

MINUTES
WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

APRIL 20, 1972

The South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission was called to order at 9:30 A. M. on Thursday, April 20, 1972, in the Commission Room in Columbia, South Carolina, by Chairman Clyde A. Eltzroth. In attendance at this meeting were Commissioners Glenn, Thompson, Eppes, Rhame, Williams, Mishoe. Also in attendance were General Harris, Executive Director Webb, Major Cantey, Brock Conrad, Jeff Fuller, Joe Logan, T. C. Welch, Charlie Bearden, Bill Chastain, John Culler, Dr. Timmerman, Dr. Joseph, Gene Howell, Frank Nelson, Bob Joyner and Ken Hare of The State Newspaper.

The Minutes of the March 16, 1972, meeting of the Commission were approved on the motion of Mr. Rhame, seconded by Mr. Thompson.

GAME WARDEN TRAINING PROGRAM

Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement, Bill Chastain, reported that all the non-pay game wardens have been sent a schedule of the schools and lesson plans have been sent to each supervisor. This would begin on Saturday, May 6, 1972, and run for a total of five Saturdays.

BELMONT TIMBER SALE

Executive Director Webb reported that this timber sale had been advertised for bids and a bid had been obtained for \$67,897 for the timber which was a good bid and the contract is now in the hands of the company.

CAPE ROMAIN PROPERTY

Executive Director Webb reported that meetings have taken place and the Cape Romain property is being negotiated.

BONNEAU FISH HATCHERY

Chief of Planning, Frank Nelson, reported that the grant for this project was approved on Monday, April 17, 1972, and advertising for bids will be made before the 1st of May.



APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Glenn stated that he had previously recommended that Frederick Cody of Georgetown be re-appointed as a non-pay Game Warden and that Lonnie M. Reynolds of Bluffton not be re-appointed. Note was taken of these two names and Chairman Eltzroth stated that with the one exception of Lonnie M. Reynolds, those appointments which have been mailed out by the Executive Director have been approved.

FINANCE REPORT

The Commission members and Staff present reviewed the Budget Status Report Summary of Funds on Hand as of March 31, 1972. Several members of the Staff were asked to explain certain percentages of the total budget spent and their projected view of what the final percentage would be at the end of the fiscal year.

MARINE RESOURCES REPORT

Dr. Timmerman gave highlights of his monthly progress report. A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof. Dr. Timmerman stated that the building at Fort Johnson is to be completed by the 5th of May and will be ready for the dedication ceremonies on May 19th. Dr. Timmerman reported that the paving for Fort Johnson was on the agenda of the Highway Commission meeting which was also held on April 20th. At this point, he recommended that Chairman Eltzroth call the Chairman of the Highway Commission and impress upon him the urgency of this paving at Fort Johnson. Mr. Eltzroth immediately telephoned the Highway Department Commission at its meeting and relayed Dr. Timmerman's request.

The Marine Consultant Committee of the Wildlife Commission consisting of Commissers Eppes, Williams and Glenn was requested to write the Governor a letter and send him a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Marine Consultant Committee telling him that the Wildlife Resources Department is cooperating with recommendations set forth in the Governor's Management Review study.

Dr. Joseph gave a very brief report on the Marine Laboratory. He stated that the Sea Grant Proposal had been completed and appropriate copies delivered to the Sea Grant Office in Washington. Dr. Joseph reported that the Sea Grant site visit team is scheduled to be in South Carolina on the 16th and 17th of May and at that time we will find out to what degree the Department is successful with the proposal.

Dr. Joseph also reported that the seafood marketing grant from the Coastal Plains Commission has been approved in the overall amount of \$70,000.

Dr. Joseph reported that he would like to have permission to hire Dr. Laurent from Clemson University whose salary will be paid by Coastal Plains. He will work on a 19-month contract and Dr. Joseph would like to have the general



endorsement of this Commission to hire him. Commissioner Eppes moved to hire Dr. Laurent on the above basis, this was seconded by Mr. Glenn and carried unanimously.

At this point, Mr. Glenn moved, seconded by Mr. Eppes, that the Minutes of this meeting show that the Commission as a whole commends Dr. Joseph on the excellent work he has done to accomplish this Sea Grant Study.

Charlie Bearden, Chief of Office of Conservation, Management and Services, reported that Mr. Frank Toomer, Oyster Lease 215, was in violation of his contract and under the law, this becomes the duties of the Office of Conservation, Management and Services. Mr. Eppes moved, seconded by Mr. Glenn, that the lease of Mr. Frank Toomer be cancelled and that the proper parties be so advised.

PROJECTS REPORT - VERNON BEVILL

Vernon Bevill gave a very interesting and informative report on turkey research. This was also illustrated with slides taken on the site of the research project. A copy of this report is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

GAME AND FRESHWATER FISH REPORT

This report was given by Mr. Jeff Fuller in the absence of Mr. Ryan, who was ill. He reported that Game Biologists met with personnel from the U. S. Forest Service to aid in developing a Handbook concerning timber management and wildlife coordination on U. S. Forest lands in South Carolina.

Mr. Fuller reported that work is underway for developing a multi-use plan for state lakes and fish hatcheries. The final report on this should be completed by July 1. The Commission informed Mr. Fuller that this should be put on a priority basis.

Summaries of the various activities of the Division are contained in this report and it is attached hereto and made a copy of these Minutes.

BIRD DOG FIELD TRIALS

Mr. Sam Crouch, President of the Association of South Carolina Field Trial Clubs, requested permission to appear before the Commission and speak on behalf of the Association. He requested of the Commission that his Association be allowed to use Belmont for two Field Trials per year. He explained that these would be of two-day durations each. He stated that the Association would be held responsible for any bills that may be incurred.

Mr. Mishoe moved, Mr. Thompson seconded, that the Commission take this under advisement and accept this as information and advise Mr. Crouch of the Commission's decision in regard to his request.



EMPLOYEE'S HANDBOOK

Executive Director Webb reported that the draft of this handbook had been sent to Dr. Timmerman and Mr. Ryan for their comments, suggestions, deletions and additions. It has now been returned from these Division Heads and had been turned over to the Chief of Information and Education to be put into final form and sent to the printer. John Culler reported that immediate attention would be given to this handbook and that it usually took about 6 weeks to get the finished product from the printer.

GOVERNOR'S MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORT (Recommendation #9)

This recommendation pertains to legislation that has to be drafted in regard to restructuring the license and fees for hunting and fishing to provide additional income sufficient to offset costs. Mr. Rhame moved that the Commission hold this in abeyance until Mr. Webb can give his comments to the Commission. Chairman Eltzroth asked that Mr. Webb write a report on recommendations to this effect.

FEDERAL SEASONS

The Bureau Staff Recommendation pertaining to the 1972-73 Hunting Regulations for Certain Waterfowl, Swans, Cranes, Band-Tailed Pigeons, Gallinules, Rails, and Snipe were taken up in accordance with Executive Director Webb's letter to the Commission on April 7, 1972, and the following recommendations were agreed to:

1. Shooting hours the same as last year, from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset, daily. Exception: the early teal season of from sunrise to sunset.
RECOMMENDATION: In agreement.
2. Ducks and geese - outside dates - from October 1, 1972, through January 20, 1973.
RECOMMENDATION: That South Carolina go to February 1st. Mr. Webb will continue to press for later date.
3. Sea duck seasons - not applicable.
4. Sea ducks - outside dates - not applicable.
5. September teal season - same as last year.
RECOMMENDATION: Do not opt.
6. Scaup - only the same as last year. That is, between October 1, 1972, and January 31, 1972.
RECOMMENDATION: Commissioner Glenn moves that we opt the scaup season, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, carried unanimously.



7. Geese and Brant - the same as last year.
RECOMMENDATION: Mr. Webb to request that we go to the 2 limit.
8. Whistling swans - same as last year.
9. Little brown cranes - not applicable.
10. Coots - same as last year.
11. Band-tailed pigeons - not applicable.
12. Gallinules - same as last year.
13. Marsh Hen -
RECOMMENDATION: Mr. Mishoe moved, seconded by Mr. Glenn, that we use the last high tide at the last of the season and count backwards.
Unanimously carried.
14. Snipe - same as last year.
RECOMMENDATION: Mr. Glenn moved that we continue to have the season from February 28th and also moved that Mr. Webb seek to have the bag limit extended from 8 to 10 and possession limit from 16 to 20.
Unanimously carried.
15. Point system - this will be expanded upon next year.

At 12:20 P. M. , the Commission recessed for lunch. Mr. Webb asked to be excused from the afternoon session as he had to attend a business conference in Oklahoma.

When the afternoon session convened at approximately 2:30 P. M. Dr. Timmerman reported on a hearing he had attended on the Tidelands Bill. Mr. Eltzroth further expounded on this and ask permission of the Commission to appear before the Governor in regard to this Bill. Mr. Rhame moved, seconded by Mr. Glenn, that permission be granted to Chairman Eltzroth to discuss this matter with the Governor. This was carried unanimously.

Land Resources Use Proposition - Mr. Frank Nelson gave a very informative report on the working committee of this organization. He is to report the progress of this committee at future Commission meetings to keep the Commission informed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Glenn reported for the Saltwater Committee - preparations for the dedication of the Marine Center on May 19th have been finalized and Dr. Timmerman gave a brief outline of the festivities and description of the program. Mr. Thompson moved, Mr. Eppes seconded, that all the details of this activity be worked out with Mr. Glenn and Dr. Timmerman. Motion carried.



PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mr. Eppes moved, seconded by Mr. Thompson, that the plans and goals as set forth in the Comprehensive Plan on pages 116 and 117 be given tentative approval, subject to change, after the Commission has had an opportunity to study this. This was approved and it was requested that copies of these pages be mailed immediately to the Commission Members.

It was decided that the next Commission Meeting would be held in Charleston at The Citadel at 9:00 A. M. on May 18, 1972. It was requested that Dr. Timmerman please work out the details for this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Peggy A. Lowman, Acting Secretary
Wildlife Resources Commission

April 24, 1972

