Robert Stoudemire and Management Review Commission Members Bill Thomas and Fred Koch.

This meeting was called for the specific purpose of meeting in Executive Session with members of the Governor's Management Review Commission for the purpose of clarifying several of the recommendations which were made concerning the Wildlife Resources Department by this Review Commission. The timing of this meeting was important so that an early response could be prepared as a supplement to Governor West's request for a report by each state agency on these recommendations, such report to be made on or before February 28, 1972.

Chairman Eltzroth opened the meeting by stating that he recognized the tremendous amount of work that had been accomplished by the Commission, the value of the recommendations that had been made and a recognition of the almost impossible task which the Review Commission undertook when it was assigned its various duties. He noted that the Commission had asked for this frank discussion for the sole purpose of receiving clarification to several of the recommendations so that the Commission and the Department could better respond to these recommendations and to plan its programs in such a manner as to more fully implement these recommendations in accordance with the wishes of the Governor.

Bill Thomas, speaking in behalf of the Review Commission, stated that they had nothing to withhold, that they were most willing to share with the Commission any and all of the backup data from which the recommendations were made and that he believed one of the reasons for confusion was a misunderstanding of concept as concerns the study itself. The Review Commission initially set as one of its ground rules that it would not concern itself with an evaluation of existing or future programs of state agencies. It would simply review the activities of the various state agencies as they were being carried out at the time of the Review and that their recommendations would be ways, as they saw it, that various state agencies could reduce the amount of their expenditures. He further stated that these recommendations would have to be implemented



administratively and, in many instances, through actions of the General Assembly in accordance with the various programs within each agency.

At this point, it was decided that the discussion within this meeting would follow in the order of the recommendations as they have been made. That being the case, recommendation number 1, dealing with the alleged interference of the Commission in the day to day activities of the Department, was the first item to receive their attention. Inasmuch as this dealt with personalities and the individual Commission Members themselves, Chairman Eltzroth requested that it would be an Executive Session for this recommendation and the only personnel remaining in the Commission Room were members of the Commission and the three individuals from the Review Commission.

At 11:50 A. M., the Secretary, Executive Director Webb, Dr. Timmerman and Mr. Ryan were invited to return to the Commission Room and participate in the discussion of recommendations 2 through 9.

Recommendation Number 2

Chairman Eltzroth stated that the Executive Director had already informed the Governor and the Director of Implementation that steps had been taken to insure that guides for hunting and fishing was now limited only to those few individual cases where the State of South Carolina would benefit from such activities. Chairman Eltzroth stated that he felt that this was an accepted function in the case of representatives of the national news media who would provide useful publicity for our hunting and fishing and also in the case of representatives of business interests who were interested in investigating South Carolina as a possible new plant location. Mr. Thomas responded that he thought these were most worthwhile activities and that the Commission's only intention in this recommendation was to insure that such guiding activities were restricted to purely state business.

Mr. Thomas stated that they had no documentation for the suggested saving of \$50,000 if this guide service was curtailed. Their reporting format required a statement as to costs and this was the figure assigned.

Recommendation Number 3

The discussion relative to the operation of Belmont again indicated that the Review Commission made its recommendations upon very little background information. It was alleged that such information was not available to the Commission and that therefore there was a certain amount of improvising on their part. They stated they had no knowledge as to how many employees were utilized at Belmont for the purpose of serving guests and that the \$100,000 annual saving again was one of those arbitrarily assigned savings.



Recommendation Number 4

Chairman Eltzroth re-stated what the Executive Director had provided the Governor and the Director of Implementation as a response to this recommendation. He noted that the Department had initiated a procedure for job descriptions in 1968 and that this had been continued, with much updating. Mr. Thomas felt that the Commission's attitude to this matter was that certain political exceptions had been accepted and that position qualifications had not been completely adhered to.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired if the Review Commission believed that the Department should have a Personnel Director and to this Mr. Thomas agreed that it would be most beneficial.

Recommendation Number 5

Chairman Eltzroth noted that this was the one recommendation that the Commission and the Management Review Commission completely disagreed on. The Department believes that it has need for the existing aircraft and that if one looked at the changing program of the Department, that additional need for aircraft support is evident.

Mr. Thomas responded that this was an area where an evaluation of program had much importance and that as previously stated, the Review Commission did not undertake in any instance to evaluate existing or future programs.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired of Mr. Koch where the suggested saving of \$16,000 by the removal of one pilot could be realized. Mr. Koch responded that he thought this was a realistic figure considering the salary of the pilot and the other expenses which are annually incurred in supporting this pilot.

The Review Commission inferred that the aircraft operational log and the expenses for aircraft was not made available to them. Personnel present at the meeting could not recall that such a request was made and if it had been made, there was no reason why the information should be withheld. It is known that the total number of hours that the aircraft were operated during the fiscal year and the operational expense of the aircraft was provided to Mr. Koch and from this, an hourly cost figure was developed.

Recommendation Number 6

Chairman Eltzroth readily agreed that the Department recognized its inability to print and distribute the Wildlife Magazine for \$1 per year. He also noted that there was no doubt in anybody's mind that the magazine in its present form was well worth \$3 per year.

The question is what purpose is the magazine being published. Did the Review Commission recognize that its purpose was for the dissemination of information



regarding the Department's work and as a public relations tool in both information and in education. It is prepared in such a manner that it is useful in the classroom and in the secondary schools. The Chairman asked that in view of this, should it be self-sustaining or should this be something to show the needs and to help educate the public toward the proper use of wildlife resources. He also inquired if the Review Commission recognized the growth in the subscription rate of this magazine and that at the present time it was exceeding 43,000 paid copies.

Again, Mr. Thomas responding for the Review Commission, stated this solely was a matter of programming decisions and that his group simply looked at this as a single operation which was not paying its way. Therefore, within the guidelines set up for the study, the Review Commission pointed this out and if the magazine was sold at cost, then the resulting saving would occur.

Recommendation Number 7

Chairman Eltzroth noted that the revision of the tax on ammunition and the printing of easily identified revenue stamps is a matter for the General Assembly to consider. He noted that as much as ten or eleven years ago, he personally while a Member of the General Assembly, expressed concern in this regard and attempted then to obtain suitable legislation to correct this problem. He stated that the Executive Director had arranged for legislation to be prepared and presented to the 1972 Session in accordance with the Review Commission's recommendation.

Recommendation Number 8

Chairman Eltzroth noted that this again another recommendation that could be implemented only through suitable action by the General Assembly. He further noted that the Executive Director had prepared a Bill which would implement these recommendations and that the General Assembly would have an opportunity to react to it.

Recommendation Number 9

The recommendation concerning changes in the license structure so as to provide sufficient income to meet the budget of the Department, received considerable discussion.

Mr. Koch stated that when he reviewed the number of licenses and permits that the Department issued and the cost for each of these licenses and permits, he saw a number that sold for \$1 each. Business experience indicates that writing a single, simple letter costs \$2.35 and therefore the Department was actually losing money in the case of each permit. He further stated that he believed that the user should pay for the services and opportunities that are made available to him and that in this regard, the recommendation of the Review Commission



was intended to mean that the license structure of the Department should be reviewed and changed so that a general state fishing license would be provided for which would entitle the purchaser to fish in any waters of the State of South Carolina.

This ended the discussion of the nine recommendations which the Review Commission made and the Chairman thanked Dr. Stoudemire, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Koch for taking the time away from their busy schedules to meet with the Commission. He felt that both the Wildlife Resources Commission and the Management Review Commission now had a better understanding of what was desired and that the Wildlife Resources Department will implement these recommendations wherever it is possible to do so.

At 12:45 P. M., the meeting with the representatives of the Review Commission was adjourned and the Wildlife Resources Commission continued to meet in Executive Session.

Those non-Commission members who were present were asked at that time to make any comments they might wish to make concerning the recommendations and then the Commission continued to meet in Executive Session with only the Commission Members present.

At the end of this Executive Session, the Chairman dictated the following remarks to Mrs. Lowman and they are made a part of these Minutes.

The South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission met on Thursday, March 2, 1972, at 10:30 A. M. at its Commission office. Present were all Commissioners with the exception of Commissioner Williams who was absent because of illness.

A frank and open discussion was had with Mr. Fred Koch, Mr. William T. Thomas and Dr. Robert Stoudemire which lasted until approximately 1:00 P. M. The subject of discussion with these gentlemen was the Governor's Management Review Commission and the implementation by the Commission and the Department of the recommendations.

Subsequently, the Commission met for informal roundtable discussion and discussed various and sundry matters of the operation of the Commission and the Department.

The Commission notes, and the Executive Director is apprised, that its instructions in regard to documentation of failures on parts of personnel to carry out their duties has not been complied with. As an example, the failure of the Planning Department to complete the application for Coastal Plains funds prior to the deadline set was not met and the Executive Director has advised the Commission that no documentation in regard thereto has been met.



The Commission completed its deliberations at 2:45 P. M. and stood adjourned until a regular meeting could be called.

Respectfully Submitted,


ROGER A. SEAMANS, Secretary
Wildlife Resources Commission

RAS/pal

Distribution of these Minutes:
Each Member of the Commission
Major Cantey
General Harris
Executive Director Webb
One Copy in Commission Secretary's files
No other copies made or distributed



AGENDA

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

9:00 A. M. - MARCH 16, 1972

BEAR ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

CALL TO ORDER

ITEM I

READING OF MINUTES

ITEM II

OLD BUSINESS

1. Progress report on Non-pay Game Warden training program.
2. Non-pay Game Warden Commission - Robert S. Byrd

ITEM III

NEW BUSINESS

3. Appointments.
4. Financial Report
 - (a) License sales report
5. Belmont Management Plan.
6. Report on boating fatalities and recommendations.
7. Employees Handbook.
8. Marine Resources Division Reports.
9. Legislative
 - (a) Boating
 - (b) Other
10. Committee Reports.

ITEM IV

UNCLASSIFIED ITEMS

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

BEAR ISLAND GAME MANAGEMENT AREA

MARCH 16, 1972

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Eltzroth at 9:25 A. M. in the Clubhouse at the Bear Island Game Management Area near Green Pond. In attendance were Commissioners Mishoe, Eppes, Thompson and Rhame. Vice-Chairman Glenn notified the Chairman earlier in the morning that he would not be there until later, which he did when he arrived at 11:45 A. M. Commissioner Williams was absent because of illness. Also in attendance were Major Cantey, General Harris, Dr. Timmerman, Dr. Joseph, Dr. Burrell, Charlie Bearden, Tommy Welch, Jeff Fuller and Ken Hare of The State newspaper.

The first order of business was a motion by Commissioner Eppes to approve the Minutes of the two preceding meetings as they were prepared and submitted by the Secretary. This motion was carried and the Minutes were accepted.

PROGRESS REPORT - Non-pay Game Warden Training Program.

Commissioner Mishoe presented the progress report relating to the proposed training program for non-pay Game Wardens. He noted that much planning and progress had been made in this new effort to provide both protection through knowledge for the individuals receiving non-pay Game Warden appointments and also to improve the effectiveness of these people when they are afield. A schedule of training dates have been decided upon, the basic curriculum has been developed and all such non-pay Game Wardens presently having commissions have received a letter from Mr. Ryan setting forth the new policy and program

At this point there was some discussion relative to the interpretation of the policy which was decided upon during the February meeting. This discussion centered around whether such training should be given only to those individuals who found that enforcing the game and fish laws was a part of their income and also if certain individuals would be excused from taking such training. After further discussion, it was decided to leave the policy as it had been decided upon in February.

Commissioner Mishoe continued to describe more of the program and stated that this was only a progress report and that more would be available to report upon as the program developed.



NON-PAY GAME WARDEN COMMISSION - Robert S. Byrd

During the Executive Session, which followed the regular meeting of the Commission, the Commission thoroughly discussed the previous appointment of Robert S. Byrd, of Marion County, as a non-pay Game Warden and subsequent action by the Commission in which they cancelled this appointment. After reviewing the files on this situation and thoroughly discussing all the conditions pertinent to the situation, the Commission re-affirmed their original decision and that they would not reverse themselves at this time. The Secretary was instructed to so notify Mr. Byrd.

APPOINTMENTS

The appointments as were mailed to the Commission prior to this meeting by the Executive Director, were approved, subject to the approval of Vice-Chairman Glenn and Commissioner Williams, both of whom were not present when this action was taken.

The appointments of two non-pay Game Warden appointments which were not mailed were approved subject to the investigation and concurrence by the Commission Members in whose Districts these individuals reside. Included in this group are F. J. Anderson, Aiken and Amos D. Ewers, Summerville.

Following the meeting, Vice-Chairman Glenn informed the Secretary that he, with the assistance of Conservation Officers, had reviewed the list as contained in Mr. Webb's letter of February 28, 1972, and was prepared to make the following recommendations concerning such appointments for individuals residing in his District. These recommendations are as follows:

J. Douglas Nettles, Ridgeland, - Drop
John Edward Bailey, Burton - Drop
Paul E. Freeman, Coosahatchie - Re-appoint
Frederick D. Cody, McClellanville - Re-appoint
William E. Lewis, Jr. - Charleston Heights - Drop
Thomas L. Freeman, Ridgeville - Re-appoint
Thomas M. Thompson, Yemassee - Re-appoint
Lonnie M. Reynolds, Bluffton - Drop
Floyd B. Hiott, Sr., Walterboro - Drop
George S. Dasher, Bluffton - Re-appoint
D. Calvin Baynard, Moncks Corner - Re-appoint



FINANCE

The financial report and statement as prepared by the Financial Division was received and accepted as information.

The Secretary distributed the Summary of License Sales, together with a one page explanation as to the contents of this report and its interpretation. This was received as information.

BELMONT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Commissioner Mishoe reported that his committee had met with staff personnel and that the proposed draft of the Management Plan for Belmont had been submitted to the committee. He stated that approximately two-thirds of the work had been accomplished on this proposal by his committee and that he felt that he was not in a position at this meeting to recommend a Management Plan to the Commission for its consideration. He reported that the Plan would be available by the April meeting for the Commission's consideration.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired of Mr. Fuller if the proposed timber sale for Belmont had been advertised as yet and Mr. Fuller informed him that it had been and that the removal of the prescribed timber was to be completed by December 31, 1972.

REPORT ON BOATING FATALITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Welch stated that he would like to have Commissioner Mishoe report on this study and its recommendations which have been made concerning boating fatalities on South Carolina waters. Commissioner Mishoe stated that the report contained much information, that it pointed out those areas in the state where boating usage was concentrated and that it contained a number of recommendations. Commissioner Mishoe's committee felt that the Chief of Boating and Division Director Ryan should bring a list of specific recommendations to the Commission committee and that after consideration of these, the committee could then make a recommendation to the Commission for its action. This will be accomplished within the next 30 to 60 days.

HERRING REGULATIONS

Commissioner Rhame inquired if the proposed herring regulations have been implemented and if both commercial and sports fishermen have been consulted in these regulations. Mr. Fuller reported that they have been considered and that the regulations had been implemented.

EMPLOYEE'S HANDBOOK

The Secretary exhibited to the Commission the proposed first draft of the Employee's Handbook and explained its contents and concept. He pointed out that such a Handbook should include the basic information desired by an employee when entering the agency and also contain directions as to where such an employee may find additional information, if so desired. This Handbook cannot be detailed in nature as to specific policies within the Department, position descriptions or similar materials. These will have to be contained in other forms of written materials which will be more specific or precise in nature for the individual employee concerned.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired if there was input from others in this draft and the Secretary informed him that such was not possible in the time involved and that the draft appeared to follow normal format for such Handbooks and appeared, to him, to be basically complete. Chairman Eltzroth requested that the draft be given to Dr. Timmerman for his review, that it also be then forwarded to Mr. Ryan for his review and additions if such seemed to be in order and that possibly one or more employees should review the draft to determine if it meets the needs of the employee. No action was taken as to what would be done with the proposed publication after this review.

MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION REPORT

Dr. Timmerman distributed and discussed the report for his Division. He called upon those members of his staff who were present to describe more fully parts of the report which were particularly related to their areas of responsibility. This included Dr. Burrell as it relates to the condition and future use of the proposed research vessel, Dr. Joseph concerning the Lab and specifically presenting the qualifications of Mr. Eldridge who it is hoped will fill the vacant position as a Chemical Oceanographer and Charlie Bearden as his work relates to management of shellfish. Copies of this progress report and Dr. Burrell's condition report of the Dolphin are attached to file copy of these Minutes and made a part thereof.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired if both Winthrop and South Carolina State College had been asked to provide input into the Marine Center. Dr. Joseph stated that they had, but at this time they did not desire to be directly related to it and that most certainly the door was always open for their participation.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired of Dr. Timmerman if he had taken any steps to have the \$30,000 item for fishing reefs restored in the proposed budget as being considered by the General Assembly. He stated that he had already talked to several members of the General Assembly on this and Chairman Eltzroth instructed that Mr. Bearden meet with the group who are concerned with offshore fishing reefs and to be sure to talk to the original members of the committee and ask for their support in this most worthwhile program.



Mr. Bearden asked guidance concerning Oyster Lease Number 215, stating that there had been non-payment of this lease for the past two years. Chairman Eltzroth instructed Mr. Bearden to prepare the necessary recommendations, submit them to the Commission for action and that appropriate action would be taken.

Mr. Bearden inquired and asked for guidance concerning the request made to his Section regarding the possible importation of sponge crabs from Georgia for processing in South Carolina. The taking or possession of such sponge crabs is illegal in South Carolina and Chairman Eltzroth noted that importation of such could cause many problems. He inquired if Mr. Bearden had any specific recommendations on this and not having such at this time, Mr. Bearden will report on this question to the Commission at its April meeting.

Chairman Eltzroth inquired as to the status of the proposed offshore sport fishing brochure. Dr. Timmerman reported that Waddell Robey is completing this and that he believed the charts and other materials were sufficiently advanced so that they could have the draft copy available for consideration at the April meeting.

Chairman Eltzroth was disturbed with that portion of the Dr. Timmerman's report concerning the completion of the Laboratory and Administration Building at the Center. He concurred with Dr. Timmerman that a "punch list" should be prepared, that no facilities be accepted until all items on this list had been satisfied and that penalties should be invoked wherever and whenever proper.

The required paving at the Marine Center can be done with state funding if the Center is classified as a "institution". The Attorney General's office was requested to review this and issue an opinion. Dr. Timmerman reported that he had just received an opinion from the Attorney General's office which stated that the Center could be classified as an institution and therefore it would be eligible for state funding for this necessary paving.

Dr. Timmerman reported that the Boat Slip is essentially complete and that he is most happy with the way this had been done.

Dr. Timmerman was concerned with Marine Law Enforcement and he noted that he had asked Mr. Ryan to look into this further and to have some discussions with him on the matter. He noted that in other states considerably more effort was being put in Marine Law Enforcement and that if management of marine resources was to become a reality, then enforcement must be a part and parcel of this management activity.

Dr. Timmerman reported that the completion of the Center dictates that the dedication will probably be done at the end of May or early June.

Chairman Eltzroth noted that this would have to be accomplished prior to June 9, 1972, because he would be unavailable after June 9th for some period of time.

In line with the dedication, Dr. Timmerman wishes to prepare a brochure on the Center and to have as a part of the dedication ceremonies, this brochure with an insert which will be the program for the dedication. He also had developed a partial invitation list and this was passed out to the Commission so that each Member could make suggestions and add names as he saw fit.

Further, concerning the dedication, the Commission met in Executive Session with Dr. Timmerman for the purpose of discussing names of proposed speakers and other items relative to personnel for this event.

For the deciation, the light lunch or food items which may be a part of the dedication is to be worked out by Dr. Timmerman and his staff with Vice-Chairman Glenn.

Dr. Timmerman described the plaque which will go in the Laboratory and noted that he wanted to place a border around the plaque which would include certain marine forms. The suggestion was approved by the Commission and Dr. Timmerman was instructed to proceed with this.

Mr. Bearden reported on the success of the oyster culture which resulted from the moving of seed oysters from the Wando River Bed and taking these to McClellanville. He believed that the Wando seed bed was of most importance and that immediate attention should be given to it to learn if it can be used as a source of seed oysters, if it has capabilities for reproducing itself and what its true value is so that this may be defended from the many threats that come through industrialization and other harbor uses.

LEGISLATIVE

Chairman Eltzroth noted that two branches of government did not recognize the limitations by the constitution concerning fish and game legislation as it applies to individual counties. He noted that the Judicial branch did take note of this and as a result, Judge George Bell Timmerman, Jr. ordered the Executive Director to close the seasons which had been authorized as extensions for several counties.

It was noted that the legislation relating to the change in Boating Rules and Regulations had been considered by the Senate Fish, Game and Forestry Committee, accepted by them and would be introduced as a Committee Bill.

that the General Assembly take action to enact legislation making this an official state position.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

Commissioner Rhame inquired as to the delay in providing an up-to-date directory for the Department. Chairman Eltzroth noted that this was Mr. Ryan's responsibility and that he should accomplish it at the earliest practical date.

MARINE CENTER - AFFILIATIONS

The Commission noted that the several colleges and universities had extended to professional personnel at the Marine Center a reciprocal arrangement whereby these professional employees of the Department in marine sciences were made Adjunct Professors at these institutions of higher learning. The Commission, authorized the Director of the Division of Marine Resources to appoint such people from the colleges and universities within the state to be affiliated with the Marine Center on an associate basis whenever it would be in the best interests of the Marine Center.

The meeting of the Commission was completed at 11:35 A. M. and this was followed by a short Executive Session which ended at approximately 12:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



ROGER A. SEAMANS, Secretary
Wildlife Resources Commission

RAS/pal

