

**MINUTES
BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES**

**Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina
Friday, May 19, 1995
10:00 A.M.**

The regular meeting of the Board of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 19, 1995, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, South Carolina. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Chairman Marion Burnside presided at the meeting and other Board members present included: Tom Miller, J. M. Pendarvis, Knox Haynsworth, and Dr. Howard Poston. Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., and staff members of the Department of Natural Resources were present at the meeting as well as various guests.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Marion Burnside called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Meditation

The Board held a moment of silent meditation prior to the beginning of the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

The Board adopted a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 1995 Board Meeting as submitted.

IV. Presentations/Commendations

There were no presentations/commendations to be presented at this meeting.

V. Constituent Comments

There were no constituent comments presented at this meeting.

VI. Director's Briefing

A. Executive Office

1. Director - Dr. Timmerman introduced Dr. Bill Clendenin, the new State Geologist and Dr. Clendenin presented a few comments on the status of the Geological Survey.

Dr. Timmerman reported that drought conditions had reached a point that the Drought Committee had met on Thursday, May 18, and he had sent a letter of recommendations to Governor Beasley for his review.



Dr. Timmerman distributed copies of the 1995 May-June *SC Wildlife Magazine* to members of the Board stating that CEC had changed the format of several articles appearing in the magazine and he was very pleased with the way the articles looked.

2. Legal - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.
3. Legislative Affairs - Michael Thompson reported that the Bill for statewide hiring is up for second reading in the House. Dr. Timmerman stated that statewide hiring was also in the Budget Bill as a proviso.
4. Human Resources - Caroline Agardy reported that a team has been formed in Boat Titling and Registration to develop ways to improve customer services in this area.
5. Environmental - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.

B. Deputy Directors

1. Administrative Services - Dr. Timmerman stated that Benny Reeves was presently attending a meeting of the Budget Conference Committee. Dr. Timmerman discussed several differences in the House and Senate versions of the budget as it relates to the funding process and budget cuts. He stated that there was a proviso in the House version that would put a freeze on all hiring with virtually no exception, but the Senate version stipulates that any position which was left vacant for a period of 12 months would be lost by the agency. Dr. Timmerman commended Benny Reeves for his hard work and dedication in working with the General Assembly on the DNR budget.
2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries - Brock Conrad discussed briefly the alligator program and introduced Walt Rhodes who provided the Board with a status of this program. Mr. Rhodes stated that the Nuisance Alligator Program had been successful in helping control the alligators which are classified as a nuisance by the general public. He reported that the Private Lands Alligator Management Program would be implemented this year to help the private landowners in controlling alligators on their lands and he distributed an outline of the rules which will be used to regulate this program (copy attached to original Minutes). This was provided to the Board for information since they had approved this program three years ago and it has taken two years to get it passed in the General Assembly.



3. Natural Resources Enforcement - There was nothing further to report to the Board this month.
4. Conservation Education & Communication - Don Winslow distributed copies of the Advisory Committee minutes from their meeting held on April 12, at the Yawkey Center. Mr. Winslow stated that the CEC staff had been working with Van McCarty of the Hunter Education Section to prepare a video which would be used in the Hunter Education Program to meet the requirements of the statute concerning mandatory hunter education which takes effect on July 1, 1995. After the presentation of the video, Van McCarty discussed the video and the Hunter Education Program. Mr. McCarty thanked the CEC staff and Joey Rentiers for their assistance in this project.

Dr. Timmerman requested Mr. Winslow have a video put together on the 30-second TV spots that they have on game theft, littering, etc. to be shown at a Board meeting in the near future.

5. Marine Resources - Paul Sandifer reported that the shrimp season began on May 16, 1995 and stated that it looks like this will be a very good season. He stated that the only complaint they have received was concerning the 3-mile line and they would be holding a meeting with Law Enforcement concerning this matter. Dr. Sandifer reported that the Marine Recreational Stamp Advisory Committee would be meeting on May 25 in Charleston and he invited the Board members to attend.
6. Water Resources - Freddy Vang reported that there had been a Drought Meeting on Thursday, May 18, and distributed a report for the Board's information (copy attached to the original Minutes). Mr. Vang reported that the Water Resources Blue Ribbon Committee met and will be defining the issues they see as important for that division. He stated that with Mr. Haynsworth's assistance they were able to get some minor changes in the law concerning the interstate agreements and they will provide the Board with a detailed report at a later date.
7. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - Cary Chamblee reported that the Land Resources Division has completed TQM training for their entire staff and in June they would begin TQM training for the Conservation Districts staff with a trial area in Anderson County. He stated that the Stewardship Development Program is now in place and they would be offering the Stewardship Development Certification this summer. Mr. Chamblee reported that they would be giving the Landscape Architect Exam, which is a 3-day exam, at USC in June.



VII. Items for Board Action

- A. Badges for Natural Resources Enforcement and Deputy Enforcement Officers - Chairman Burnside asked Dr. Timmerman to handle this matter. (NOTE: Dr. Timmerman initiated action on this matter per the design of the badges attached to these Minutes.)
- B. Proposed Land Acquisition in Spartanburg County - Brock Conrad requested that the Board discuss this matter in Executive Session.

VIII. Advisory Committee Reports

- A. Conservation Education and Communication - This report has been given earlier in the meeting.
- B. Marine Resources - Mr. Pendarvis reported that the Advisory Committee had met on May 10 in Charleston. He stated that they had received a report concerning an over harvesting of dolphins and they would be sending a report to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council to make them aware of the problem. The next meeting will be held July 13.
- C. Heritage Trust - Tom Kohlsaas reported that the Advisory Board had met on May 4 and deferred acquisitions in Horry County until further study can be made. He reported the Board approved the acquisition of a site in York County and approved a conservation easement for Hitchcock Woods in Aiken County. This conservation easement and dedication agreement will be presented to the Board at a future meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 2 at the Savannah River Site.
- D. Water Resources - Freddy Vang reported that the Advisory Committee had discussed the Aquatic Plant Management Plan and were anticipating an expenditure of almost \$3 million of which one-half is federal funds. This program has been submitted for public review and they have received no negative comments. Mr. Vang reported that they discussed the Extension Groundwater Study in the Pee Dee area and the groundwater study would be extended to the Piedmont area. Mr. Vang reported that they have received a number of questions concerning elevation problems in the low country and this matter is being studied extensively.
- E. Natural Resources Enforcement - Mr. Miller reported that the Advisory Committee met on May 10 at the Dennis Center and Bill Chastain had discussed in detail the reorganization plan of the law enforcement division and included a discussion of the Board's decision to allow DEO's to carry the Glock if they met the qualifications. Mr. Miller stated he had read a letter to the Committee from Arthur Williams concerning his resignation, and the Committee had reluctantly accepted Mr.



Williams' resignation. Mr. Miller stated that he would like to nominate Knox Haynsworth to fill this unexpired term, Mr. Pendarvis seconded this nomination and the Board approved Mr. Haynsworth's nomination to the Natural Resources Enforcement Advisory Committee.

IX. Missions, Goals, & Strategic Planning

There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

X. Policy Review

Caroline Agardy reported that the policies were still being reviewed by the divisions and she hoped to have a report in the near future concerning this matter.

XI. Comments

Mr. Pendarvis stated that several meetings ago the Board had voted to make Bennetts Point a top priority of the Board and he would like to know the status of this matter. Dr. Timmerman distributed a letter from James Duke giving a status of this project (copy attached to the original Minutes) .

XII. Executive Session

Mr. Pendarvis moved for the Board to hold an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Mr. Haynsworth seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Board. Chairman Burnside announced that, at this time, the Board would hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

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RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

The regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

Mr. Miller made a motion to follow staff recommendations concerning the purchase of 95 acres in Spartanburg County for a dove field. Mr. Haynsworth seconded and the motion was approved.

XIII. Time and Location of Next Board Meeting

There will no meeting during the month of June and the next Board meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, July 14, 1995, in Columbia, SC.

XIV. Adjournment

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

