

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION COLUMBIA JUNE 7, 1962

Present were Commissioners Johnson, Cox, Cantey, Tison, Heyward and Hopkins, Directors Webb and Lunz, Jeff Fuller, Tommy Welch, Pat Ryan, Admiral D. P. Polatty, and Jack Carroll.

Mr. Webb presented plans drawn up by Frank Nelson for development of the Big Pee Dee game management area and said work was progressing nicely and it was hoped additional lands could be acquired.

It was requested that a continuing report on progress be made at the next meeting, as well as on the erection of a sign.

The possibility of securing some Huntington (Brookgreen) lands was discussed and it was agreed that the matter should be pursued.

Dr. Lunz said revenue from the Division of Commercial Fisheries was about \$2,000 below last year, mainly because of the poor shrimp season and a decline in menhaden boat activity.

He mentioned back taxes owed the Division by the Atlantic Shellfish Company and said this was making collections from others harder but that the matter would be worked out.

It was brought out that the \$20,000 appropriated for a boat under the deficiency appropriations bill could be carried over.

Dr. Lunz brought up the fact that there were inspectors in counties where there was no real need for one and that some lived a long way from where their work was carried on, this involving quite a bit of travel expense. He said that a man to fill a Berkeley vacancy had been recommended but he was over the desired age and had convictions of liquor law violation. He asked that the Commission set up some policy and Mr. Tison suggested that this, along with a maximum age for employment and a minimum age for retirement be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Heyward said that it was up to the Division heads to make the decisions on employment.



Mr. Tison suggested that in cases where a senator was recommending a man who did not meet requirements a direct approach should be made to the senator, explaining the situation and the Commission policy.

The question of hiring inspectors by counties was received as information and carried over, after Dr. Lunz said he would confer with Senator Dennis about the Berkeley appointment.

Dr. Lunz' schedule of salaries was approved on motion of Mr. Heyward.

Admiral Polatty commended the work of Gordon Brown at the Conservation Camp. The Wardens' Letter was also commended.

Mr. Webb was authorized to accept a bid for printing the Game and Fish sections of the Code, with a suggestion that this include rulings of the Attorney General and annotations.

A motion of Mr. Heyward was adopted that the next meeting be held July 12 instead of July 5. (Note: I just recalled that the Wardens' School is being held July 9-11 and it might be best to have the meeting during the school. Mr. Webb requests the meeting be held Wednesday morning, July 11, to meet with the Wardens: on the last day of the school).

Mr. Webb presented a request of the Jasper delegation to dig a well and install a pump to take care of a swamp that goes dry in dry spells, funds credited to the county to be used. Mr. Tison suggested that information be secured on how many people use the area and what the cost of operation would be. The use of the funds was then approved with the understanding maintenance and operation would also come from the funds credited to the county.

The reappointment of several non-pay wardens was approved.

Mr. Johnson cited the need for public boat landings and Warden Garvin O'Dell presented information on a proposed landing in Laurens county on Lake Greenwood.



He said that the Champion Paper Company had deeded 45 acres to the county for a park and, since there were no public landings in the area, it would be a good thing if one or two public landing ramps could be constructed.

Mr. Webb said he was much in favor of public landings but a precedent might be set, and suggested that funds credited to a county should be used in all such cases. He also suggested that the Commission authorize the Department to work out agreements with counties for landings and access areas.

Mr. Johnson said it was most important that something be done for the people and that good will, and support for needed legislation, could be built by showing the people what was being done for them.

Mr. Tison moved that Mr. Webb be authorized to confer with the Laurens county officials and that as much money as Laurens has in its fund be spent. Mr. Heyward offered an amendment that a sign be put up showing the part of the Department in the project, and Mr. Cox offered an amendment that funds credited to the county be pledged for operation and maintenance. The motion was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. O'Dell said that since the landings would benefit the people of many counties as well as Laurens he hoped the cost could come out of the general game fund.

After some discussion Mr. O'Dell was asked to get up cost estimates and tell the county officials the Commission wished to cooperate fully, and to have the information available before the next meeting.

A motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that the Department cooperate with all counties desiring landings and that funds credited to the respective counties be used for that purpose, including construction, maintenance and upkeep, and that appropriate signs be provided.



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On suggestion of Mr. Heyward the Commission approved the appointment of Mr. Baxley as a warden with the Boating Division with the understanding he would fill the first vacancy on the Charleston warden force.

Eddie Finley

