

MINUTES

S. C. WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION
Ramada Inn, Columbia, South Carolina
November 15, 1974

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at Ramada Inn, Columbia, South Carolina on November 15, 1974 at 10:00 a.m. with Vice Chairman Glenn presiding in Chairman Hudson's absence. Other Commissioners present were Boykin, Buchanan, Harris, Lumpkin, Rhame, and newly appointed Commissioner Bennett. Other present were Mr. Webb, Dr. Timmerman, Mr. Belangia, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Fuller, Dr. Joseph, Mr. Culler, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Pendarvis, Mr. Chastain, Mr. Flood, Mr. Logan, and various other staff members. Advisor Lawson Hayes was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

ITEM I. READING OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: Minutes were approved as mailed out.

Commissioner Glenn recognized visitors who were Dr. Jacqueline Jacobs with the Wildlife Federation, Mayor Ashley, Mr. Leland, Mr. Hayes, and welcomed Mr. Bennett as new Commissioner.

Dr. Timmerman commented on what he considered the role of the Executive Director and went over some of the plans he has in his new position. He asked for full support and guidance from the Commission. Commissioner Glenn requested that the Executive Director keep the Commission fully informed of what is going on. Commissioner Harris suggested that at some future date, the Commission draw up a recommended procedure for Dr. Timmerman to follow.

ITEM II. OLD BUSINESS:

A. INDEXING OF MINUTES: Wash Belangia reported that we are in the process of doing this and have gone back for one year and indexed the material in each month, and will now go back and index the material by item. He asked for a couple of months on this.

B. LEGISLATION - LAW ENFORCEMENT: Commissioner Harris stated that a meeting was held to discuss changing trespass laws and the Advisory Board recommends that we continue to operate under present laws and not try to get new legislation at this time. A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the recommendation of the Advisory Board.

The question of whether or not we would enforce trespass laws in the marine situation was discussed. The Advisory Board recommends that we do enforce trespass laws on shellfish leases. These areas are mapped under the lease system. Dr. Joseph noted that the law indicates that there is no intent to prevent another party from being on the water and that trespassing in this case would be actually removing shellfish from the leased areas. We can make the Conservation Officers aware of the boundaries and this will have to be defined for the Officers. It was decided that Mr. Ryan would write



whatever is necessary for the Officers as to the procedures and methods. The leases are limited to S. C. residents or firms. It was decided that this will be held in abeyance until the next meeting so that this may be looked into further. There was no objection.

It was noted that a letter of notification to the Non-Pay Conservation Officers was sent out informing them that they are not covered by the state under our Workmen's Compensation, etc. This was considered adequate by the Commission.

Commissioner Harris suggested that Mr. Ryan consider deputizing for additional enforcement help during this time, and Mr. Ryan stated that we have been using the non-pay people more.

The Advisory Board thinks that we should proceed with the proposed Hunter Safety Program under a volunteer basis at this time.

Commissioner Rhame has suggested that a joint meeting of these two Advisory Boards be held to take up certain mutual problems. It will be held at Eutaw Springs on December 19th at 10:00 am and asked the Commission to consider having their regular meeting on the 20th there. There was no objection and this information will be passed on to the Chairman.

It was also noted that there is a maintenance problem at Belmont and this should be looked into.

C. INVENTORY OF REAL PROPERTY AND DEPARTMENTAL EQUIPMENT:
It was reported that this is still in progress and going well. Mr. Flood is still working on this.

D. RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR MARINE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH FACILITY:
Rebidding on this facility has been done on the facility only and does not include the dormitory or storage space. The bids ran from \$2,318,000 to \$1,081,549 and does not include furniture or architects fees. We have enough money for construction only. Need approximately one-quarter of a million dollars for equipment. Chairman Hudson has recommended going ahead and approving low bid and request the necessary bonding funds to get the additional money needed for equipment. A summary of bids was passed out to the Commission. The low bidder is Palmetto Construction Co. A motion was made that we proceed on this to get the building up. It was seconded and passed.

E. AWARD OF ARCHITECTURAL CONTRACT PHASE II, DENNIS CENTER AND ARCHITECTURAL PANEL: Ned Pendarvis reported that we have approximately thirty-five (35) interested firms and are in the process of reviewing their resumes. Have met with the Budget & Control Board and determined a way to proceed with guidelines and judging on these firms. Will screen these down to about seven firms and invite each of the seven to present their package. Three will be recommended to the Commission and upon their approval these will be submitted to the Budget & Control



If this meets with the approval of the Commission we will set a date and invite any of the Commission members to attend. Also, in conjunction with this, we have met with the Budget & Control Board and they suggested that we might empanel a group of architects and use them for small projects for a period of eighteen months on a retainer basis and rotate them. We have advertised in the four major papers in the state and have received about fifteen so far.

F. AGE-BONA FIDE OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATION: Belangia reported that this is being researched by Cotty and Latimer and has been submitted to Attorney General McLeod for his opinion. The original law said that age was a bona fide occupational qualification for Law Enforcement personnel and the most recent law this year left that portion out. This is the 21-40 years of age law.

G. EDUCATION FUND FOR CONSERVATION OFFICERS: Timmerman reported that very recently we have met with some people from Winchester and are in the process of working on restrictions on this. This would be a scholarship fund set up for children of persons in Law Enforcement that were killed in the line of duty. We have received several donations already for a National Foundation.

H. APPOINTMENT: Commissioner Rhame stated that there is a vacancy on the Advisory Board for Game & Freshwater Fisheries and that they have proposed that Dan Marett be appointed to fill this vacancy. A motion was made, seconded and approved on this. Will meet on November 26th at Ft. Johnson. Commissioner Glenn asked that Chairman Hudson write a letter to Mr. Marett informing him of this appointment and send a copy to Commissioner Rhame and that Rhame also write a letter to Mr. Marett.

I. BETHEA WILL: Belangia reported in Mr. Latimer's absence that we have received a letter back accepting our declining of the Will.

J. RESOLUTION: McNEILL AND BENTON: Timmerman passed out copies of the resolutions drawn up on Howell and Cantey, and they have been approved and drawn up for signature by Chairman Hudson. Also drafts of resolutions for McNeill and Benton were approved.

K. BOAT LANDING - LAKE MOULTRIE: Timmerman asked Mac Flood to report on this. There is a slight change in the exact location but will proceed with this landing in the general area. We have to obtain a Corp of Engineers permit and will then proceed with design.

L. Mr. Webb told the Commission that in 1971 the Department acquired 125 acres from Major Jones and at that time we agreed to recommend to the Commission the recovery of a certain 3 acres back to Major Jones. A sketch of the property was passed out. It was decided that the Commission is not prepared to make a decision at this time, but will appoint a committee to look into this and



make a recommendation to the Commission. We will let Major Jones know something within thirty (30) days.

ITEM III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. HYDRAULIC CLAM DREDGING; Appearance of Mr. James Leland and Major Ashley: Dr. Joseph reported that he has sent out a letter to the Commission recommending five points in this matter. He went over these with the group. At the present time there are ten permits issued, with three out of state and seven locally owned boats or dealers. Mr. Leland and Major Ashley expressed their hopes that in the future these permits will be issued only to S. C. residents and recommends that the Commission approve Dr. Joseph's recommendations. Proposes to do an assesment and recommends strongly that all public areas be closed while this assesment is being done. Commissioner Lumpkin made the motion that Dr. Joseph be allowed to proceed with the five points he brought out in the best manner he feels. The motion was seconded and passed.

B. GENERAL TRESPASSING AND OUT-OF-STATE HUNTER TRESPASS: Timmerman reported that we are looking into this to see what would be the best possible means of controlling this situation. Jeff Fuller asked that he work on this with Timmerman and Ryan. Timmerman suggested that Commissioner Harris take this under advisement with his Advisory Board and/or Commissioner Rhame's Advisory Board. It was requested that the staff get information on this and it will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Commissioner Glenn appointed a temporary committee of Commissioner Boykin and Commissioner Buchanan to work with Mr. Webb and Mr. Latimer and report at the next meeting on the 3 acres of land for Major Jones.

C. SALARY REVIEW COMMITTEE: Timmerman reported that the Commission has received this information and this was approved by them.

D. RECLASSIFICATION OF CONSERVATION OFFICERS: Timmerman reported that concerning the \$500 differential between officer and Supervisor and when a man that has been with the Department for several years he reaches his limit and his salary is frozen. State personnel will review this and we will make them aware of this problem. Mr. Ryan has already initiated this by requesting in letter form for this to be looked into.

E. DIVISION REPORTS: GAME & FRESHWATER FISHERIES: Jeff Fuller asked Joe Logan to make a film presentation on the Trout Fishery at Lake Jocassee. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: Belangia reported that Bill Cotty passed his Bar Exam and has been sworn in. Also, that he and his wife have a new baby girl. Commissioner Glenn asked the Commission to take note of this and appointed a committee of Timmerman, Culler, and Chairman Hudson to recognize the two great events in Bill Cotty's life and make some kind of presentation to him.



Commissioner Glenn appointed Commissioner Boykin to serve on the selection of architects. Boykin accepted.

F. ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS: Commissioner Lumpkin stated that they will meet again on December 12th and extended an invitation to the Commission to attend.

G. APPOINTMENTS: Timmerman reported that we have five positions that need to be created and that we have the money to hire them this year, but do not have the necessary money to continue their jobs next year. One has already been approved in Williamsburg County, one needed in Colleton and Barnwell Counties, one in the marine area and another for a pilot. After some dicussion on this, it was recommended that Timmerman be authorized to go ahead and hire these five people and go before the Senate Finance and Ways & Means Committee to request additional money. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this.

All appointments that were mailed out were approved by the Commission subject to the approval of the resident Commissioners. This is paid and non-pay.

Appointment of T. E. Magnum as a non-pay was approved subject to the approval of Law Enforcement.

QUATTLEBAUM DIKE: Mr. Webb reported on this and recommends that under restricted conditions we grant this request. Commissioner Lumpkin stated that the conditions would be that the land must be fenced, that he shoot that field only on the days that is shot by the Department and that he would be required to sign an agreement to this effect. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving this.

Timmerman reminded the Commission of a party to be held for Mr. Webb's retirement at the National Guard Armory in Columbia on November 20, 1974 and invited wives to attend.

The meeting was adjourned and the Commission went into Executive Session. This will be followed by a luncheon honoring Conservation Officer of the Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Stapleton

(Miss) Chris Stapleton,
Secretary to the Commission

cs/

