

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING SEPT. 12, 1956

The South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission met September 12 at 2 o'clock in the Commission office. Vice-Chairman Edwin Johnson conducted the meeting in the absence of Chairman George Warren. Commissioners Huggins, Hopkins, Cantey, and Cox were present. Mr. Richardson, Mr. Webb, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Wade, Chief Law Enforcement Officer Chandler and Supervisors Ross, Bundrick, McKerley, Flood and Gregg attended the meeting.

Mr. Johnson opened the meeting by complimenting Mr. Chandler and his Supervisors. He said that the Department has as good a law enforcement chief as any in the country. He also complimented the Supervisors on how well they looked at the Federation meeting, held the morning of the Commission meeting at Russell House.

Mr. Johnson welcomed the Supervisors and asked if they had any special problems. These were discussed with Mr. Richardson and the Commission. The Vice-Chairman said that he appreciated the Supervisors attending the meeting and requested that they come back again in the near future.

Two members of the York County delegation, who had requested to attend the meeting, were introduced. They were the Honorable Foy Dickson and John Beatty Harvey. They said that they wanted a sound wildlife program in York County. Reps. Dickson and Harvey requested a quail hatchery and a biologist to work on the Catawba River and lake and farm ponds. Mr. Johnson suggested they also consider two-way car radios for the Game Wardens.

Mr. Cox recommended and moved -"That Mr. Webb, Mr. Chandler and Mr. Fuller confer with the York Delegation with a view of working out a plan or plans which would consider the propagation of fish, use of radios for wardens' cars, a quail hatchery and a farm pond biologist. Also that they should confer as to other progressive understanding that may be developed."



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This was seconded by Mr. Hopkins and approved by the Commission. Mr. Dickson asked if they could expect a report at their next meeting and Mr. Webb asked that the Delegation notify Mr. Richardson or him when they wanted to call a meeting. Mr. Richardson said if these men were given two or three days notice that they would be there.

Mr. Wade added that he would like to include education aspects and that he would like for York County to have these benefits of educational values, too. Mr. Richardson told Mr. Wade to go along with Mr. Fuller, Mr. Chandler and Mr. Webb to discuss educational benefits as well as the other requests for York County.

Mr. Cox moved that appreciation for the York County delegation's visit be recorded.

Mr. Richardson brought up the re-appointments of the following salaried Game Wardens: Adam H. Clayton, Dorchester County; John W. Cheatham, Edgefield County and John R. Gamble, Williamsburg County. They were approved by the Commission for re-appointments. George W. Fennel was appointed as a Game Warden in Colleton County to replace H. L. Mangham, who has recently resigned. This was approved. James E. Tuten, Hampton County, J. C. Livingston of Horry County, and W. E. Garren of Anderson County were recommended by Mr. Richardson and approved as non-pay Game Wardens by the Commission. Freeman W. Lee, Horry County, Robert M. Gifford, Greenville County, and Henry Lyndal Lee, Jr., of Darlington County were approved by the Commission as Game Wardens.

Mr. Richardson read a letter from T. H. Holder, Coordinator of Federal Aid and Director of Operations of Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.



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Mr. Holder said that the Commission would like to get some South Carolina striped bass for release in one of the large impoundments of Arkansas.

Mr. Richardson quoted from the letter: "We would like to receive permission to send some of our personnel and equipment to catch the fish and transport them to Arkansas." Mr. Richardson said the only thing he could suggest would be to get fish out of one or two sanctuaries, but that this was prohibited except for scientific purposes. He said that these sanctuaries were created by the county delegations and permission would have to come from the delegations. Mr. Cantey asked if this wouldn't be a scientific experiment. Mr. Huggins moved that this matter be taken up by Mr. Fuller to see what could be done. Mr. Johnson said this should be done on the basis that the Arkansas Commission give the South Carolina Department the findings of this experiment. Mr. Cox added that he thought that this would be a good sign of cooperation and Mr. Richardson added that the Department had received similar requests from Missouri, North Carolina and Georgia. Mr. Webb stated that the Department had stocked these fish in Lake Greenwood but did not know the results of this stocking and that perhaps Arkansas would profit by waiting until the results were known. Mr. Johnson said that he thought we should cooperate with Arkansas, if possible. Mr. Richardson said that he would write the Berkeley County delegation and it was decided that Mr. Webb should confer with Mr. Holder on this subject.

Mr. Hopkins said that he wanted help for his "hill-billy" boys, in his area, Anderson and Greenville Counties. He further stated that he wanted to stock large white catfish in these areas to be released in public waters.

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Mr. Cox moved that the Commission approve an effort to stock public waters in the Piedmont section.

Mr. Johnson said that he thought that this move would be good publicity. He added that the trucks should be plainly marked and Mr. Hopkins that this should be given newspaper space. Mr. Richardson said that he was in favor of this move. Mr. Huggins told of the publicity he had been given in the newspapers in Horry County when a similar move was made.

Mr. Cox moved that: "The Commission go on record as approving an effort to stock certain public waters in the Piedmont as presented by Mr. Hopkins and that this program be handled at the earliest possible time."

Mr. Cantey seconded this motion and the Commission approved this project of Mr. Hopkins'.

Mr. Hopkins said he would handle the publicity in Greenville and Anderson counties.

Mr. Webb read a letter from the Union Bag Company in which this company invited the Commission to a deer hunt September 27-28. This letter was from Paul Slocomb who stated that the Company had to limit the number of invitations this year to the hunt. Mr. Slocomb enclosed printed invitations. A special invitation was given to Chief Richardson and also to Judge Taylor. Mr. Webb said that he had to know how many men were going as Mr. Slocomb had limited the invitations.

Mr. Huggins brought up the subject of the screw worm and was told by Mr. Richardson that everything was being done that could be done but that only cold weather and a freeze would really help this condition.





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Mr. Fuller recommended a raise for his secretary, and this was approved by the Commission. Mr. Cox moved that the Commission vote for this and Mr. Huggins seconded the motion.

Mr. Cantey wanted to know how the finances of the Department stood in the Commercial Fisheries Division.

Mr. Huggins said that unless there were some changes in the fishing laws that things would continue in a bad fix.

Mr. Huggins moved that the Commission get someone to re-write the laws, have Mr. Seabrook make some good suggestions and changes that should be made in the salt water fisheries laws. A discussion followed about Commercial Fisheries and the convictions there. Mr. Hopkins wanted to know if the Fisheries could be divorced from the Game Department.

Mr. Huggins mentioned the amusement tax on the fishing piers that was being collected. Mr. Richardson said he wished that the amusement tax could be repealed and come to the Department. Mr. Huggins agreed with this. Mr. Cantey asked if this tax was State or Federal tax and Mr. Huggins said that it was State.

Mr. Richardson suggested that perhaps Mr. Seabrook could write out all laws he wanted amended and submit his suggestions to the Commission then the Commission could submit this to the Legislature.

Mr. Johnson suggested that Mr. Chandler get ideas from the Supervisors, and Mr. Webb and Mr. Finlay revise the Game and Fish Laws. Mr. Seabrook and Mr. Lutz of Bears Bluff would write the laws for the Commercial Division.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Cantey if he would like to make a motion in this matter.



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Mr. Cantey "Moved that Mr. Chandler, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Webb and Mr. Finlay re-write the laws, then the same group get together with Mr. Fuller of the freshwater fisheries, then with Mr. Seabrook and Mr. Lunz of the salt water fisheries."

Mr. Cantey moved that this revision and re-writing of the laws be started immediately. Mr. Richardson said that he thought it could be done by December 15. Mr. Hopkins seconded Mr. Cantey's motion and the Commission approved this motion.

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting after this last matter was discussed.

*Eddie Finlay*



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