

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
September 18, 1987
10:00 A. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., September 18, 1987, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included: Commissioners Webster, Compton, Harrelson, Owen, Quackenbush, Thomason, Stokes and Bennett. Directors and Staff present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Sonny Baines, Brock Conrad, Bill Chastain, Benny Reeves, and various other individuals and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

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

Chairman Webster introduced Commissioner Thomason to make a presentation. Commissioner Thomason presented a check for \$24,423.07 on behalf of the Spartanburg Association of the Harry R. E. Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund, Inc. from the Spartanburg banquet to Charles L. Compton, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund. Mr. Compton expressed his sincere thanks to Commissioner Thomason for this check presentation and commended the individuals in Spartanburg that have organized and held the Spartanburg banquet for the past two (2) years.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the August 21, 1987 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that we presented our FY 88-89 budget recommendations to the Budget and Control Board on August 27, 1987 and that Chairman Webster was in attendance for this presentation.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he held a Staff Meeting in August at the Webb Center and during the next twelve (12) months, we hope to meet with the Commission to identify specific issues relating to short and long-range planning.



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Dr. Timmerman distributed to the Commission, a letter from the U. S. Forest Service requesting an increase in WMA funds to \$200,000. Dr. Timmerman noted that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is developing a survey on payments to the U. S. Forest Service in other states and this information will be available in the near future. Dr. Timmerman noted that he will ask the Commission for guidance on this matter at the October Commission Meeting.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the North American Waterfowl Plan is being developed and the various states have been asked to contribute funds for this Plan. John Frampton explained the North American Waterfowl Plan to the Commission and informed the Commission that the South Carolina Migratory Waterfowl Committee had recently approved \$50,000 to go toward this Plan.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that Representative Gene Foxworth has asked the Attorney General's Office for an opinion on several matters relating to the Dewees Island easement. Dr. Timmerman noted that we are cooperating fully with the Attorney General's Office on this matter and the main issue involves whether or not Budget and Control Board approval was required for this easement.

Dr. Timmerman noted that an oil spill occurred in December 1986 in the Savannah River and a settlement has been reached on this matter with the Department receiving \$240,000.

ITEM III. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dan Dobbins distributed a draft copy of the 1988 Legislative Proposal for the Department to the Commission. Mr. Dobbins noted that he will have a final report and Legislative Proposal to the Commission at the October Meeting.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposed Blue Catfish Legislation: Miller White noted that the proposed blue catfish legislation and recommendations were sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. White discussed these proposed changes in blue catfish legislation and noted that such had been thoroughly reviewed by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board and the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board. Following detailed discussion on this matter and comments from members of the public, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt the proposed changes in the legislation as recommended. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion. The motion was adopted with Commissioners Compton, Owen, Quackenbush and Stokes voting in favor of the motion and Commissioner Bennett voting against



the motion. In addition, Commissioner Owen moved for the Commission to adopt the proposed increase in license fees as presented in the proposal. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

B. Proposed Shooting Preserve Legislation: Brock Conrad noted that proposed revisions of shooting preserve statutes had been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Conrad went over the proposed changes in the shooting preserve statutes and discussed these with the Commission. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the proposed revisions of shooting preserve statutes as submitted.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed 1987 Fall Turkey Season: John Frampton noted that the proposed 1987 fall turkey season and regulations were sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Frampton discussed this proposal and following discussion, a motion was adopted by the Commission to approve the 1987 proposed fall turkey season and season recommendations as presented.

B. Proposed Heritage Trust Registration Agreements, Easements and Management Plans: Stuart Greeter noted that the proposed Heritage Trust Registration Agreements, Easements and Management Plans were sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Greeter discussed these proposals with the Commission and following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the Registration Agreements, Easements and Management Plans as presented.

C. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing further to report.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: John Frampton distributed to the Commission, an envelope with instructions for the use of doe tags which is being given to people issued doe tags this year.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain informed the Commission that an individual was recently given a \$1,000 fine and one (1) year in jail for illegal shrimping activities in the Beaufort area.

4. Conservation Education & Communications: Sonny Baines presented a Project WILD report to the Commission for their information.

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report.



D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commission Owen noted that he did not have anything further to report as items discussed by the Advisory Board had already been acted upon by the Commission.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Quackenbush noted that the Law Enforcement & Boating Advisory Board recommends to the Commission, the reappointment of W. D. Morris as a Commission appointee and it is recommended that Terry Ehrlich be recommended to the Governor for reappointment. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the Board's recommendation.

3. Marine Resources: Commissioner Harrelson noted that there was nothing further to report from the Board at this time.

4. Conservation Education & Communications: Commissioner Thomason went over the items discussed at the recent Board Meeting. He noted that the Board is looking at a committee to develop an education plan for the Department. Other items discussed at the Board Meeting were presented to the Commission for information.

5. Heritage Trust: There was no further report from the Heritage Trust Advisory Board at this time.

Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session at this time to discuss personnel and legal matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that the Commission would now recess the regular meeting to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

The following actions were then taken by the Commission:

- A. Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve a lease between the Department and the University of South Carolina at Beaufort. Commissioner Thomason seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.
- B. Commissioner Bennett moved for the Commission to approve a new promotion policy for Buck Sergeant (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.



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- C. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve the appointments and reappointments of Conservation Officers, Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers, and promotions (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

E. Other Remarks: John Frampton informed the Commission that the Springfield Dedication would be held on October 25, 1987 and he asked the Commissioners for the names of any individuals that they would like to invite.

F. Appointments: This matter was acted upon by the Commission previously in the meeting.

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission had previously approved meeting in Kingstree on October 16, 1987 and Commissioner Stokes went over the schedule of events relating to this meeting.

ITEM VI. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting, a motion was adopted by the Commission to adjourn.

