

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
October 17, 1986
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., October 17, 1986, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., with Vice-Chairman Compton presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included Commissioners Compton, Harrelson, Owen, Stokes and Thomason. Directors and Staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Bill Chastain, Paul Sandifer, Brock Conrad, Sonny Baines and various other staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the September 19, 1986 Commission Meeting and approved them as submitted.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that he had personnel, contractual and legal matters to discuss with the Commission. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss personnel, contractual and legal matters. Commissioner Thomason seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Vice-Chairman announced that the Commission would hold an Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss personnel, contractual and legal matters.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that he was developing a proposed study for our Marine law enforcement program to include the appointment of a citizens group to develop recommendations for this program into the future. He noted that this study committee would develop various recommendations which would be presented to the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board and the Commission for appropriate action in the future. Following discussion, the Commission agreed for Dr. Timmerman to follow through in the development and implementation of this study.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the normal meeting date for the Commission in November is November 21st and most of the staff will be at the Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in Baltimore, Maryland at that time. As such, he recommended that the Commission consider meeting on November 14, 1986. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to hold its next meeting



on November 14, 1986 at 10:00 A.M. in Columbia.

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposed Recommendations on Shrimp Baiting: Commissioner Harrelson noted the Marine Resources Advisory Board met recently and discussed the issue of shrimp baiting and has developed various recommendations for consideration by the Commission. These recommendations were distributed to the Commission and discussed by Commissioner Harrelson and Paul Sandifer (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following this discussion, Mr. James Yeargin of the S. C. Recreational Shrimpers Association presented various comments and recommendations from their organization to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion of Mr. Yeargin's recommendations, several other individuals presented comments to the Commission concerning this matter, noting that a limit of 20 quarts per boat is too low a limit and not reasonable for consideration. Following extensive discussion by the Commission of the shrimp baiting issue and the associated law enforcement problems, Commissioner Harrelson moved to delay consideration of these recommendations until the November 14, 1986 meeting of the Commission. Commissioner Stokes seconded this motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves advised the Commission that he is working on permanent improvements in Barnwell and renovations of the Marshlands House at the Marine Center. He further advised that engineering expertise for rifle range construction in Pickens and Spartanburg is being sought and advertisements have been placed by November 10th for a response. Mr. Reeves advised the Commission that a new financial report would be ready for presentation to the Commission in February, 1987. Mr. Reeves briefed the Commission on progress with the Personnel Study, noting that target dates have been met and he welcomed any comments or response from the Commissioners on this matter.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: John Frampton distributed a draft questionnaire concerning the September hunting issue for the Commissioners input. He asked the Commissioners to provide him any comments they may have as this will be proposed to be finalized at the next Commission Meeting. Commissioner Owen noted that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board has recommended that the staff reasons for the existing hunting season be included on the questionnaire in order to clarify our current position concerning this matter.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain noted that changes for the summer uniform have been developed. R. M. Gifford went over these changes and showed the new uniform materials to the Commission for their information.

4. Conservation Education & Communications: Johnny Evans reported that the press outing was held recently at Bonneau Ferry and it was the best outing, attendance-wise, that we have ever held and everything went very well. Dr. Timmerman recommended that Chairman Webster write a letter to Westvaco to thank



them for allowing us to use Bonneau Ferry to host this press outing in the past.

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report. Commissioner Harrelson noted that the Marine Staff is continuing to run tests on the Trawling Efficiency Devices.

B. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted several items discussed by the Board have already been considered by the Commission and he went over other items that were discussed at the Board Meeting.

Following this discussion, Vice-Chairman Compton relieved himself of chairing the meeting to Commissioner Owen. At that time, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to reconsider its previous action on steel shot in those counties other than Georgetown. Commissioner Thomason seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Commissioner Harrelson moved to carry this matter over to the next meeting. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. At this time, Vice-Chairman Compton reassumed the chair from Commissioner Owen.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: There was nothing further to report and R. M. Gifford distributed copies of the Minutes of this meeting.

3. Marine Resources: Commissioner Harrelson noted that he did not have anything further to report from the Marine Resources Advisory Board Meeting.

C. Other Remarks: There were no further remarks from the Commission.

At this time, the Commission recessed the Regular Meeting to hold an Executive Session previously approved in the Meeting.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the Regular Meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the Meeting. Vice-Chairman Compton asked Commissioner Harrelson to report on the actions taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Harrelson reported that the Commission adopted motions concerning the following matters:

1. The Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) and revoked the DWCO commission of Samuel Howard, Jr., and carried over DWCO re-appointment I-A-3. In



addition, the Commission approved the appointment of new applicants for Conservation Officer positions.

2. In reference to the McCall Farms litigation, the offer of settlement by McCall Farms was rejected by the Commission and the Department's General Counsel was instructed to continue negotiations pending the appeal.
3. The Commission adopted a motion whereby a MAI appraiser would be selected by the Department to do an appraisal on an easement on the Department's property at the Murrells Inlet Boat Ramp, with this appraisal being paid for by the Belin Board of Trust, and the Belin Board of Trust may select a second appraiser also which would be paid for by them, and the Commission would abide by this appraisal to provide an easement to the Belin Board of Trust.

Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to adopt and ratify these actions. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Appointments: This item was previously acted upon by the Commission.

E. Time and Place of Next Meeting: This item was previously acted upon by the Commission.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Regular Meeting, a motion was adopted to adjourn.

