

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA JULY 11, 1962

Present were Chairman Johnson and Commissioners Cantey, Cox, Hopkins, Heyward and Tison, Directors Webb and Lunz, Frank Nelson, Jeff Fuller and Pat Ryan.

Julian Johnson of the Attorney General's office brought up the continuing violation of the inshore trawling laws by certain Beaufort fishermen and trouble in securing convictions. He said that injunctions had been brought against some violators and that changes of venue had been granted for the trial of some cases.

Mr. Heyward brought out that no cases had been made in the particular area for four or five years but that he had warned all the fishermen that enforcement was being started.

The matter was received as information with the hope that it could be settled.

Mr. Nelson reported that 2,500 feet of dike had been built and the first trunk finished at Dirleton, and that a sign had been erected. He said that bids were being sought for the exterior painting of the house and that considerable work was needed on the steps and porches. He also reported that a full-time biologist, Phil Wilkinson had been assigned to the project.

~~Mr.~~ Mr. Tison brought up the question of maximum employment age and minimum mandatory retirement age for law enforcement personnel only.

After some discussion a motion of Mr. Tison was adopted that: "All law enforcement personnel 65 years of age or older be retired on June 30, 1963 but provided that no warden be required to retire until his current commission expires and that no new wardens be employed who are 40 years of age or older."

In answer to a question of Dr. Lunz it was stated that this would also apply to fisheries inspectors.

Mr. Johnson said that Warden Garvin O'Dell would report at the next meeting on the Laurens county launching area.

The appointment of Jack Rushing as Hampton county warden was approved on motion of Mr. Tison.

Mr. Johnson read a letter from Dr. Edwards of Clemson College who said that he was concerned with the water hazards on the Hartwell Reservoir to the students at the college, and particularly in the area where raw sewage was being released.



Mr. Webb said that Dr. Edwards had said that the college wished to cooperate with the Department in assuming police functions on the reservoir and was ready to ask the General Assembly or the Budget and Control Board for financial help. He said that he was particularly anxious to ban skiing in the polluted area until a treatment plant could be completed and said the college could post signs.

Mr. Webb said that the patrol of the area for skiers can be handled with present personnel but if our Department is to enforce any swimming restrictions it will require additional personnel and the appropriation of funds for this purpose.

On motion of Mr. Cox the actions of Mr. Webb were approved and he was authorized to proceed with cooperation with Clemson on the matter, to promulgate and file any regulations that might be necessary, and authorize the posting of signs by Clemson.

A letter received from Senator Rembert Dennis regarding the appointment of a Berkeley county fisheries inspector was received as information, after it was brought out the applicant was overage.

The reappointment of several non-pay wardens was approved.

Mr. Tison inquired about progress on negotiations with the trustees of Brookgreen Gardens and Mr. Webb was instructed to get up a suggested program to be presented in regard to Brookgreen being a resting area for waterfowl so other areas could be opened for shooting.

Dr. Lunz inquired about inspectors for counties where there was no actual need but no definite decision was reached.

Mr. Ryan said that he wished to commend the conduct and the interest of the wardens at the school. He reported that three wardens had been dispatched down to Wilson Landing dam one night of the school and had caught four men fishing in the sanctuary. They were placed under \$200 bond each for appearance in circuit court.

Mr. Fuller presented some recommendation on Lake Wallace, mainly that the fishing lake be drained and restocked, the draw-down starting September 4. He said that big game fish from the lake would be placed in the smaller lake and fishing allowed there for no fee; and also that there be no charge in the big lake for 30 days after August 1.



Mr. Johnson said he opposed taking off the charge as it would be hard to put back later.

Mr. Tison suggested keeping the fee on the small lake but having no charge on the big lake after August 1.

A motion of Mr. Tison, seconded by Mr. Cox, was adopted that Mr. Fuller's recommendations be followed on draining and restocking the big lake and that from August 1 until draw-down was begun there be no charge in that lake, but that the regular permit be charged on any other part.

Mr. Nelson was asked to present another report on Dirleton at the next meeting.

Mr. Johnson said that there was a big gap in communications in getting in touch with wardens in the field and Mr. Webb discussed plans that were being considered to correct this, particularly in the Spartanburg area.

The question of whether a meeting would be held in August was left up to the chairman.

*Eddie Finlay*

