

## MINUTES

### SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Savannah River Valley Beagle Club  
Edgefield, S. C.  
April 19, 1985  
11:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at the Savannah River Valley Beagle Club, Edgefield, S. C., at 11:00 A.M., April 19, 1985, 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, Owen, Stokes, Thomason, and Bennett. Directors and staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Bill Chastain, Dr. Joseph, Jeff Fuller, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines and various other staff and guests.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. with silent prayer asking everyone to remember Commissioner Harrelson who is undergoing surgery this morning. Chairman Webster welcomed all guests to the meeting.

#### ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the March 15, 1985 Commission meeting and approve them as submitted.

#### ITEM II. CHECK PRESENTATION TO OPERATION GAME THIEF FROM THE PALMETTO SPORTSMEN'S CLASSIC

Commissioner Compton, acting on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund, presented a check for \$15,000 to Chairman Webster for the Operation Game Thief Program. Commissioner Compton noted this check represented one-half of the proceeds from the Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic held March 22-23, 1985 at the State Fairgrounds in Columbia.

#### ITEM III. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman distributed a list of activities since the last Commission Meeting for information.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of our budget requests presented to the Senate Finance Committee and went over these items with the Commission. He noted that he will meet with the sub-committee at 3:15 on April 24th and he requested the Commission's support with this budget request.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we have lost various tracts of land in the GMA Program and we know that over 50,000 acres will be lost this year. A fact sheet on the GMA Program was distributed to the Commissioners for information. Dan Dobbins gave the Commission an update on the work of the Land Procurement Committee noting that he will keep the Commission informed of their activities.



Dr. Timmerman noted that various actions have occurred in the U. S. Congress and we may not get the new monies generated by the Dingell-Johnson legislation as had been thought.

Dr. Timmerman noted that an employee at the Yawkey Center lives in quarters that were built by Mr. Yawkey and Mr. Yawkey requested that this employee live in these quarters upon retirement. Mrs. Yawkey recently sent a letter to Dr. Timmerman to remind us of this request. Dr. Timmerman recommended this for the Commission to approve this request. Commissioner Stokes moved for the Commission to approve this request. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the Shrimpers' Association met recently and requested that the Commission meet in Charleston in May.

#### ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recommendation - Enforcement of Three-Mile Limit: Dr. Joseph informed the Commission that the Marine Advisory Board has discussed this matter and recommends an Administrative Order to the Commission for the official three-mile state territorial limit to be the seaward boundary for the enforcement of all marine fisheries laws and regulations (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this order as recommended.

#### ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Revision of Waterfowl Stamp Procedure: Benny Reeves distributed a proposal to the Commission concerning a revision in the waterfowl stamp procedure (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Basically, the revision involves reserving and holding the number of waterfowl stamps equal to the number of waterfowl prints unsold at the time the prints are placed in trust. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this revision as recommended.

##### B. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves noted that the FY 1982-83 audit has been completed and the FY 1983-84 audit will begin in the near future.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: There was nothing further to report.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain informed the Commission that Officer Buddy Wagers of Dorchester County passed away last week. He recommended that an appropriate resolution for his service be drawn up and presented to his wife. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

4. Marine Resources: Charlie Bearden informed the Commission that the shrimp outlook is very poor and there is no question that the season should not open on May 15th. Mr. Bearden asked the Commission to approve authorizing the staff to inform the shrimpers that the season will not open on May 15th and for the opening of the shrimp season to be an agenda item for the May Commission Meeting. The Commission adopted a motion to approve Mr. Bearden's recommendation.



the Commission approve a four-point emergency regulation for various lakes (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission adopted a motion to approve the four-point emergency regulations and to authorize the staff to promulgated such as permanent regulations.

Commissioner Owen noted that the Board expressed an opinion to ask the staff to prepare a bill to give the Department more leverage in managing fish and wildlife in lieu of the problems now associated with the regulations procedure. Dr. Timmerman noted that the staff will explore this matter and it will be an agenda item to be brought back to the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman noted that a hearing was held recently in Colleton County concerning the closure of duck hunting at noon. Those in attendance were in favor of such a closure. A recommendation on this matter will be presented to the Commission in August.

2. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph noted that the Board met recently and Minutes of the meeting will be sent to the Commission.

3. Magazine Advisory Council: Sonny Baines noted that the Council met on April 12th. Mr. Baines noted that the terms of six members are about to expire. These include James Quackenbush, Sr., Peter Manigault, Bill Edens, Judy Cromwell, Dr. Alfred Rawl, and Dr. Robert Lumpkin. The Commission adopted a motion to re-appoint these members to new terms.

Mr. Baines stated that the Council recommends that the Commission give the Certificate of Meritorious Service Award to the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation. The Commission approved a motion to adopt this recommendation.

D. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Dr. Timmerman noted this list includes the appointment of Joel H. Gibson as a Conservation Officer pilot. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this list as submitted.

E. Other Remarks: Commissioner Thomason asked that the matter regarding the allocation of Conservation Officers statewide as discussed at the last meeting be referred to the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board. Chairman Webster stated that this matter will be referred to this Board.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that work is underway on repairs to the dam at Lake Oak Grove.

Larry Cartee reminded the Commission that Jeff Fuller's Retirement Party will be held in Columbia on May 24, 1985.

F. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting in Charleston at 10:00 A.M. on May 17, 1985.



Commissioner Thomason asked about who controls where fish are coming from in the various pay lakes in the state. Following discussion, Dr. Timmerman noted that the staff will explore this matter and such will be on the agenda for the May Commission Meeting.

Charlie Bearden noted that legislation has been adopted to give the Department authority to close the inside waters to sturgeon fishing. The Marine Advisory Board has discussed this matter and recommends that the Commission close the inside waters for sturgeon fishing on May 15, 1985. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

5. Information & Public Affairs: There was nothing further to report.

Dan Dobbins distributed a copy of the Legislative Report and went over the status of various bills in this report. Commissioner Owen asked about the status of the bill on the catching over the limit of fish. Mr. Dobbins noted this bill is in Conference Committee and they plan to meet soon.

C. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted the Board met at Hickory Knob on April 18th. The Board heard a report from John Frampton and Tim Ivey on a study of the 1983 deer harvest. He recommended that they make this presentation to the Commission when convenient.

Commissioner Owen noted that the Board discussed proposed regulations for hunting and these were distributed to the Commission for information (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

Commissioner Owen noted that the Board discussed a request from the Laurens area to add some days for man-drives but the Board did not recommend any changes.

Commissioner Owen noted that bills for an early opening of deer season in Game Zone 2 have been introduced. The Board discussed these bills and recommended that the Commission oppose this legislation. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

Commissioner Owen informed the Commission that a committee has been appointed to look at the spacing of duck blinds and this committee will report to the Board at its June meeting.

Commissioner Owen stated that the Board discussed the goose season which is closed in most of the state. Due to the goose stocking doing well, the Board recommends that the goose season be closed statewide. The Commission decided to delay action on this matter until the August Commission meeting.

Commissioner Owen noted that we have experienced various problems at our state-owned lakes and these were discussed by the Board. The Board recommended that



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ITEM VI. ADJOURN

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

