

MINUTES OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING IN SPARTANBURG  
APRIL 16, 1965

Present were all Commissioners, Director Webb, Pat Ryan, Jeff Fuller, Frank Nelson, Tommy Welch, Gene Howell, Gordon Brown.

Chairman Johnson welcomed the Commission to Spartanburg and said that he wished to welcome Mr. Glenn to the Commission.

The question of whether persons should be allowed to run their bird dogs for training before and after the regular season was discussed, Mr. Webb saying there was no objection to this provided no guns were carried and recommended that such a regulation be adopted. A motion of Mr. Cantey was then adopted that: "Persons be allowed to train bird dogs, provided they have valid hunting licenses from September 1 to Thanksgiving Day and from March 1 to April 15."

Mr. Webb then presented figures on the salaries of all game wardens and explained how they were paid, including the source of funds.

In answer to a question from Mr. Johnson, Mr. Webb said that licenses in Richland county were put out by Buck Buchanan and there were regular audits by the State auditors.

Mr. Johnson said he agreed with a suggestion of Mr. Buchanan that agents not selling many licenses should be cut off, and a suggestion of Mr. Webb's was agreed to that a resolution be drawn up covering this and then presented to the Commission for adoption.

Mr. Johnson said he liked the idea of the staff meetings and of the Commission getting copies of the minutes.

The question of whether the Department could charge for the management area hunts on Forest Service and private lands came up and Mr. Ryan said he had asked the Attorney General for a ruling but had not yet received one.

Mr. Oliphant said that he had made trips to the Carlisle and Broad River areas and had been told that both deer and turkey were being killed out of season and that there was night hunting. He said there were few access roads and asked whether wardens had the right to search cars for illegally killed game. Mr. Webb said in some instances the wardens had this right.



Mr. Oliphant said he thought a fee should be put on the hunts and someone should check the trunks of cars. Mr. Webb said the permits issued for the hunt state that the holder agrees to let his car be searched.

Mr. Johnson brought up the possibility of having persons on the management area hunts wear brightly-colored coats or hats as a safety measure, Mr. Cantey saying that many states now require this.

Mr. Webb said he favored the idea of a big game license, at least on the upstate game zones, and said a ruling was needed from the Attorney General on this.

Mr. Cox cited the danger to hunters of having buck and doe seasons on the same day and said a stiff penalty should be put on persons shooting the wrong sex deer.

Mr. Johnson suggested that a \$3 fee be charged for persons taking part in the management area hunts and that they should agree to let their cars be searched, and that they wear a bright identifying garment for safety reasons. This would apply on all management areas where the Department has the right to set seasons.

Mr. Nelson said that in the past the Department has charged for hunts on some management areas. He also said that the Forest Service might want half the money for hunts on their land and the Department would not get enough to make it worthwhile, particularly if it furnished the identifying garments.

Mr. Webb said he believed the Forest Service provision for this has been repealed, and he believed something could be worked out.

Mr. Tison said the identifying color should not be required of turkey hunters.

Mr. Webb said that an agreement was being worked out with the Atomic Energy Commission for deer hunting on the AEC area, since there was so many deer they were causing road accidents. He said the AEC wished the Department to take over the public hunts on the area and he was considering asking a \$5 fee. He said the hunts would be held on Saturdays and the AEC wanted to keep the whole matter quiet for the present. This information was asked to be kept confidential until time for announcement. He said all



hunting would be stand hunting with dogs.

Mr. Johnson suggested that Mr. Webb see if a bow and arrow hunt could be arranged for the area.

Mr. Johnson said that Van Newman had called him and wished to submit a proposal for handling publicity for the Department. He suggested that the proposal be submitted to all the Commissioners and then the Commission could take it up at a later meeting.

Mr. Webb asked the Commission to endorse a working agreement for the AEC hunts and give him and Mr. Nelson authority to work out details; and also work out details on using colored garments on management hunts.

Mr. Webb said he had talked with Mr. Goldberg regarding leasing some of the Lake Wallace property to a broadcasting station but the studio did not seem to be in much of a hurry.

The question of the land clearing for the Hampton county lake then was discussed, Mr. Webb saying there had been further conversations with Mr. McDougal on the question of convict labor clearing out the timber and wood.

Mr. Cantey said the costs of paying for the clearing would run high and it would certainly be best for convict labor to handle this. Mr. Cantey said high water was preventing clearing work.

Mr. Webb said Mr. McDougal had agreed to clear the lake at Hampton for the timber without other cost. In answer to a question from Mr. Glenn he explained the negotiations that had gone on.

Mr. Webb said that in view of Mr. McDougal's agreement he saw no sense in going ahead with the advertisement for bids for clearing, since this might cost the bidders time and money. He said that if anyone asked about bidding he would tell them the bidding was being withdrawn.

A motion of Mr. Tison was adopted that Mr. Cantey and Mr. Webb be authorized to go ahead with their negotiations with Mr. McDougal and make the best contract possible,



with an escape clause that would allow cancellation of the contract if no progress were made and that the advertising for bids be cancelled.

Mr. Cox then asked that the minutes of the March 17 meeting be corrected in Paragraph Three to read that any person not answering the questionnaire be dropped, eliminating the final phrase "with the exception of certain groups."

After some discussion it was agreed that members of the General Assembly, members of the Judiciary, all school and public libraries should be kept on the list to receive the magazine free.

Mr. Johnson said he had received a letter from a landowner protesting that persons on the management hunts were trespassing on his private and posted land within the hunt area. Mr. Nelson said that all permits issued pointed out that the holders could not trespass on private lands. Mr. Johnson suggested that next year this might be printed in red ink on the permits.

In answer to a question by Mr. Oliphant, Mr. Webb explained the laws and procedure of wardens enforcing the trespass laws.

A list of warden appointments was then presented by Mr. Webb, these being approved on motion of Mr. Tison.

Mr. Webb asked that George Harter be appointed an Allendale warden, provided the delegation was still favorable. Mr. Glenn moved approval which was adopted.

Mr. Webb said a high type man had applied for a Dorchester warden position, and although he did not have a high school diploma he was completing the work. On motion of Mr. Glenn, Mr. Webb was authorized to put him on with the understanding he be dropped if he does not get the diploma.

Mr. Webb then brought up a matter that had arisen from charges made by Warden Clement Craven of Colleton against Johnny Hiers, manager of the Bear Island area. He said that Craven had got an affidavit from a Negro that the Negro had dressed ducks caught in the banding operation for Mr. Hiers and also charging Mr. Hiers with misappropri-



ation of funds.

Mr. Webb said that SLED had sent an investigator down at his request and although he had not had the tape transcribed he had listened to it and there was nothing to the charges, which were completely refuted.

He then described Warden Craven's background. He also said the Negro had said he was offered a bribe and threatened before making the charges against Mr. Hiers. He said that he saw no alternative except to get rid of Warden Cravens.

After some further discussion, Mr. Webb said that he merely wished to inform the Commission of the matter and would report at the next meeting.

Mr. Webb then brought up the question of replacing a large group of the warden cars and a motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that Mr. Webb be authorized to go ahead with the necessary procedures through the Budget and Control Board and the Purchasing Division to get the necessary cars.

Mr. Fuller asked approval for building a residence at the Styx hatchery and to make the grounds a showplace and Mr. Webb said he wished the hatchery to be headquarters for fisheries work. A motion of Mr. Oliphant was adopted approving this. Mr. Glenn had questioned the figure of \$29,000 but Mr. Webb said this included both the house and other buildings. He also said Mr. McDougal had offered trustees for the work at Styx.

Mr. Fuller asked approval for joining the cooperative disease and parasite study work being done by Auburn, the cost being \$6,400 annually, of which three fourths would come from federal funds. On motion of Mr. Cox this was approved.

Mr. Fuller also told of striped bass eggs from the Moncks Corner hatchery going to Mississippi, other states and Russia. He suggested that a coming meeting of the Commission be held at Moncks Corner so the hatchery could be inspected but no definite decision was made.



Mr. Welch asked authority to void boat numbers 12 months after they had run out and on motion of Mr. Cantey this was granted.

Mr. Welch showed a copy of a map of the cruise waters of the State of Illinois and said a map of South Carolina ramps and landings was being worked up by Art Buehler, Mr. Welch then exhibiting a sample. He also quoted prices, saying 25,000 could be produced for \$1,700.

Mr. Cantey suggested that fishing hot spots might be incorporated in the maps.

Mr. Ryan said that he had contacted Bryan Printing Company regarding a fishing booklet, similar to one put out by Georgia, and 100,000 copies could be made for 12 cents each. He said the Planning Board was interested and could bear most of the cost.

Mr. Hopkins said the two projects should be separate and suggested that the Department go ahead with the map and later on incorporate it in a booklet on fishing and fishing areas.

Mr. Welch asked approval to purchase a boat for coastal work, saying a seaworthy and fairly fast boat of about 24-feet with an inboard-outboard was needed.

Mr. Glenn said he was not opposing the suggestion but would like to know more about the boat and the need for it before voting approval. Mr. Welch said there was a need for the boat.

Mr. Tison said that since Mr. Glenn knew more about boats than the other Commissioners he would like for him to have a chance to study the boat and the need for it before the Commission took action. He suggested that the matter be referred to Mr. Glenn and he report back to the Commission.

A motion of Mr. Cantey was then adopted that the matter be referred to Mr. Glenn for study and he make a recommendation as to whether the boat should be purchased.

*Eddie Finlay*

