

MINUTES OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING IN COLUMBIA APRIL 14, 1967

Present were all Commissioners, Directors Webb and Lunz, Pat Ryan, Johnny May, Frank Nelson, Fred Ramage, Jeff Fuller and two membes of the advisory committee-- Jack Carroll and Sumner Pingree.

Chairman Eltzroth welcomed the new member of the Commission--Robert Eppes of Greenville--and Mr. Pingree, Commissioner Glenn's advisory committee member.

Mr. Eltzroth said the committee appointed at the last meeting--composed of Commissioners Cantey, Mishoe and himself and Director Webb--had met and discussed the selection of a committee to advise and confer with the Commission on salt water fishing matters, both sport and commercial. He said this group was needed but that he was not certain as to the best method of selection.

Mr. Glenn moved that the same committee, with the exception of Dr. Lunz replacing Mr. Webb, be named to select the fisheries committee. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Eltzroth mentioned some recent publicity concerning the Department and said he saw no necessity for taking any action regarding it.

Dr. Lunz said that he had been unable to locate a boat from federal agencies to replace the old one at Bears Bluff.

Dr. Lunz also reported that both the Atlantic Shellfish company and the Maggioni interests are gathering oysters off the former lease of the Atlantic Shellfish company in Battery Creek. He also presented a copy of a letter from O. K. McDaniels to Rep. Brantley Harvey, Jr., protesting the use being made of the oyster beds in Battery Creek.

He also mentioned the need of a lawyer on the Maggioni vs. Frank Toomer hearing on an oyster lease in the Harbor River area.

The minutes of the March 23 meeting were approved.

Mr. Eltzroth said that he had talked with the Governor regarding a lawyer being named to handle legal matters for the Department, and also said that the Attorney General was coming over shortly to discuss the possibilities.

A number of appointments and reappointments were approved.



Dr. Jones said a Pickens county warden was badly needed and Mr. Webb said that he hoped something could be worked out very soon.

Mr. Mishoe presented a clipping which was read by the Chairman, the writer of the article praising Dr. Lunz highly, not only for his work but for the dissemination of information regarding some of the projects.

Mr. Webb mentioned the fact that the Outdoor Recreation bill has passed, but that the Governor might want the Department to keep the present Division for some time. He also said that Art Buehler has accepted a position in Virginia and is leaving May 1. He added that it would be hard to find a suitable replacement for the short time remaining.

A motion of Mr. Mishoe was adopted that Mr. Webb be given authority to hire a replacement with the approval of the chairman.

Mr. May presented the outdoor recreation plan for South Carolina, and said a recent letter from Washington had given approval for continuing participation in the program. He said 21 projects had been approved, two withdrawn, one disapproved and 12 are still pending.

A motion of Mr. Glenn was adopted that Director Webb write Mr. Hopkins a letter in the name of the Commission expressing their appreciation for his long service on the Commission. On suggestion of Mr. Webb the motion was amended to authorize Mr. Hopkins to keep several small items.

Mr. Cantey presented a letter from Mrs. H. E. Jervey, Jr., to the editor of the Columbia Record regarding a recent article. Mr. Eltzroth said that he would write Mrs. Jervey expressing the appreciation of the Commission.

Mr. Eltzroth said the next meeting of the Commission be held at Belmont May 12.

A suggestion of Dr. Jones was adopted that in the future meetings be opened with a brief silent prayer.



Mr. Webb said that he and Mr. McDougal would make a study and recommend a program of improvement for Lake Warren.

Mr. Eltzroth suggested that Mr. Webb confer with Fleming Mason and discuss an upgrading program for game wardens.

Mr. McLeod then appeared and told the Commission that he could not have an attorney assigned immediately to the Department but would try to have one by July 1. The attorney would have an office with the Department and would handle all Department legal matters, and possibly some others if he had time--but Department business would have priority.

Assistant Attorney General J. C. Coleman said that an oyster hearing about which Dr. Lutz inquired could be held in Charleston.

The tidelands matter was discussed briefly, Mr. McLeod saying that it was a most difficult and involved one.

The Commission then went into executive session, after which it announced the following actions:

The Commission authorized Director Webb to use as much of the \$50,000 (half of which is federal funds) already allocated to Lake Warren as may be necessary to purchase or rent equipment and to hire personnel to finish the clearing of Lake Warren.

The Commission voted to name the two new radio towers at St. George and Edgefield for the late Commissioners J. D. Parler and Joseph W. Cox.

The Commission voted unanimously to transfer law enforcement personnel from the Division of Commercial Fisheries to the law enforcement branch of the present Division of Game, such change to be effective July 1 if possible.

Eddie Finlay



10/10/10