

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT BELMONT NOVEMBER 28, 1962

Present were Commissioners Johnson, Cox, Cantey and Heyward, Director Webb, Division Chiefs Nelson, Fuller and Ryan and all biologists of the Game and Fish Divisions.

Frank Nelson gave a report on the public hunt program, saying that 121 deer had been killed on the upper Piedmont and 91 on the lower Piedmont, this not taking in the Francis Marion nor hunts on some land under lease agreement with International Paper Company. He added that some studies would be necessary this spring and summer before setting regulations for next fall.

He said that Bear Island duck populations seemed about the same as last year on the basis of the first two hunts. He said that on the first hunt 14 guns killed 24 ducks and 16 coots while on the second 20 guns killed 30 ducks and 19 coots. He added that the kill would be much higher except for the inexperience of most of the hunters.

Mr. Johnson inquired as to the possibilities of stocking deer on and around the Camp Croft area.

Mr. Johnson said that he would like information on just how much had been spent on acquisition of waterfowl lands and also some clarification as to how Pittman-Robertson funds can be spent.

Mr. Johnson also stated that Director Lunz was not in favor of spending money for radios in inspectors' cars and on motion of Mr. Cox action on this was deferred.

The question of boat ramps in Laurens county on Lake Greenwood was brought up and after some discussion a motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that Director Webb follow through on this.

Director Webb said there has been some correspondence with Congressman Dorn regarding crop damage by deer in some Piedmont counties and what could be done to prevent such damage or pay the crop-owners. He said that under the law no funds are available to pay crop damage and payment of claims might set a precedent and lead to heavy claims from other sections.



A motion of Mr. Heyward was adopted that the matter be received as information.

A number of appointments and reappointments on which recommendations had been sent were approved, subject to approval by the Commissioner concerned if absent or prior approval by phone or letter.

Action in the suspension of Warden Carlisle Jones was held in abeyance.

Director Webb reported that the Department was receiving \$61,234 in Dingell-Johnson funds and \$144,787 in Pittman-Robertson funds, all of which would have to be allocated or obligated by July 1, 1964.

The matter of a large boat for the Boating Division was held over in the absence of Mr. Welch.

The appointment of Leonard Shannon as a Richland warden was approved, subject to further check by Mr. Cantey and Director Webb.

The appointment of Johnny Clayton as a Dorchester warden was approved, as was a recommendation that Ed Wrenn, presently employed by the Department in Berkeley county, be commissioned.

Mr. Johnson read a letter from Auditor J. M. Smith in which Mr. Smith said that the appointment of Horace Jacks as assistant pilot would be approved if he moved to Columbia and fulfilled the duties of the title; but he could not be approved if he performed duties not fulfilling the title. Director Webb added there would be no objection from the Budget and Control Board if the title were changed to game warden but Mr. Jacks was over the 40-year limit established by the Commission.

A motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that action be deferred until such time as Commissioner Hopkins was present.

Mr. Johnson said that he would contact Mr. Jacks and inform him of this.

Mr. Johnson then outlined the purposes of inviting the biologists to attend a Commission meeting, saying it had been suggested by Mr. Heyward. The purposes were to allow the Commissioners to meet the biologists and to learn more about their projects. He said that since the Commission was probably more familiar with the



fisheries projects he would not call on the biologists of this Division but would like the game biologists and project leaders to tell of their work.

Archie Barron, Manning--area manager of the Santee-Cooper game development project, told of the work on the waterfowl sanctuaries in Clarendon and Orangeburg counties. He said that there were so many hunters that it was impossible to build up shokable populations off the sanctuaries and since the land was under lease from Santee-Cooper it could not be improved, although populations in the area had been built up.

Walt Schrader, 428 Pickens Court, Rock Hill--District Two biologist, described work on the management areas in his district--five of them upstate and the other at Belmont. The Belmont operations consist of the plant nursery work, food study research, introduction of exotics, studies of land use techniques for various game species. In addition to the hunts upstate on the management areas studies were carried on as to development of dove areas in pine lands and controlled burning, these being with Forest Service cooperation.

Dr. Lloyd Webb, 238 Grove Drive, Clemson--described the Clemson research project, including deer and turkey studies and work on quail, doves and waterfowl. The deer studies have included population checks, forage evaluation, browse studies and harvest.

John Quillen, Moncks Corner--District Three biologist, told of the work and progress on the management areas in his district, which includes the Francis Marion. He said the pulp company lands acquired under lease agreement are furnishing more public hunting.

Phil Wilkinson, Georgetown, S. C.,--Assistant district biologist of District Three, told of development of Dirleton and of the successful opening of the Santee waterfowl area.

Robert Gooding, McClellanville--also an assistant biologist in this district



described the management: hunts on the Waterhorn and Wambaw and also the start of the project to learn more about increasing quail populations in pine lands.

Tom Gaylord, Greenwood--District One biologist, said the management areas in his district were building up good game and turkey population and the public hunts were becoming more and more popular.

Hugh Junca, 101 Barren Street, Union--District Two assistant biologist, reported on development work and the public hunts programs in the district.

Warren Blandin, 2722 North Street, Beaufort--project leader on the marsh hen study, stated that this was almost entirely a research study involving life history of the bird, nest predation, favored nesting sites, hunter checks, weights and sex ratios. He stated that the coon was much the worse predator.

Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for attending and the following fisheries biologists were introduced: Bob Stevens, Moncks-Corner--Santee-Cooper; Otho May, Saluda--up-state reservoirs; Joe Logan, Columbia--farm pond consultant and in charge of hatcheries; and Bill Williams, Abbeville--assistant to Mr. May.

Eddie Finlay

