

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA OCTOBER 28, 1960

Present were Commissioners Warren, Cox, Johnson, Cantey and Tison, Directors Webb and Lunz, Mr. Welch and Mr. Schley.

Chairman Warren said that he had instructed the Secretary to add \$500 to the budget of the Administrative Division for additional expenses incident to hearings on oyster leases.

He also stated that the Attorney General has indicated he will go along with the opinion prepared by Mr. Cox in regard to the fishing pier tax.

The possibility of a rebate of some portion of the state gasoline tax to the Department's Division of Boating for access and landing areas, based on the portion paid by motor boat owners, was discussed and Mr. Johnston was asked to make a study of the situation. The Secretary was instructed to get copies of acts of other states in regard to this matter, along with any other pertinent material.

The danger to fish and wildlife through wide-scale use of certain pesticides was discussed, Chairman Warren saying that he had been requested by the Charleston Wildlife Federation to urge further studies. It was brought out that the Commission had some time ago adopted a resolution urging this.

A planned project by Clemson to study the effectiveness of certain pesticides in wiping out the boll weevil was brought up and Director Webb said that he would get in touch with Clemson in regard to this. The pesticides matter was referred to Directors Webb and Lunz.

Mr. Cox then took up his findings and recommendations in regard to two oyster leases. In the matter of Sam S. Williams, Applicant, opposed by East Cherry Grove Development Company, Cherry Grove Development Company and C. D. Nixon he recommended that the application be not granted, this recommendation being approved and made an order of the Commission. However, the recommendation stated that certain matters of ownership should be settled by the Attorney General.



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In Mt. Pleasant Seafood Company, W. D. Toler, Applicant, opposed by Mrs. W. H. Barnwell, Dr. B. H. Boltjes, et al., Protestants, Mr. Cox recommended that the application be granted "provided no applications in the proper form be filed with the Division of Commercial Fisheries for preference as set out in Section 28-812.1 of the 1952 Code, as amended, and if such applications are made prior to granting of a lease to Toler that the applicants must be granted reasonable--not beyond January 7--time in which to establish their right to such preference and complete details leading up to a lease as required by law."

Director Webb stated that he would make a report on the Hampton public fishing lake at the next meeting.

A number of appointments for non-pay and regular wardens were approved, including one for Hugh Lane, which had already been processed.

The appointment of Mr. Fewell as a York warden to succeed John Clinton was approved, along with the dismissal of Clinton.

The proposed purchase of 339 acres of land extending into the Belmont area was approved, Director Webb stating that the Fish and Wildlife Service had given its approval as a federal aid project.

The purchase of two acres of land adjoining Lake Wallace in Bennettsville was discussed, Director Webb stating it was badly needed for protection from possible undesirable tenancy and also for parking. A motion of Mr. Cox approving the purchase was adopted, Mr. Tison abstaining and Mr. Johnson voting in opposition.

Director Lunz exhibited a number of maps and charts on oyster lease areas, saying that they demonstrated what is being done and the problems that are faced in determining ownership and proper assessment.

The question of establishing marsh land ownership was discussed and Director Webb was asked to push the proposed study, with efforts to see what could be done in cooperation with Director Lunz.

*Eddie Finlay*

