

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT WINDY HILL SEPT. 4, 1954.

All members were present except Mr. Johnson. Also present were Mr. Webb, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Fuller and Mr. Wade.

Mr. Warren mentioned a letter he had received from Rep. I. A. Smoak of Colleton and reviewed the action of the Commission in regard to the appointment of Ralph Poole as a Colleton warden.

Mr. McKeithan said that he understood Mr. Poole was handling the licenses in the county, which ordinarily is done by the ranking warden. Mr. Webb explained that this was being done with the agreement of the other wardens and that Mr. Poole was receiving no extra mileage.

Mr. Warren said that he had been visited by Senator Rodgers of Beaufort, who said the county was badly in need of another warden because the geographical makeup of the county made it so hard to cover. The warden would be paid from funds credited to the county. Senator Rodgers suggested his son for the position if it were created.

On motion of Mr. McKeithan it was agreed to give Beaufort another warden to be paid from funds credited to the county and selected by Mr. Richardson with the approval of the district Commissioner.

A letter from Warden Smoak to the delegation was read stressing the need for another warden. It was agreed that Mr. Smoak should not have written the letter to the delegation but should have taken it up with the Director.

The situation in regard to the two boats to be secured from the federal government was discussed and Mr. Warren read a letter he had written to the legislative committee which is rewriting the commercial fishing laws.

The appointment of J. W. Cheatham as an Edgefield warden was approved if he meets the qualifications. Edgefield has only one warden and the new warden would be paid from funds credited to the county.

The appointment of William Bolick as a warden to fill a Fairfield vacancy was approved, subject to the approval of the district commissioner. Mr. Oliphant will notify Mr. Richardson after his investigation.

The reappointment of several wardens and non-pay wardens whose commissions had expired was approved.

The question of possible damage to marine resources by wool plants was brought up by Mr. Warren. He said that Bob Lunz had appeared before the Pollution Control Authority at a hearing in Moncks Corner.

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Mr. Warren also said that Mr. Lunz had told him that fresh water pollution can be very harmful to marine resources, particularly in time of drought and that he was sceptical of the effects of the wool plants, particularly the one at Jamestown.

Mr. Webb said that he understood that although the plant at Johnsonville plans treatment for its effluent, the one at Jamestown has no such plans.

Mr. Warren said that he had personally written Charlie Brice and given him what information he had on the basis of Mr. Lunz' beliefs and that perhaps the Commission should communicate officially with the Authority.

He also discussed previous letters he had written to the Authority and to the Planning Board and had been told corrective measures would be taken so as to protect wildlife resources.

Mr. Webb said that he had talked several times with Mr. Brice and with Bill Linton, executive officer of the Authority. They told him that the Authority can classify a stream but can take no action until pollution has occurred.

Mr. Fuller said that the Authority had taken no action on the reports of fish kills he had made to it.

It was agreed that the Director of the Division of Commercial Fisheries and the Director of Bears Bluff should study what effect the Jamestown plant would have on marine resources.

The Commission agreed that since it was entrusted with the protection of wildlife it was its duty to take what action it could.

The Secretary was instructed to phrase a letter to the Authority to be submitted to the Chairman for approval, as well as one to the Federation calling the other letter to its attention.

A request of the York delegation to authorize the expenditure of enough of its county funds to purchase a panel truck for its rescue squad was referred to Mr. Oliphant for investigation and report.

Mr. Cantey suggested that the Federation should formulate a resolution supporting the Commission's legislative program and requesting all chapters to approach their delegations for pledges of support.

The legislative recommendations were then discussed.

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It was agreed that it would be best for the Federation itself to write its chapters listing the legislative recommendations and urging support for them.

Mr. Webb stated that the game fund was overdrawn \$75,000 and there was a general discussion of how more earmarked funds might be made available and how expenses might be cut.

Mr. McKeithan, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Dillard were appointed to a committee to discuss the closing of the Spartanburg quail hatchery.

Mr. Warren stated that the Commission had been invited to hold a meeting at Palmetto Bluff in October and he would make arrangements for this.

*Eddie Finlay*