

MINUTES OF MEETING OF S. C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT EDISTO ISLAND

FEBRUARY 19, 1954.

All members of the Commission were present except Mr. Smith. Also present were Director Richardson, Director Seabrook, M. R. Wolling, Bob Lunz, Harold Steele, Doug Wade, Gordon Brown, Dave Tillinghast and Mr. Nixon of Horry county.

The Secretary read the provisoes of the Senate Finance Committee report on the General Appropriations Bill.

Mr. Cantey asked how this would affect the expenditure of funds now earmarked for counties. Mr. Wolling stated that this proviso would not go into effect until July 1 and Mr. Richardson read a letter from the Attorney General regarding the expenditure of earmarked funds for the payment of wardens. The Attorney General's ruling was that this money could be expended on Catawba-Wateree, Santee-Cooper, and Clarks Hill but that there was some question about Lake Murray and Lake Greenwood.

There was a general discussion of revenues and the current deficit and how earmarked funds could be used so that the general game fund could be built up.

Mr. Richardson recommended that Jerry Baldwin and B. S. Platt, project men on Bear Island, be commissioned as non-pay wardens and said this would take care of law enforcement there. The commissioning was approved. It was also voted to give non-pay commissions to Woodrow Wilson Green and William Henry Hilton, who are employed in game protection work on the **Southern** railway tract in Dorchester county.

Mr. Wolling asked authorization by the Commission to expend earmarked funds for the payment of wardens' salaries under the ruling of the Attorney General.

The following motion was adopted: "That the Director of the Division of Game be directed and authorized to follow the ruling of the Attorney General in connection with the expenditure of earmarked funds."

Mr. Richardson said that some wardens were exceeding their travel allowances and asked for a ruling by the Commission as to how far he should go in holding wardens to their allowances. It was decided that this was an administrative matter and Mr. Richardson should use his judgement.

Mr. Warren discussed his visits to Columbia in connection with Senate Finance Committee changes in the General Appropriations Bill and Mr. Oliphant brought up matters that he said had been discussed in the committee. It was decided to make no effort for changes in the bill.

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Mr. McKeithan reported that he had investigated the possibility of acquiring the 600-acre Daisy Bank plantation on the Inland Waterway. He said that he agreed with Mr. Webb that acquisition would not be wise. His recommendation that no effort be made to acquire the tract was adopted.

Mr. Warren read a letter from Senator Jefferies regarding the Commission's failure to approve the appointment of Mr. Poole as a Colleton warden and Mr. Richardson discussed correspondence he had had with Senator Jefferies.

Mr. McKeithan said that the Pee Dee Area Scout Council wanted help in its conservation program, which would include: securing shoulder patches and cards; help on its conservation projects; and furnishing transportation for outstanding Scouts to the Kentucky Conservation Camps, one from each of the six councils.

Mr. Wade said that help to the Pee Dee Council could be tied in with other councils. He was authorized to cooperate at as small expense as possible, utilizing whatever transportation can be made available by the Director in getting Scouts to the Kentucky camp. It was agreed that the shoulder patches and cards should be provided and that personnel should attend the Pee Dee Council camps to help with the conservation program. He was asked to prepare an estimate of the time and costs of this, and of the Kentucky trip, for the next meeting.

Eddie Finlay