

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA DECEMBER 1, 1955

Present were all members of the Commission and Director Richardson, Jim Webb, Jeff Fuller, Frank Nelson, Doug Wade, Jack Carroll, Marlin Bruner, Alex Quattlebaum, Gilmer Jones, and Warren Nickerson of the Motorola corporation. Mr. Cantey presided at the opening in the absence of Chairman Warren and Vice-Chairman Johnson.

The following non-pay wardens were approved: Wyatt Gibson, York; John Edgar Walters, Clemson; W. S. Baldwin, Bennetts Point; James Clifton Cockerill, Meggetts; and Buddie Tisdale, the last subject to approval by Mr. McKeithan.

The hiring of Paul Shrader to succeed Ed Sullivan as leader of the Sumter National Forest project was approved.

The matter of securing shoulder patches for wardens, as well as furnishing one shirt and one pair of pants was taken up. A motion of Mr. Dillard was approved that Mr. Richardson be authorized to get prices on the shirts and pants. A three-inch shoulder patch size was approved, the patch to be the same as the Department decal.

Mr. McKeithan suggested that efforts be made to secure passage of House Bill 1289, which authorizes the Department to set seasons, limits and other regulations in Zone Five. He stated that there was little chance of passing a state-wide bill providing for this. The Commission voted for this action.

Mr. Wade brought up the nation-wide survey that is to be made regarding the economic value of hunting and fishing and the possibility of South Carolina participating in a special state study. Mr. Nelson said a similar Georgia study was costing \$10,000 and Director Richardson said he had notified the survey company that money was not available.

Mr. McKeithan moved that more definite information as to the cost of the survey and what it would provide be secured.

Mr. Wade also brought up the matter of how waterfowl sanctuaries could be established and Director Richardson said it could be done now at the request of the landowner.

Director Richardson said that the Beaufort delegation wished to secure a 16-foot boat for its warden. Mr. Richardson was instructed to advise the delegation that if it wished it could use part of its present balance of \$800.

Mr. Warren said that Rep. Wilton Graves of Beaufort had written him to ask that Beaufort be exempted from the present Zone Six turkey law. Mr. Warren pointed out that nothing could be done except by legislative action.

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A letter regarding poor fishing at Table Rock State Park was received as information.

Gilmer Jones reported on the study he had made of the law enforcement setup and presented his recommendations.

Mr. Warren suggested that it would be a good idea for the Commission to study the report and recommendations. Mr. Jones answered several questions regarding the report.

The question of a radio setup for the Santee-Cooper area was brought up. Mr. Johnson said the idea was to put a station in Berkeley as a nucleus for a state-wide setup. Mr. Nickerson explained the systems of having only mobile auto units on a low frequency and a repeater tower and mobile units on two high frequencies. A motion of Mr. Dillard was approved that Mr. Richardson be authorized to contact Senator Dennis and equip as many cars as they decided needed mobile units on the present low frequency.

On motion of Mr. McKeithan, Mr. Richardson was also authorized to trade or make any other disposition of any state-owned vehicles that need trading and get new ones before the radios are installed.

Mr. McKeithan discussed correspondence he had had with Director Seabrook regarding the placing of shad tags in the hands of county treasurers, saying that a resolution of last May had instructed Mr. Seabrook to do this but it had not been done.

Mr. Fuller then presented recommendations regarding Lake Greenwood, which had been contained in his last quarterly report. These included: removing size and bag limits on all fish except bass and rockfish; fluctuating the water level; closely studying the rockfish stocking; a continuous biological study; study of the possibility on introducing white bass if the rockfish do not reproduce; conducting a public information program. All these were approved except that the bag limit be left as it is.

Eddie Finlay