

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION
IN COLUMBIA
SEPTEMBER 15, 1964

Present were all Commissioners except Mr. Oliphant and the following personnel--
Director Webb, Director Lunz, Assistant Director Ryan and Chief of Fisheries Fuller.

Senator A. P. Williams, Allendale, and Rep. Ed Mixson of Allendale appeared to request the appointment of Bailey Aull as Allendale warden, both legislators saying that they believed he would be a credit to the Department.

After some discussion Mr. Cox moved that the Commission consider the statements of Senator Williams and Mr. Mixson and that they be received as information and that the Commission assure them the matter would be considered and that they would be notified as soon as action was taken.

Mr. Webb said that the access area to a landing on the Savannah in Allendale county was being completed and that he would check on the well that would be constructed there.

Mr. Johnson said that due to the Palmetto Bluff meeting being called off he had been unable to get together with Mr. Cox and Mr. Cantey regarding the suggestion that there be someone between the supervisors and the wardens.

A delegation from the Bird Dog Association then appeared before the Commission to discuss a proposal for an area that could be used for field trials and other activities. Members of the delegation were: Dr. Frank B. Hines, Jr., Columbia; Cecil Amick, Cayce; J. T. Langley, Moncks Corner; Frank McLaughlin, Florence; Charles K. Young, Rt. 2, Cassatt; and Bob Montgomery, Camden.

Mr. Amick explained the purpose of the visit, saying that times have changed and less and less land is available for field trials and other outdoor recreation and unless something is done soon it will be too late. He said that the group was interested in getting help in finding a place to run bird dogs. He mentioned the work done in North Carolina and briefly described their field trial area. He also distributed North Carolina and Kentucky magazines describing what has been done in these states.



It was suggested that the best possibility was some of the sand hill land upstate.

In answer to a question from Major Cantey, Mr. Amick said 6,000-7,000 acres was the minimum amount needed.

Doctor Hines said the bird dog men were not asking for a handout and mentioned the plan under which each dog in a field trial is charged \$1. He cited the Mid-Carolina Classic in Camden as an example of what could be done and Mr. Montgomery described this. He said an established place that could be used by other groups was needed.

Mr. Webb asked how it would be to have two or three areas in close proximity instead of a solid tract.

Dr. Hines said the group wanted the support of the Commission and then would be ready to approach the Forestry Commission in regard to getting some of the State Forest land.

Mr. Johnson said the Commission had discussed similar projects in the past but this was the first time any outside interests had asked for such a project.

Mr. Cox asked how much trouble it would be to present "page by page" in written form the matters that had been presented orally, saying that this would make it easier for the Commission to study the proposition.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Webb to get Frank Nelson to look into all possibilities of available land and make it the first order of business.

A motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that the group "present the Commission with the complete story and that this be received as information with assurance that the group will hear from the Commission at the earliest possible time."

Mr. Webb said that the group might also want to approach the U. S. Forest Service.

Mr. Johnson said he thought it would be best to find out all possible about ownership of land that might be available.

All non-pay wardens whose names had been approved were ordered commissioned but Mr. Tison said he would like to hold up temporarily the naming of a regular warden in his district.



Mr. Cox then reported on some oyster hearing matters with Mr. Heyward moving that his findings be accepted and approved as action of the Commission.

A request of Dr. Lunz that he be allowed to spend approximately \$1,000 of pier tax money for a tractor was approved.

The Allendale warden matter was then brought up on suggestion of Mr. Heyward. Mr. Webb and Mr. Ryan discussed the matter briefly, and a motion of Mr. Heyward was adopted that Mr. Webb write Senator Williams that "due to circumstances" it had been deemed best not to hire the man in question, but not to go into the specific reasons.

It was later suggested that Mr. Webb might call Senator Williams and discuss the matter with him.

It was agreed to carry over several matters that had been scheduled to come up, including a report on the Andersen report, the possibility of gasoline tax refund for money charged boaters and procedure.

The possibility of employing Bodie McDowell for the I&E Division was discussed and Mr. Ryan said he would talk with him before the next meeting. He said Mr. McDowell was now getting \$7,000.

Some letters that had been received regarding the duck season were discussed.

Mr. Heyward presented a suggestion from some Charleston hunters who had favored a split dove season for the two parts of the state but Mr. Webb said the Fish and Wildlife Service would not allow it. Mr. Heyward asked that a ruling be given in writing so he could pass it on.

A letter from a Charlotte movie firm asking financial help in making a movie of Santee-Cooper was discussed and it was agreed that they should be informed that the Department would cooperate in furnishing personnel and assistance but would not contribute financially. The Secretary was instructed to write them.

Mr. Johnson then asked that further consideration be given to the request of the Bird dog group.



Mr. Webb said that the 600-700 acres at Styx might be secured from the Budget and Control Board and the State could deed it to the Department.

Mr. Johnson said money spent on a project like that under discussion would mean much more to sportsmen than the money that has been spent on duck lands.

Mr. Tison suggested that the Chairman take up the matter of getting land by acquisition or lease and Mr. Johnson said it would be best to wait until Mr. Nelson makes his study and report.

Mr. Webb brought up the tract in Union county and said it would cost around \$92 an acre, which he considered high.

Mr. Webb also said he had been approached again by Frank Baldwin regarding acquisition of additional land adjoining Bear Island.

General discussion followed regarding the possibilities of the upstate acquisition of land for field trials and other purposes.

Eddie Finlay

