

41

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES
COMMISSION MEETING

(House of L. Edward Bennett)
Springfield, S. C.
June 21, 1985
11:00 A. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at Commissioner Ed Bennett's house, Springfield, S. C., at 11:00 a.m., June 21, 1985, with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included Commissioners Webster, Harrelson, Thomason, Stokes, Compton, Bennett and Quackenbush. Directors and staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Sonny Baines, Paul Sandifer, Jeff Fuller, Bill Chastain and various other staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 11:00 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 May 17, 1985 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that we had a good year in the budgetary process this year. He distributed a summary of budget increases for FY 85-86. Dr. Timmerman commended the staff for their work on the budget this year. Dr. Timmerman expressed a special thanks to Dan Dobbins for his work on legislation this year and he asked Mr. Dobbins to present a Concurrent Resolution adopted by the General Assembly to commend Jeff Fuller upon his retirement. Mr. Dobbins, Larry Cartee, Representative John J. Snow and Representative L. Edward Bennett presented this framed Concurrent Resolution to Jeff Fuller. Mr. Fuller expressed his thanks for this Resolution and asked the Commission to always keep in mind the resource as they continue to conduct their business in the future.

Dr. Timmerman noted that we are now working on the FY 86-87 budget request which has to be submitted to the Budget and Control Board by August 15, 1985. Dr. Timmerman suggested that the Commission consider holding its August meeting on August 9, 1985. In addition, our budget hearings are scheduled the first week in September and the Commission may want to meet during that week.

Dr. Timmerman noted that he recently attended a fishery symposium in Washington, D. C. He noted that it looks good for the Department to receive expanded D-J funds this year.

Dr. Timmerman noted that the Marine Recreational Fisheries Fair will be held June 22 and 23, 1985, at the Marine Center.

Dr. Timmerman stated that the Land Procurement Committee continues its work and recommendations are being developed.

ITEM III. PRESENTATION

The presentation of the Certificate of Meritorious Service was delayed until the July Meeting.

ITEM IV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Dobbins distributed a copy of the Legislative Report and went over various items with the Commission.

ITEM V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on Radio System: Bill Chastain noted that plans were being developed for a new radio system, but funds have not been approved through the bond bill this year. Mr. Chastain noted that the staff is looking at deadspots in the mountain area through the use of repeaters. This was discussed by Commissioner Thomason and Dr. Timmerman asked Bill Chastain to look at this area to see what we can do and report back at the July Commission Meeting.

ITEM VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Registration and Dedication Agreements: Stu Greeter noted that two registration agreements and one dedication agreement had been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The registration agreements are in Santee and Huntington Beach State Parks. The dedication agreement applies to a 30-acre parcel in Colleton County. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve these agreements as submitted.

B. Proposed 1985-86 Duck Stamp Budget: Brock Conrad noted this proposed budget was sent to the Commission as recommended by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this budget as submitted.

C. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves noted the FY 85-86 budget includes a 6% base pay raise for all employees and there is no merit raise this year. Also, new travel regulations have been adopted and a memo on this will be sent to the Commission.

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

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

4. Information & Public Affairs: Sonny Baines introduced Betty Spence of the S. C. Wildlife Federation. Ms. Spence gave the Commission an update on Camp Wildwood and expressed thanks for support of this camp. Mr. Baines distributed a copy of the new issue of the magazine to the Commissioners.

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer invited the Commissioners to the Marine Recreational Fisheries Fair. He informed the Commission that Vic Burrell has recently had surgery and is doing well.

D. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Brock Conrad went over the various items discussed at the recent Board meeting. A summary of the recommendations on the duck blind spacing proposal were distributed to the Commission for information.

2. Marine Resources: Commissioner Harrelson noted the Board met recently and he went over the items discussed at the meeting.

3. Heritage Trust: There was nothing further to report.

E. 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 adopted a motion to approve these as submitted.

F. Other Remarks: Commissioner Stokes moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that the regular meeting will recess while the Commission holds an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting. Chairman Webster asked Commissioner Harrelson to report on the action taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Harrelson reported that the Commission adopted a motion to approve Dr. Timmerman's recommendation to appoint Brock Conrad as Director of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve and ratify this action. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

G. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting at 10:00 a.m., July 19, 1985, in Columbia, S. C.

ITEM VII. ADJOURN

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

