

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCE COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335
Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
January 17, 1992
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., Friday, January 17, 1992, in Room 335 of the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Columbia, South Carolina, with Chairman Marion Burnside presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included: Commissioners Burnside, Compton, Pendarvis, Owen, Miller, Poston, and Graham. Staff members present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Brock Conrad, Paul Sandifer and various other staff members and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

ITEM I - READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the November 15, 1991 Commission Meeting in Kingstree and the Special Called Meeting on November 22, 1991 in Columbia and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman introduced Dr. Bruce Rippeteau who presented a statement to the Commission noting that he was stepping down as Chairman of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. Dr. Rippeteau expressed appreciation to the Commission for their support of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board and his statement was accepted by Chairman Burnside to be made a part of the Minutes (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

Dr. Timmerman read to the Commission, a letter from Betty Spence who is leaving her position with the South Carolina Wildlife Federation and he noted that she will be assuming new duties with the National Wildlife Federation.

Dr. Timmerman noted that concern still exists on the budget and he passed out some recent memos from the State Budget and Control Board to the Commission, noting that the predictions are that funds will be short this fiscal year from \$35-75,000,000. Dr. Timmerman recommended that the Commission Finance Committee be



re-established to provide guidance on how funds should best be spent in the Department. He further noted that we have turned in four (4) law enforcement positions and over twenty (20) other positions are currently not filled with some counties currently having only one (1) law enforcement officer.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Annual Report to the Commissioners for their information.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Quarterly Vehicle Accident Report to the Commissioners for their information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that Chairman Burnside has appointed Commissioner Poston to serve on the Marine Recreational License Advisory Committee.

ITEM III - 1990-91 Division Employee Awards

Dr. Timmerman and the Division Directors presented the 1990-91 Division Employee Awards to the staff. The Commission congratulated each employee that received these awards and a presentation ceremony was held denoting this recognition.

ITEM IV - Carolyn Randolph, President - S. C. Science Council

Ms. Carolyn Randolph noted that she serves as President of the S. C. Science Council and she presented the LaConte Award to Don Winslow for his efforts with Project WILD. Ms. Randolph noted that Mr. Winslow has performed in an exemplary fashion and that this is the highest award presented by the S. C. Science Council and is truly a very deserving recognition for Mr. Winslow.

ITEM V - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins noted that the General Assembly has returned for the 1992 legislative year and he stated that legislative reports would be forthcoming in the near future.

ITEM VI - NEW BUSINESS

A. Management Effectiveness Study: Larry Cartee gave a report on the Management Effectiveness Study whereby the Department has been identified as one of the most effective fish and game agencies in the country. Mr. Cartee noted that a Study Team would be in the Department in February to interview various staff and collect further information for this study. Mr. Cartee noted that he would attend as a member of the Study Team for the Florida Fish and Game Commission next week and be a part of the effort involved in conducting the study in the State of Florida.

B. Report on Fish Kill in Durbin Creek: Chairman Burnside noted that this item would be held for discussion in Executive Session.



C. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing further to report.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: There was nothing further to report.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: There was nothing further to report.

4. Conservation Education & Communications: There was nothing further to report.

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer gave a report on the hazardous material that was on a boat in Charleston Harbor and noted that extensive efforts have been made to handle this to protect the existing coastal resources.

D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Larry Owen noted that the Board met on December 12, 1991 and there were no items for Commission action. Commissioner Owen went over the items discussed in the meeting for the Commission's information. Commissioner Owen moved for the Commission to approve the re-appointment of Kenny Williams to the Board and for the Commission to ask the Chairman to send a letter to the Governor to re-appoint Dr. Tom Eleazer. The Commission adopted a motion to approve these recommendations by Commissioner Owen.

2. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Miller noted that the Board met on January 16, 1992 at Santee Reserve and the Board endorsed the need for a better definition and information on dove baiting. Commissioner Owen noted that the Federal Register is open on proposed changes in the dove baiting regulations and Dr. Timmerman noted that he has asked Dan Dobbins to coordinate input in these proposed changes for the Department and Commission. Commissioner Pendarvis asked that the Commission be given an opportunity to comment on these proposed changes in the Federal Register.

Commissioner Miller discussed the other items that were discussed at the Board Meeting and noted that the Commission has a vacancy on the Board and he moved that the Commission approve the appointment of Mr. Spencer Leavitt to this vacancy. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this appointment as recommended.

E. Other Remarks: There were no further remarks from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Miller moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Burnside noted that the Commission would, at this time, hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.



=====

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

The Commission adopted a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. William L. Hiott to the Marine Advisory Board.

The Commission adopted a motion to accept and approve the report on the fish kill in Durbin Creek as presented by the staff (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).

The Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments, re-appointments and other items distributed to them for Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers with the exception in Item I being the change from Commissioner Owen to Commissioner Poston.

F. Appointments: This item was previously acted upon in the Executive Session.

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting at the Marine Resources Center at 10:00 A.M., February 14, 1992 with the rededication of the Administration Building to be at noon on this date.

ITEM VII - ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was adopted to adjourn.

