

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

IN COLUMBIA            SEPTEMBER 7, 1961

Vice-chairman Johnson presided. Present were Commissioners Cantey, Cox, Oliphant, Hopkins, Tison and Heyward, Directors Webb and Lunz and Jeff Fuller.

Mr. Johnson welcomed Mr. Osborn B. Heyward as new Commissioner from the First Congressional District to succeed the late Senator George Warren, and paid tribute to the late Chairman for his years of service.

Mr. Cox moved that action on the appeal of Mr. Bartley Riddock, Charleston County Treasurer, from a ruling of Mr. Cox regarding funds collected in Charleston county from the sale of commercial fisheries licenses and stamps be deferred until next meeting. He stated that this would give the Commissioners time to study the statements of Mr. Riddock and Director Lunz, his correspondence with the persons involved, and an opinion from Attorney General Dan McLeod. He added that any decision reached would be effective as of July 1, 1961.

The Secretary read the opinion of the Attorney General and was instructed to prepare copies for all Commissioners, Director Lunz and Mr. Riddock.

The re-appointment of Mallard Marshall as a non-pay Sumter warden was approved.

Director Webb said he had received a letter from Allendale Representative Robert McNair asking permission for Corps of Engineers personnel to enter the Belmont property in connection with a survey of channel improvements on the Savannah river. He said all property owners along the river were agreeing and that the survey would involve no damage to the property.

Mr. Cox moved, Mr. Oliphant seconding, that Director Webb be instructed to execute a contract for the Commission authorizing the entrance.



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The question of a commission and increased compensation for Edward Wrenn, now employed on the Francis Marion area, was brought up and after general discussion a motion of Mr. Tison was adopted that the matter be passed over and that Director Webb write Senator Dennis of Berkeley county informing him of the Commission's position.

Director Webb brought up the matter of a plane to be used by the Department in law enforcement and survey work and discussed two planes that might be suitable.

Mr. Johnson said he considered a plane essential in law enforcement and a motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that Director Webb make further investigation and that action be deferred until the next meeting. He was also instructed to check into the insurance angle.

Mr. Oliphant inquired about possible condemnation of some land at Bear Island and Director Webb explained the situation.

Mr. Johnson inquired about an investigation of improper hunting activities on the Francis Marion, on which there had been some newspaper publicity some months ago. He said he understood SLED had been asked to make an investigation. Director Webb said no report had been received and Mr. Johnson asked that he get a report from SLED on what had been learned.

Director Webb said that he would furnish Mr. Heyward with a list of wardens in his district and their addresses.

Mr. Johnson recommended that in the future it would be a good idea to hold a public hearing to get the ideas of hunters on what migratory game seasons should be adopted under the federal framework. He said that the duck season selected was the best but that it would be wise to allow hunters to express their views.

Mr. Cantey suggested that a committee of the Commission be named to call on the Governor and present its opinion that the appointment of Mr. Johnson as Chairman was favored by the Commission.



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Mr. Cox then moved that a committee of Mr. Cantey, Mr. Oliphant and Mr. Heyward attend to the duties as set out in Mr. Cantey's motion.

Mr. Cantey moved that a resolution on the passing of Senator Warren and the loss to the Department and the State be prepared and sent to members of the family, and Mr. Cox, Directors Webb and Lunz, and Mr. Finlay were named to prepare the resolution.

Eddie Finlay

1961-1962

