

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL**  
**RESOURCES**

**Edisto Town Hall, Edisto, SC**

**Friday, July 19, 1996**

**1:00 pm**

The regular meeting of the Board of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was held at 1:00 p.m, Friday, July 19, 1996 at the Edisto Town Hall in Edisto, South Carolina. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Chairman George Graham presided at the meeting and other Board members present included: Tom Miller, Ted Oxner, Mary Pope Waring, Marion Burnside, and Campbell Coxe. Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., and staff members of the Department of Natural Resources were present at the meeting as well as various guests.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman George Graham called the Board Meeting to order at 1:00 pm, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**II. Meditation**

The Board held a moment of silent meditation as noted by Chairman Graham prior to the beginning of the meeting.

**III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

The Board adopted a motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 1996, Board meeting as submitted. .

**IV. Presentations/Commendations**

There were no presentations or commendations to be presented at this time.

**V. Constituency Comments**

There were constituency comments presented to the Board at this time.

**VI. Advisory Committee Reports**

- A. Natural Resources Enforcement - Tom Miller noted that the Board met Wednesday at the Webb Wildlife Center and he went over the items discussed at the meeting. He distributed a re-draft of the DEO policy noting that further input would be received and this item would be on the agenda for the August Board meeting for action.



- B. Water Resources - Lynn Youmans noted the Advisory Committee met last week in Columbia and he went over the items discussed at the meeting. Mr. Youmans expressed support to the staff for their action recently on Hurricane Bertha.
- C. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - Bill Simpson reported on the background and activities of the Land Resources and Conservation Districts Advisory Committee and went over the items discussed at their recent meeting.

**VII. Items for Board Action**

- A. SCDNR Strategic Plan - Larry Cartee presented the SCDNR Strategic Plan to the Board for their consideration. Mr. Cartee went over this Plan noting that this redraft was the result of public input sent to over 1,700 individuals and consideration of this input by the Strategic Planning Committee and Deputy Directors on June 19, 1996. Mr. Cartee discussed the Plan and its contents as well as the Executive Summary which had been distributed to the Board. Ms. Waring noted that the Plan should include a definition of renewal and non-renewal resources in the section on definitions, that each division should develop its own plan to meet the goals in the Strategic Plan, that dates and accountability to review the divisions' plans as well as the DNR Plan should be developed, a time frame should be developed for the previous items to include the development of an operational plan and the Plan should be utilized to identify a process by which budget priorities would be set in the Department. Mr. Cartee noted that all of these items would part of the next step to be completed by the Strategic Planning Committee and that a plan to implement the Strategic Plan would be developed and presented to the Board for their information. Dr. Graham noted that this should be a living document which should be utilized in the Department in the future. Following this discussion, the Board adopted a motion to approve in concept the Strategic Plan as presented (copy attached to original Board minutes).
- B. 1997 Legislative Proposal - Michael Thompson noted the 1997 Legislative Proposal had been sent to the Board. Mr. Thompson asked the Board to accept the top three legislative proposals from each division. Dr. Graham noted that Dr. Timmerman will give the legislative arena a number one priority in the coming year and there will be a coordinated effort in the Department in the legislative arena. Dr. Timmerman noted that a policy regarding the legislative process has been distributed to the staff at its last meeting. Following discussion, the Board approved the top three legislative proposals from each division as submitted.



- C. Harvest Information Program - Brock Conrad discussed the Harvest Information Program noting that South Carolina is scheduled to participate in 1998. John Frampton discussed different alternatives for the program noting that it will take \$75,000 to \$150,000 to implement this program. Mr. Frampton discussed the options of a free permit versus a \$5.00 permit, and asked the Board to accept this as information and decide at the next meeting which course of action the Department should take.
- D. Proposed 1996-97 Duck Stamp Budget - Brock Conrad noted the proposed budget for the State Duck Stamp funds for 1996-97 had been sent to the Board (copy attached to original Board minutes). Mr. Conrad discussed this budget with the Board and following discussion, the Board approved the budget as submitted.
- E. Proposed Antlerless Deer Quota Budget - Brock Conrad noted the proposed Antlerless Deer Quota budget had been sent to the Board (copy attached to original Board minutes). This proposed budget was discussed with the Board and Dr. Graham noted that we need to look at creative ways to use these funds in the future. Following discussion, the Board adopted a motion to approve the budget as submitted.
- F. Discussion - Magazine Subscriptions/Licenses - Benny Reeves noted that a letter had been sent out recently to people that are age 64 to purchase a lifetime license and this has gone very well. Mr. Reeves that a number of these individuals have also subscribed to the magazine. Mr. Reeves noted that they will test license agents that sell licenses to see if magazine subscriptions may also be sold and that in 1997 the staff will work on a license including a subscription to the magazine. Ms. Waring noted that we need to develop a one-stop shopping for licenses to include these types of items.

**APPEARANCE AND COMMENTS BY GOVERNOR DAVID BEASLEY:** Dr. Graham at this time introduced Governor Beasley to the Board and those in attendance at the meeting for his comments. Governor Beasley appeared at the Board meeting and presented the following comments:

Dr. Graham, thank you, we're glad to be down, Mary Wood and the children enjoying the Billfishing Tournament and all the festivities that go along, most importantly though the good Southern hospitality. It's good to see this, what I think is an incredible team, the leadership from the top with a first class Board, a first class top management and those of you who make it all happen. As the public puts me in office and asks for us to do the best job then you are the people that makes it all happen and we appreciate your commitment to South Carolina. I can tell you, we have seen a lot of positive things in the



last couple of years and the public is really sensing positive movement making certain that we balance protecting our natural resources with good conservation practices but at the same time remember who owns this land, people who want to enjoy it and we've got to balance it out very well. I think the leadership in the Department of Natural Resources is doing a super job in your interfacing with your teams, your groups out in the communities in such a positive environment. It makes a great difference as you know when we have to sometimes in this job of ours, we all have to deal with issues that arouse controversy. The way we deal with people makes all the difference in the world. We sit down and discuss amicably differences about how we approach an environmental or a conservation or sometimes a wildlife concern. I will tell you, last week when we had Hurricane Bertha come through, we usually get after those hurricanes all types of fussing and a lot of Monday morning quarter backing, people saying well this group didn't cooperate, that group didn't cooperate, everybody was turf guarding and protecting their position and not cooperating the way that delivered the type of services that the people of this state would want. I can tell you, I've heard this over and over, the Department of Natural Resources was a shining example of how state government can come to the aid of communities in a state that's in distress from a hurricane. It was exemplary action, the cooperative spirit that was apparent in working with other law enforcement and other agencies whether it was SLED, the Highway Patrol or local governments. I have heard nothing but good things. I want to say, Dr. Graham, how much, as Governor, I appreciate everybody's genuine and dedicated commitment to the people of South Carolina. A lot of you have been working hard on a lot of different issues. I know our office works with a lot of you on a lot of different things. Keep up the great work, your officers out there in the field do an good job. I'm glad to see some of the positive things taking place. We gotten some monies in the budget that I've enjoyed reading about Mark on. Mark don't worry about it, it's just a day or two, I have to do it every day. At least somebody's not lying about you. You all got a good team up here and I am proud to showcase this Board against any other Board in America. It is really....there might be an exception up here...ole Campbell lives right down the road from me. Campbell is like me, he married way over his head. Where is Meredith, is she not here? Dr. Graham, that's pretty much it. I really appreciate you all's dedication because they don't do this because they're making money out of it - they do it because they love South Carolina, and when they can sit down with you with a problem they're really concerned about it, they look to you for advice and look to us for guidance. We hopefully come up with that kind balance that people of South Carolina say that's what you do, you are our servants. Thank you, Dr. Graham. [Dr. Graham - We appreciate your coming, appreciate your support and we look forward to your guidance. Don't let us get out there hung out and you decide to cut us off. Let us know ahead of time before we make the decision]. We appreciate that, we enjoyed working with you, I know a lot of you know Will and other folks on our staff really enjoy working with you all in trying to find that direction before we get out there too far in any particular area. Thank you Dr. Graham and I look forward to having a good weekend.



**VIII. Director's Briefings**

**A. Executive Office**

1. Director - Dr. Timmerman asked Ed Duncan to provide an up-date on the oil spill on the Reedy River and Mr. Duncan provided an up-date noting that it is estimated to be 1.5 million gallons.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we are working on a budget proposal and will have recommendations on this proposal to the Governor's Office in the near future.

Dr. Timmerman distributed some information on the allocation of funds in the Department to include revenue collections, noting the source of funds from revenue, state funds and federal sources.

Dr. Timmerman distributed to the Board some information on the recent staff meeting to include the minutes of the meeting for the Board's information.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we are developing an internal Emergency Preparedness Plan. Dan Dobbins noted that we are working on this plan now and Hurricane Bertha was used to be a test case for the plan. Mr. Dobbins noted that this plan will be completed in a final draft form and will be presented to the Board at its next meeting. Ms. Waring asked if the Conservation Districts could serve as a role in the Emergency Disaster Plan and Dr. Timmerman noted that we will look at including this in the plan.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Vehicle Accident Report and noted that we have a process for accident reviews for all of our staff in Law Enforcement and a different process for all other employees. Benny Reeves discussed the Accident Review Committee and its role with employees that are not in law enforcement.

Dr. Timmerman noted that a video has been put together on the proposed acquisition of properties with Duke Power Company and he presented a copy of this video earlier to Governor Beasley.

2. Legal - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.
3. Legislative Affairs - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.



4. Human Resources - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.
5. Environmental - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

**B. Deputy Directors**

1. Administrative Services - There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.
2. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Brock Conrad updated the Board on activities associated with the Santee Coastal Reserve Management Plan noting that a meeting will be held on August 5 or 7 with Bob Bailey and others at the Santee Coastal Reserve. Mr. Conrad distributed a copy of the Migratory Bird Hunting Framework noting that it had just been received and he went over this framework with the Board. Following discussion, the Board approved the framework as submitted. John Frampton gave a report on the focus areas in the state noting there are eight focus areas and that the staff would try to report on each focus area at future Board meetings. Mr. Frampton went over the status of actions in each of the focus areas and presented this information to the Board as requested. Ms. Waring noted that we need to keep a focus on this program as a statewide initiative and that we should encourage the use of volunteers and also include non-consumptive use along with traditional uses in all of the activities associated with the focus areas.
3. Natural Resources Enforcement - Mark Huguley went over the activities in the division during the month of June noting that training activities to include horse patrol training at Clemson was an area of emphasis. Alvin Taylor went over the B-SAF activities which had been initiated during the month. Dr. Timmerman noted that we will implementing the Boating License over the next year and this will be done through the testing currently in place with the Department of Transportation.
4. Conservation Education and Communications - Sonny Baines gave an update on the activities of the Awareness Committee and copies of the Citizens Guide and Assistance Manual were distributed to the Board. Mr. Baines noted that Don Winslow had taken a job with the Arizona Fish & Game Department and Steve Bates has been named as Acting Education Coordinator. Ms. Waring asked about putting the Water Resources Plant ID Book in with the Department's by-products and this will be evaluated by staff. John Davis distributed



a copy of the new magazine and went over this briefly with the Board. Mr. Burnside recommended that the Board approve the appointment of Mr. Richard Peterson to the CEC Advisory Committee to fill the unexpired term of Mr. John White. The Board adopted the appointment of Mr. Peterson to the CEC Advisory Committee as presented.

5. Marine Resources - Paul Sandifer distributed Governor's Cup hats to the Board and express thanks to the Town of Edisto for hosting the DNR Board meeting. He noted that the staff is working on blue crab legislation and he provided an update on the shrimp season to the Board for their information.
6. Water Resources - Freddy Vang distributed a reprint of the Aquatic Weed Book and the Adopt-A-Boat Landing Brochure. Chris Page and Berry Beasley gave an in-depth report on the Edisto Basin Task Force and two members of the task force made comments on this project to the Board.
7. Land Resources and Conservation Districts - Cary Chamblee reported that on July 31, 1996, the Governor and Secretary of Agriculture will sign an agreement in South Carolina. Information of the Flood Insurance Program and the DNR Lands Inventory was distributed to the Board for their information. Ms. Waring asked if the focus areas could be put on the DNR Land Inventory Map and Cary Chamblee noted that this would be done.

Dr. Graham asked that the item 7 be moved to item 1 on the agenda, and that these be rotated each month.

#### **IX. Missions, Goals, & Strategic Planning**

There was nothing further to report to the Board at this time.

#### **X. Policy Review**

Caroline Agardy distributed some policies to the Board and went over these for the Board's information.

#### **XI. Comments**

There was nothing further comments at this time from the Board.

