

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA, FEBRUARY 24, 1966

(The regular meeting was held following a hearing on the Toomer vs. Toomer matter, which was taken down by a regular court stenographer - Mr. Maloney).

Present for the meeting were Commissioners Parler, Cantey, Glenn and Hopkins with Commission Appointee Frank Mishoe also attending. Also present were Directors Webb and Lunz, Assistant Attorney General J. C. Coleman, Assistant Director Pat Ryan, Frank Nelson, Gene Howell, Tommy Welch, Allison Fickling, Ben Heyward and Lockwood Brown.

The question of a lease of oyster bottoms came up with Mr. Coleman saying that the Atlantic Shellfish Company had applied for a renewal of its lease which had expired, and that Dr. Lunz had found that the charter of the company had been cancelled. Therefore, Dr. Lunz had returned the company check and had denied the application, but nothing further had been heard from the company.

Mr. Parler suggested that Mr. Glenn investigate the matter and Mr. Glenn related what he knew, explaining the background of the Atlantic Shellfish company. After some discussion a motion of Mr. Cantey was adopted instructing Dr. Lunz: "to instruct anyone seeking a lease on the bottoms formerly leased by the Atlantic Shellfish company to follow the regular customary procedure as provided by the Code."

Dr. Lunz said the Atlantic Shellfish Company had done nothing in five years and that an application is pending from the Blue Channel Corporation.

Mr. Hopkins asked about possible solutions to the Toomer vs. Toomer matter and Dr. Lunz said the area might be set up as an experimental area under Bears Bluff Laboratories, or opened to the public.

Mr. Parler suggested that any action or decision by the Commission be held up until Judge Rhodes makes a decision on the matter now before him, which was agreed to.

Dr. Lunz brought up the matter of filling a vacancy in Horry county caused by the coming retirement of Inspector Bryan. He said that he had not heard from Horry delegation members regarding a man whom he was considering for the position. Mr. Parler said that he



had seen Senator Stevens of Horry who wished more time to consider the matter.

The reading of minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

Two routine appointments of non-pay wardens were approved. The Commission also approved Mr. Webb's recommendation of a Colleton warden, subject to further investigation.

On motion of Mr. Hopkins the Commission approved the appointment of a non-pay warden to serve with the regular wardens in Zone 1.

Mr. Webb brought up the large areas that had been turned over to the Department by corporations--including 110,000 acres by the Duke Power company. He said he would like Commission approval of the policy of taking over such lands for protection and for public hunting, pointing out that if this were not done the lands might be leased to private clubs and be closed to the public. He also said it would not cost much except for what management was done on the lands. His suggestion was approved by the Commission.

Mr. Webb also asked the approval of the Commission for securing some land near Dirleton from the Arcadia plantation, saying that it would cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000 which would come from federal aid. He said Mr. Balding, the owner of Arcadia, would put in the necessary groins.

Dr. Lunz said there might be some difficulty with the federal government in putting in groins in salt water.

Eddie Finlay

