

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN
COLUMBIA, MARCH 6, 1957

All Commissioners were present except Mr. Johnson and Mr. Hopkins. Also present were Director Richardson, Alex Quattlebaum, Dan McKeithan, Jim Webb and Bob Lunz.

A letter from Mr. Fletcher Carter regarding the dispute over payment for the dam in Chester county was referred to Mr. Webb for action.

The reappointment of Warden Barfield in Kershaw county and Warden Moore in Williamsburg county was approved.

Mr. Warren brought up the advisability of introducing the proposed legislation revising the laws governing game and fish and commercial fisheries. He pointed out that if this legislation is introduced it might lead to the introduction of a number of amendments that would further complicate the laws.

It was agreed that the recommendations regarding game and fish should be transmitted to the House Agriculture and Conservation Committee as being the Commission's conception of a needed clarification of the laws, which several representatives had favored. It was further agreed that Director Richardson and Mr. Webb should present the recommendations for committee consideration.

Mr. Lunz then made a report on a study he had made of the recommendations of Mr. Seabrook, which had been requested by the Commission. Mr. Lunz pointed out several sections with which he did not agree and Mr. Huggins also brought up several points.

After some discussion a motion of Mr. Cox was approved that:
"Mr. Seabrook's recommendations be received as information and as private to the Commission and not to be publicized; and that the same apply to Mr. Lunz's report except that copies of it be made available to the two House members who had received Mr. Seabrook's recommendations."



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An amendment of Mr. Cantey was approved that the House members be informed that the Commission had no substitute legislation to recommend; and that the Secretary be authorized to tell inquirers that a study of the tax structure was being continued.

Mr. Richardson stated that he and Mr. Webb were going before the Senate Fish, Game and Forestry Committee Thursday to request increases in the hunting license fees, pointing out that revenue was \$68,000 behind last year. He also pointed out that there had been no change in the hunting license fees in 40 years.

The question of cutting some crooked and overcrowded timber of Belmont was discussed. Mr. Richardson said he was considering using available labor there to cut this timber, since because it was so scattered timbermen might not be interested in bidding. Mr. Richardson was instructed to get an opinion from the Attorney General on whether this could be done under the present law giving the Commission authority to sell real property.

A brief executive session was then held.

The House bill providing for a 14-member commission to be elected by the delegations of the 14 judicial circuits was discussed. Mr. Quattlebaum agreed to contact the House committee and request that the bill be recommitted for further study.

Eddie Finlay



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