

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
July 19, 1985
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at the Dennis Building, Room 335, Columbia, S. C., at 10:00 A.M., July 19, 1985, with Vice-Chairman Compton presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included Commissioners Compton, Harrelson, Owen, Stokes, Thomason and Bennett. Directors and Staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Brock Conrad, Sonny Baines, Bill Chastain, and various other staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting. Commissioner Compton noted that Chairman Webster's father had passed away and a moment of silet prayer was held to remember the family in this loss.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the June 21, 1985 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II. PRESENTATION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Vice-Chairman Compton and Sonny Baines presented the Certificate of Meritorious Service to the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation for their assistance in helping promote the Department's magazine and other areas of cooperation. Mr. J. G. Rideotte accepted this award and expressed thanks to the Commission for presenting it to their agency.

ITEM III. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that the Commission had tentatively agreed to hold its next meeting on August 9th. The FY 86-87 budget proposal and waterfowl seasons will be discussed at this meeting.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the six-month vehicle accident report to the Commission for their information. In addition, he distributed a booklet entitled, "Placing Wildlife Management in Perspective" to the Commission for information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he recently met with the Governor's Staff to discuss our budget needs. Dr. Timmerman also noted that he met with Champion Paper Company to discuss the GMA Program and a letter was sent to them on various options which are being considered. Dr. Timmerman stated that a report from the Land Procurement Committee should be presented to the Commission at its September meeting.



Dr. Timmerman noted that under a new federal court ruling, we will be required to pay overtime for certain employees that work over 40 hours per week. We are now reviewing this matter to determine which employees will be exempt or non-exempt.

Dr. Timmerman noted that under new travel regulations adopted by the state, no meal reimbursement for employees or the Commissioners will be made unless overnight travel occurs. Commissioner Thomason recommended that we work with SLED, the Highway Patrol and other agencies to see if we can get an exemption from this for law enforcement.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that they have been invited to Palmetto Bluff on October 1st and 2nd. He asked the Commissioners to advise him if they plan to attend.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a list of the Advisory Board members and the expiration of their terms to the Commission for information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that interviews have been held for the position of Chief of Game Management and John Frampton has been selected to fill this position.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion - DWCO Liability: Vice-Chairman Compton stated that this matter be deferred until the August meeting.

B. Discussion - Radio System: R. M. Gifford noted that the staff has been looking at problems with the Greenville Radio System and plans are being made to install a 330-watt base station at an estimated cost of \$7,500. Dr. Timmerman noted that this action will help with some of the communication problems, but it will not solve all of the problems. The Commission, by concensus, agreed to implement this plan of action.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Seasons for Doves and Other Migratory Birds: Brock Conrad distributed the proposed 1985-86 Migratory Bird Hunting Seasons and Limits (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve all seasons and limits as presented.

B. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing further to report. Commissioner Owen asked about the \$653,000 carryover in the Division of Marine Resources and Dr. Timmerman stated that he thought that this involved federal funds for various projects in the marine area.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Joe Logan reported on the recent fish kill in the Saluda River noting that approximately 130,000 fish have been killed. He noted that this matter is still under investigation. Commissioner



Thomason asked that the Commissioners be informed early when such actions occur. Dr. Timmerman stated that he will put this on the agenda for discussion at the next Staff Meeting.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain recommended that Corporal Billy Tolar be promoted to Buck Sergeant for extra duty performed. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation.

4. Information & Public Affairs: Sonny Baines informed the Commission that the new Sportsmen's Calendar has been printed and over 4,500 calendars have been pre-sold.

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report.

C. Appointments: Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission approved all of these submitted with the exception of the new DWCO appointment of William T. Chichester in Horry County and added authority to the DWCO new appointment of Douglas D. Hill to also include Cherokee and Bluff Plantations along with Big Survey Plantation.

D. Other Remarks: Commissioner Harrelson noted that the South Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Council will meet August 20th at Edisto Beach and he asked any of the Commissioners to advise him if they could attend.

Commissioner Owen noted that there are problems at Clarks Hill Lake whereby the Georgia officers are making cases on the Georgia side on fishermen that are cast-netting for bait fish. There are no boundary markers for the middle of the river channel. Vice-Chairman Compton asked Dr. Timmerman and Bill Chastain to contact their counterparts in Georgia to discuss this matter.

John Evans informed the Commission that the officers involved in the recent Smith murder case in Lexington County are to be commended for their efforts. He noted that the public was astounded at the work done by the officers from our Department.

E. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting in Columbia on August 9, 1985. The Commission also agreed to hold its October meeting in Walterboro.

ITEM VI. ADJOURN

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

