

MINUTES OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA JULY 14, 1964

All Commissioners except Mr. Oliphant were present. Also present were Director Webb, Tommy Welch, Jeff Fuller and Pat Ryan.

Mr. Johnson brought up a letter written Mr. Cantey by Governor Russell, which enclosed a letter from Governor Holvag of Minnesota asking for a South Carolina representative for a meeting to discuss a Conservation Hall of Fame to be established in Minneapolis. The meeting will be held August 3-4.

After some discussion a suggestion of Mr. Cantey was agreed to that Mr. Johnson contact the Governor and see whether he wants someone to go.

Mr. Johnson said he had received a letter from the Duke Power Company expressing appreciation for the Commission opposition to the CAA landing strip proposed for Catawba Lake, which has now been abandoned.

Mr. Cox reported that he was not prepared to report on the progress being made on the manual of procedure.

The question of assistants to supervisors came up and Mr. Webb said he thought this should be held off until a chief of law enforcement was appointed, and he was not yet ready to recommend anyone for this position. The suggestion was made that some of the districts might be too big and Mr. Webb agreed, saying that he had made preliminary studies with Mr. Ryan but was not yet ready to make a recommendation, although it might be that the number should be increased to seven or eight.

Mr. Cox said he favored the appointment of assistants to the supervisors on a trial basis so there would always be someone in a position to take over for a supervisor. He said the Department was losing the opportunity to train such supervisors and should make plans to have men ready.

Mr. Johnson said he agreed with Mr. Cox and that there was bound to be senatorial pressure when a supervisor dies or resigns. He also agreed that there should be a trial basis and rotation of two or three men in each district, giving a chance for the evaluation of each.

Mr. Cox then suggested two assistants for each supervisor, one over the other



and said that although a rotation system was better than nothing it was not the best system. He said that some wardens were just not qualified for advancement.

A motion of Mr. Heyward was then adopted that Mr. Johnson, Mr. Cantey, Mr. Cox and Mr. Webb get together and make recommendations at the next meeting.

Mr. Fuller then asked for recommendations on the types of charts and tables to be prepared for the legislative committee which was to investigate the methods of selecting Commissioners.

The suggestion was made that the annual report point out the Commission accomplishments.

Mr. Johnson said that charts and maps would be helpful and that they should show the number of licenses sold in each county, the number of wardens, the money spent, etc.

No action was taken on Mr. Fuller's request at this time.

Mr. Cantey asked about the will of Miss Belle Baruch, which he understood left something for wildlife and Mr. Webb said the will has not yet been filed, although he was keeping up with the matter.

Mr. Johnson said that he would write Governor Byrnes for information, since he was an executor of the estate.

Mr. Cantey also said that Tom Yawkey might possibly be willing to leave something and Mr. Johnson said that he would write Jimmy Moore at Georgetown. He said he doubted if Mr. Yawkey could be contacted before the end of the baseball season. He said it might be good to get a group, including Governor Russell, to confer with Mr. Yawkey.

The question of Department autos was then brought up, Mr. Johnson reading part of the regulations of the Budget and Control Board. Mr. Webb said he did not think any of the Department cars would be affected.

Mr. Johnson presented a letter from Dr. Lunz, asking that the record show that Bears Bluff Laboratories had signed a contract with the FWS for river basis studies.



Mr. Johnson explained the delay in the release of the Andersen company report, and also said Dr. Lunz had written him that part of the Andersen recommendations affecting his Division were prohibited by statute.

Mr. Cantey suggested that the recommendations regarding salvage be followed.

A letter from Bratton Davis of the Development Board was presented by Mr. Johnson, in which Mr. Davis said the Board was working on something similar to the North Carolina "Let's Go Fishing" booklet.

Mr. Johnson said he had written the Budget and Control Board about a car for Dr. Lunz. He also said that Dr. Lunz had informed him that he had been unable to hire a biologist.

Mr. Johnson said he had received a letter from Governor Russell saying that the raises for Mr. Fuller and Mr. Nelson would be discussed at the next meeting of the Budget and Control Board.

Mr. Johnson then mentioned two sequoia trees from China, of a variety thought to have been extinct for millions of years, and said that they had been planted near the Spartanburg lake, in whose building the late Tom Moore Craig had been most influential. He suggested that if the trees grow and prosper a memorial marker should dedicate them to Mr. Craig.

Mr. Welch then asked about the August meeting, saying that the tide might make it difficult to get the Matt to Bears Bluff at the August 3 date originally set. It was agreed that he should work with Dr. Lunz to find out the most suitable tide and notify the Secretary, who would inform the Commission of the date set. The meeting then adjourned for lunch.

Mr. Webb then presented a letter from the Governor dealing with federal aid for Commercial Fisheries. He suggested that the Wildlife Resources Commission be designated as the agency to participate and that the federal aid go directly to the Department to be used as the Commission decided.

The framework for the dove, marsh hen, snipe and woodcock seasons was then



presented by Mr. Webb as received from Washington. The dove season is essentially the same as last year with 12 doves in the daily limit and 70 days with January 15 the last day.

It was agreed to have two seasons, instead of three as last year. The first would be September 14-October 9 and the second December 3-January 15.

Mr. Webb said he would work out the marsh hen season so that it would take in the best tides and have the snipe-woodcock season end January 15.

A number of warden appointments were approved.

The question of the legislative recommendation from Allendale for the appointment of a Mr. All to become game warden succeeding Mr. Mims was then discussed. After some discussion a motion of Mr. Tison was approved that Mr. Webb call in the Senator and the House member and tell them the man was unqualified on an educational basis and ask them to recommend someone else.

It was agreed that the matter of additional wardens for Anderson and Oconee counties be held in abeyance.

Mr. Webb said the new insurance policy on the plane was better than the old one and it was agreed that Mr. Johnson, Mr. Cox and Mr. Tison study it.

An application for the building of a Florence county lake, signed by the delegation, was presented but no action taken.

A suggestion of Mr. Fuller that Oak Grove Lake in Greenville County be sold was adopted on motion of Mr. Hopkins. It was agreed that it should be sold on sealed bids with the right to reject and Mr. Webb was asked to get a ruling from the Attorney General.

A general discussion followed on the question of charging on Lake Brown, Ashwood lake and the Hampton lake. A motion of Mr. Cantey was adopted that each person using the lake for fishing or boating purchase a \$3.10 permit but a \$3.10 fishing license would serve in lieu of this. Minors under 12 or residents over 65 would be exempt. It was agreed that this would go into effect January 1.



Mr. Fuller then exhibited signs being placed at hatcheries and access launching areas. Mr. Johnson told of the stocking of small rockfish and trout in Spartanburg county.

Mr. Heyward brought up the question of launching areas in Charleston county, saying there had been some unfavorable publicity over the lack of them. He asked why the law could not be amended so Boating Division money could be used for these.

Mr. Webb said he and Mr. Cox had talked with Highway Commissioner Pearman about the possibility of getting some of the gasoline tax paid by boaters, which would involve taking away the refund provision and making part of the money available to the Department.

Mr. Tison said it was most important that the Commission have information and diagrams ready for the legislative committee, which would want much information.

Mr. Johnson said that he would write each member of the committee to get an indication of what information was desired.

Mr. Fuller said a great deal of work would be involved and that he had put in four straight days, and that the information could not be dug out of the annual reports.

Mr. Johnson said that maps should be made up showing the location of wardens and other employees, lands owned and lands acquired by years, and other information that might be of interest to the Committee.

It was agreed that this should be got up by September 1 but that a report on progress should be made at the next meeting.

Eddie Finlay



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