

MINUTES

S. C. WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION June 25, 1974

Mills Hyatt House,
Charleston, South Carolina

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife & Marine Resources Commission was held at the Mills Hyatt House in Charleston, South Carolina on June 25, 1974 at 10:00 am with Chairman Hudson presiding. Commissioners present were Harris, Lumpkin, Rhame, and Boykin. Others present were Webb, Timmerman, Joseph, Ryan, Belangia, Culler, Fuller, Chastain, Durrant, Evans, Laurent, Bearden, Pendarvis, Welch, Campbell and various other staff members.

CALL TO ORDER

Item I. READING OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: The minutes were approved as mailed out.

Chairman Hudson introduced Mr. Samuel Boykin, new Commissioner in the Fifth District and welcomed him to the Commission.

Item II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Catawba Fish Kill: Chairman Hudson asked Mr. Latimer to take over. Mr. Latimer reported that the SLED Investigation report on the Catawba Fish Kill-Burris Chemical Company has been mailed out to the Commission. He gave a brief background on this matter. Mr. Robert Carpenter, Attorney representing Burris Chemical Company stated that their position was that Burris has not violated the law in this matter. Mr. Burris reported to the Commission his feelings and stated that this was no willful act on his part to let this leak into the Catawba River. He feels that this was an act of vandalism. Mr. John Jones with Burris was introduced and he gave the Commission some background as to dates, etc. of Burris' efforts and corrected a statement that was made earlier that they were in violation. There was a question of security at the time of the kill and Mr. Burris answered that he felt that there was complete security at all times. After much discussion on the matter, it was decided that Chairman Hudson would meet with Mr. Burris and come up with a civil settlement. It was the feeling of the Commission that we keep this matter open as long as there is a possibility to find out who did this.

✓ B. Awarding of Weapon Upon Retirement: Wash Belangia reported that we will work out the problem on the guns with Crowe and then work out a system for awarding guns upon retirement. Because of regulations, the guns would have to be purchased in Crowe's establishment. It would still be the same policy.

C. Fishing Guides: Commissioner Rhame would like to report at a later date on this.

D. Game & Freshwater Fishery Publications: A report will be made at a later date.

E. Oyster Guideline #6 (Revised): Commissioner Lumpkin went over this with the Commission. There was a motion made to accept the revision. The motion was seconded and passed by the Commission.

Chairman Hudson introduced Mr. Jones Buchanan, new Commissioner and welcomed him to the Commission.

Item III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Additional Space: Dr. Timmerman reported that this is being looked into



and will report back to the Commission as soon as more information is available.

B. Private Request For Use of Wildlife Radio Frequency: Mr. Webb reported that Mr. Alan B. Albright, Underwater Archeologist at the University of S. C. has requested permission to utilize the Wildlife radio frequency and to install a radio in his official automobile in order to be in contact with our Law Enforcement Officers in emergency situations. There would be no expense on our part. Mr. Webb recommends that the Commission approve this request. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this request, subject of Rules and Regulations of this Department.

C. Conservation Officer Pay Scale: Chairman Hudson gave the background on this matter. Wash Belangia reported that in April of 1973 a motion was made by the Commission to raise Unit Leaders salary to \$8,441 per year. The discussion that followed that motion was centered around having a \$500 differential between the salary of a Conservation Officer, Supervisor, and Unit Leader, but was never put in the form of a motion, therefore, this was never carried out. Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion, that we clarify this discussion and go on record as favoring a differential of \$500 between Unit Leaders, Supervisors, and Conservations Officers. This motion was seconded, and passed. A proposal was also made that the Chairman appoint a Salary Review Committee to review the salaries with the various department heads. A motion was made, seconded and passed on this proposal. A report will be made back to the Commission at intervals. Officers will receive a retro-active check for back pay if due them when these adjustments are made.

D. Division Reports:

1. Game and Freshwater Fisheries: Nothing other than monthly report.
2. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph reported to the Commission on the closing of the shrimp season and there was some discussion on this.
3. Law Enforcement and Boating: Mr. Welch asked the Commission for permission to prepare a Rule & Regulation to allow dealers a sixty (60) day extension for obtaining the Certificates of Origin which is required under the new Boat Titling Law. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this.
4. Information & Public Affairs: Chairman Hudson announced to the Commission that the I & PA Department was awarded First Place out of the United States and Canada for our magazine. John Culler gave the Commission a poster presentation showing comparative costs, etc. on the magazine. He passed out a list showing circulation in other states and each town in S. C. He explained his new promotion ideas and asked permission to increase the cost of the magazine from \$2 per year to \$3 per year. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this request.
5. Administrative Services: Wash Belangia reported that the Arthur Andersen procedures will be implemented by July.
6. Natural Area Acquisition & Resource Planning: Dr. Laurent passed out some background information on the Heritage Trust Program along with a copy of the program for the Conference.

E. Appointments: All appointments were approved as mailed out. Mr. Webb recommended approval of Robert G. Sandifer, York County as a salaried conservation officer. This was approved by the Commission. His salary and other expenses necessary for employment will be paid from funds with this Department credited to York County.



Commissioner Harris read a letter to him from Pat Ryan regarding the matter of non-pay game wardens. (copy attached and made a part of these minutes) He suggested that we proceed with these suggestions generally. Mr. Webb concurs with the general procedure. We should adopt this procedure per further recommendations from Commissioner Harris' committee. Any appointments being held at this time should be re-examined according to these procedures. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve this.

F. Comments: Mr. Webb reported that the estimates for repairing the house at Newberry Hatchery were extreme and recommends to the Commission that a new house be constructed. There was no objection by the Commission, therefore, this was approved in principle.

The purchasing of the additional 18 acres of land at the Dennis Wildlife Center was approved for future expansion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stapleton

(Miss) Christine Stapleton,
Secretary to the Commission

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