

MINUTES

ADVISORY BOARD FOR GAME & FRESHWATER FISHERIES March 8, 1974 - 3:30 PM Eutawville, South Carolina

A meeting of the Advisory Board for Game & Freshwater Fisheries was held March 8, 1974 at 3:30 pm at Eutawville, South Carolina with Chairman Rhame presiding. Advisors in attendance were Mr. Carroll Godwin, Mr. Marion Burnside, Mr. Frank Ford, and Mr. Robert Russell. Also present were Mr. Jeff Fuller, Mr. Brock Conrad, Mr. Joe Logan, Mr. Bob Joyner, Mr. Bill Mahan and a guest, Dr. Wade Batson of the University of South Carolina.

OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) LETTER TO MR. SHIPLEY AND HIS REPLY: This matter was discussed in the joint meeting of the Advisory Boards. Mr. Shipley and his clients were very pleased with the letter that Commissioners Rhame and Harris wrote to him in reply to his first letter and the action that was taken on their requests. Chairman Rhame suggested that this be taken under advisement. The motion was made and seconded.
- (2) REPORT ON REWARD FOR ATTACK ON OFFICER: It was reported that the Commission approved raising the reward of \$300 being offered by the Sheriff's department in Pickens County \$700 making a total reward of \$1,000 for the conviction of the persons who fired on our officer. The investigation is still continuing.
- (3) LEGAL DEER ANTLER LENGTH: This matter has been discussed at a Commission meeting.
- (4) FISHING GUIDES ON LAKES: There was discussion in reference to the registering or licensing of guides. If it would be a revenue producing thing, it would require legislative action. If they are just registered you would have no authority over them to any extent except to cancel their registration. They would be representing the state to a degree. These guides should have some qualifications to call themselves guides and it was the feeling of the Advisory Board that this should be brought before the Commission.
- (5) SANTEE COOPER LANDS: Bill Mahan made a presentation concerning the 16,000 acres being made available to the Commission from the S. C. Public Service Authority. These lands will be a part of the Game Management Area Program.
- (6) PUBLICITY ON COMMITTEES: This has been taken care of and in the newspapers. Jeff Fuller asked the Boards approval to get a photograph taken of the group at the next meeting.



(7) TERMS OF ADVISORY GROUPS: Was in the minutes of the February Commission meeting.

(8) EEL REGULATIONS: Have been revised and approved by the Commission. A copy of these rules and regulations was passed out to the Advisors. These rules and regulations are temporary until we can revise them based on knowledge gathered on this subject.

(9) GAME BOOKLET: Reference was made to John Culler's idea for the new publication which has been approved by the Commission. A separate booklet concerning hunting statewide and giving a description of the Game Management areas and life history on different game also is in the works.

NEW BUSINESS:

(1) REPORT OF GAME & FRESHWATER FISHERIES FOR DECEMBER: Chairman Rhame went over the report on Game & Freshwater Fisheries for December. See report.

(2) GUIDELINES FOR FISH DISPOSAL AND USE OF NETS: Re: What happens to fish after biologist use. Policy has been set up by Mr. Fuller's department on how to handle this situation. Anytime fish are taken by department personnel for their studies, a biologist must be in attendance. They have to be distributed to institutes or disposed of by burial. A report from biologist must come to the department on the disposal.

(3) LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Chairman Rhame went over Legislative Report No. 7 which is sent out by the Legal Affairs department.

(4) ROADSIDE PLANTING: A report on this subject was passed out. The following comments were made by Jeff Fuller: (1) Believes the plan has some merit, but not much; (2) believes plan should be made available to Highway Department and if they agree to proceed with it, we should provide them with information we have; (3) believes the money could be used in a more useful way. The feeling of the Advisory Board was to object this plan and use the money in a better way.

(5) FIRE ANT SITUATION: This was discussed in the Joint Meeting of the Advisory Boards.

(6) MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS 1974 & 1975: The regulations are basically the same, except the shooting hours have been changed to sunrise to sunset nationwide. This would be detrimental to hunters in South Carolina because the larger portion of the ducks are harvested during the 1/2 hour prior to sunrise. We would take exception to that change and in favor of the same shooting hours as before for 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. It was suggested that we write the people back and tell them that we are in favor of everything except the shooting hours and that we would like to have shooting hours 1/2 hour before sunrise.



(7) RABBIT HUNTING ON GAME MANAGEMENT AREA DURING DEER HUNTING SEASON: Brock Conrad commented on rabbit hunting on Game Management Areas during Big Game hunting. Instead of running deer season through, we are recommending a three week period of time for rabbit hunting leaving 1 ½ months after deer hunting season is closed for hunting rabbit. This would include the Western and Central Piedmont Hunt Units. There was no objection from the Advisory Board on this proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Stapleton

(Miss) Chris Stapleton,
Secretary to Commission

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