

MINUTES
BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES

Webb Wildlife Center
Garnett, South Carolina
2:00 pm - April 19, 1996

The regular meeting of the Board of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was held at 2:00 p.m, Friday, April 19, 1996 at the Webb Wildlife Center in Garnett, South Carolina. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Chairman George Graham presided at the meeting and other Board members present included: Tom Miller, Ted Oxner, Mary Pope Waring, Marion Burnside, Joe Edens, and Campbell Coxe. Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., and staff members of the Department of Natural Resources were present at the meeting as well as various guests.

I. Call to Order

Chairman George Graham called the Board Meeting to order at 2:00 pm, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Meditation

The Board held a moment of silent meditation as noted by Chairman Graham prior to the beginning of the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

The Board adopted a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 1996, Board meeting as submitted.

IV. Presentations/Commendations

There were no presentations or commendations to be presented to the Board at this time.

V. Constituency Comments

There were no constituency comments to be presented to the Board at this time.

VI. Items for Board Action

- A. Ratification of Mitigation Banking Proposal - The Board adopted a motion to approve the Mitigation Banking Proposal and ratified this action pursuant to a telephone poll of the Board.
- B. User Fees Proposal - Tom Kohlsaas distributed a proposal and some options concerning User Fees, and following discussion, the Board approved this proposal in principle.
- C. Cane Creek Fish Kill Investigation Report - Brock Conrad discussed the recent fish kill report on Cane Creek noting a total cost for this fish kill

was \$2,806.68. Following discussion of this report, the Board approved the fish kill report as submitted (copy attached to original Board Minutes).

- D. Proposed Heritage Trust Property Acquisitions - This item was delayed for discussion in Executive Session.

VI. Director's Briefings

A. Executive Office

1. Director - Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Vehicle Accident Report and went over this report with the Board. Mike Creel discussed a recent article in the Greenville News on vehicle accidents. The Board noted that one accident included a staff member that had had three accidents since 1990 and they asked for a review of this matter.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a Proposed Position Statement on Hog Farming and went over this with the Board. Following discussion, the Board adopted this Position Statement as submitted (copy attached to original Board Minutes). Ms. Waring requested that this Position Statement be released to the media as approved by the Board.

Dr. Timmerman noted that there has been discussion recently on unmarked vehicles and he has asked our law enforcement staff to look at unmarked vehicles to be sure there are functional reasons for unmarked cars and that the Board may want to review this policy.

Benny Reeves discussed the budget status report noting that the Senate is now taking up our budget and he went over various items that are being pursued in the Senate.

2. Legal - Buford Mabry noted that a memo on Sunday hunting from Jim Quinn had been sent to the Board and that an upcoming trial on May 6-8, 1996, will be held and the Board's representative at this trial will be Mr. Burnside. Chairman Graham asked about the Game Zone legislation and Billy McTeer stated that this Bill appeared to be dead for this year.
3. Legislative Affairs - There was nothing further report to the Board at this time.
4. Human Resources - Caroline Agardy noted that cross-training of 120 Department employees occurred on April 10th and this went very well.

5. Environmental - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

B. Deputy Directors

1. Administrative Services - There was nothing further report to the Board at this time.
2. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Brock Conrad distributed a brochure to the Board on the fish lift at St. Stephens and went over this briefly with the Board. John Frampton discussed the Harvest Information Program and presented a video on this program noting that it will cost \$80,000 to implement this program in South Carolina the first year. Mr. Frampton noted that we could change our current Migratory Waterfowl Stamp to a Migratory Bird Stamp and require all migratory hunters to purchase this stamp to include dove hunters. Mr. Frampton noted further that he would recommend that we delay implementation of this program until 1998 and he sought the Board's guidance regarding this matter. Following discussion, the Board approved delaying implementation of this program until 1998 and asked for a written proposal for consideration at the next Board meeting. The Board and staff also discussed options regarding the Santee Coastal Reserve and the report recently sent to them. Following this discussion, the Board asked the staff to prepare information on the Santee Coastal Reserve and send to them for discussion at the May Board meeting. Chairman Graham asked about the use of doe tags above Highway 11 this year and Brock Conrad noted that this will probably be recommended. Derrell Shipes noted that this can be done without harm and will be accomplished this year.
3. Natural Resources Enforcement - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.
4. Conservation Education and Communications - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.
5. Marine Resources - Paul Sandifer noted the Marine Fishing Fair will be held at the Marine Center on May 4-5, 1996. Dr. Sandifer noted that the Governor's Cup Board had presented the Certificate of Meritorious Service recently to Don Hammond. He further noted the 1996 Spring Shrimp Season is not as good as in the past years and he asked the Board for the authority for the staff to open the season based on the sampling data and notify the Board as in the past.

Following discussion, the Board adopted a motion to approve this recommendation as submitted. Dr. Sandifer further noted that the three-mile line and the radar line will not receive a recommendation to be opened this year.

6. Water Resources - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.
7. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

VIII. Advisory Committee Reports

- A. Conservation Education and Communications - Mr. Coxe noted that this Committee met on April 12th and went over the items discussed at the meeting. He noted that the Committee is encouraged by the work CEC staff is doing and he asked each division to get behind the CEC program and implement these new ideas. Chairman Graham noted that at this time he was appointing Marion Burnside to serve as Chairman of the CEC Advisory Committee.
- B. Marine Recreational Fisheries - Ms. Waring noted that the staff has worked well with this group and Paul Sandifer went over the projects and ideas discussed with this Board. He noted that the Board had approved the projects as recommended in the Marine Resources Division.
- C. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Mr. Coxe noted that the Committee met recently and went over the items discussed at this Committee meeting. He noted that they had recommended a Proclamation be sent to the Governor for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. Mr. Miller asked about the numbers from the goose season and John Frampton noted that these numbers would be presented at the May meeting.
- D. Water Resources - Freddy Vang noted that the Committee met on April 17, 1996, and he went over the items discussed at the meeting.
- E. Land Resources and Conservation - Cary Chamblee noted that this Committee met the first week in April and he went over the items discussed at this meeting including the conservation provisions of the Farm Bill.

IX. Missions, Goals, & Strategic Planning

There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

X. Policy Review

There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

XI. Comments

There was no further comments for the Board this month.

XII. Executive Session

Ms. Waring moved for the Board to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel, contractual and legal matters. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Board. Chairman Graham announced that, at this time, the Board would hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel, contractual and legal matters.

=====

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

The regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

The Board adopted a motion to appoint J. Egerton Burroughs to the Governor's Cup Billfish Series Board.

The Board adopted a motion to appoint John A. Wiggins of Marion, Mark T. Smith of Calhoun, and Evelyn G. Edmunds of York to Conservation District appointments.

The Board adopted a motion to approve a 93 acre addition to the Rock Hill Blackjack's Heritage Preserve in York County and a 47 acre addition to the Watson Heritage Preserve.

The Board adopted a motion to accept the recommendation of staff to terminate Captain Barry Carson.

XIII. Time and Location of Next Board Meeting

The Board agreed to hold its next meeting on May 17, 1996 in Columbia.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business to present before the regular Board meeting, a motion was adopted to adjourn.

