

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES
COMMISSION MEETING
Drayton Room - OMNI Hotel
Charleston, S. C.
March 2, 1990
10:00 A. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., Friday, March 2, 1990, in the Drayton Room of the OMNI Hotel, Charleston, 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, Stokes, Compton, Bennett, Pendarvis, Miller and Owen. Staff Members present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines, Brock Conrad, Paul Sandifer, Bill Chastain and various other staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPEARANCE - REPRESENTATIVE JAMES J. BAILEY

Representative James J. Bailey of Charleston appeared before the Commission to make comments to the Commission concerning the Santee Coastal Reserve. Representative Bailey emphasized the Commission's Policy on the use of the boat ramp and the exclusive use of this area by the Collins Creek Gun Club. Representative Bailey asked the Commission to get involved in this matter and the decisions that are being made. Representative Bailey requested that the Commission take a vote on this issue as it relates to public access so that they would have a position statement. Chairman Burnside thanked Mr. Bailey for his appearance and noted that this matter would be taken under advisement.

ITEM I - READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the January 19, 1990 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that he will be attending the North American Wildlife Conference later this month and the Guy Bradley Award for Law Enforcement will be presented to Lt. Ben Moise.

Dr. Timmerman discussed the budget for the Department and noted that no funds were provided by the Budget and Control Board. Dr. Timmerman noted that some funds were added in the Ways and Means

Committee and we will seek additional funds from the Senate. Dr. Timmerman noted that he is working in Washington as it relates to securing federal funds and will continue efforts in this arena.

Dr. Timmerman discussed the status of repairs as a result of Hurricane HUGO and he also advised the Commission that the Department's revenue is a problem and he asked the Commission to appoint a sub-committee to review the option of putting the Department's revenue into the State General Fund.

ITEM III - LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dan Dobbins presented a copy of the Legislative Report and went over the status of various bills. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to oppose H-4640 which deals with lands owned by the State acquired with Land and Water Conservation Funds (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

Dr. Timmerman noted that he would like to recommend to the Commission that the newly constructed McCormick County Work Center be placed in the Commission's Policy on the Use of Departmental Facilities the same as was in this policy for the Chapman House. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation by Dr. Timmerman.

ITEM IV - OLD BUSINESS:

A. Long-Term Issues: Dr. Timmerman distributed a list of Long-Term Issues for the Commission's consideration and noted that hunting ethics and the anti-hunting issue should be included on this list. Dr. Timmerman asked the Commissioners for any input on the Long-Term Issues that were presented to them.

ITEM V - NEW BUSINESS:

A. Justice Information Exchange Network: Mike Sabaka and David Busby noted that they were working on a Network for all Criminal Justice computer systems in the state. It was noted that the Department has the capability to become a part of this system and following discussion, the Commission asked the staff to study this proposal and report back to the Commission at the appropriate time.

B. Division Reports:

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

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Brock Conrad advised the Commission that we are currently working on Use Regulations for the Santee Coastal Reserve and for all state-owned areas. Mr. Conrad noted that last Monday, a public hearing was

held on the Wildlife Management Area regulations and Derrell Shipes presented a summary of the comments presented at this hearing. Mr. Shipes noted that the major comments dealt with including the muzzler loader season during the first ten (10) days of October, the same as is currently proposed for the archery season. Following discussion, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve including the muzzler loader season in the first ten (10) days of October, with the same area and same regulations as we have had in the past. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and the motion failed to pass with Commissioner Bennett abstaining. Commissioner Pendarvis moved to open the season for all hunting on October 1 in the WMA regulations, but this motion did not gain a second.

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

4. Conservation Education & Communications: There was nothing further to report.

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report.

C. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted that the Board met on February 8, 1990 and there were no items for further action by the Commission.

2. Conservation Education & Communications: Sonny Baines noted the Board met on February 2, 1990 and he went over the various items discussed at the meeting.

3. Heritage Trust: Stuart Greeter noted that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board had approved a proposed registration agreement on Bolen Bay in Barnwell County and this proposed registration was sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the proposed registration agreement as submitted.

D. Other Remarks: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting on March 23, 1990 in Columbia in conjunction with the Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic and to hold its April Meeting on April 20, 1990 in Edgefield at the headquarters of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Commissioner Miller 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.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the purchase of land at Glassy Mountain and at Woods Bay as presented by staff (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hereby direct the staff to negotiate with EEOC and the State Human Affairs Commission to arrive at conciliation agreements mutually acceptable; if no agreement can be reached or before an agreement is reached, the staff is to notify the Chairman and for him to recommend a course of action to the Commission. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the appointments and reappointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented with the addition of the DWCO reappointment of Michael D. Fowler with authority on lands owned by John McAllister in McCormick and Abbeville Counties. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

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

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission had already taken action on this matter for the March and April meetings.

ITEM VI - ADJOURN

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