

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA MARCH 27, 1962

Present were Commissioners Johnson, Cox, Cantey, Oliphant and Tison, Director Webb, Jeff Fuller, Hugh Dowdle of the Soil Conservation Service, Senator McKeown and Representatives Weatherford and McCraw of the Cherokee delegation, and several citizens of Cherokee county interested in the Thicketty Creek watershed.

Mr. Dowdle explained the work plans for the watershed, including the plans for the 100-acre wildlife lake, the only part of the project with which the Wildlife Resources Project would be involved.

He pointed out that the only financial involvement of the Department would be in securing easements for the lake property, in which local interests would share the costs. Construction costs of the dam would be borne by federal funds and local funds.

Mr. Cantey brought up the question of what total costs to the Department would be and Mr. Dowdle stated that it was impossible to say exactly but that they would probably be around \$13,000.

Mr. Tison said he was concerned that there was no definite provision that expenses to the Department not exceed a certain amount.

Senator McKeown said he felt sure a satisfactory agreement could be worked out between the Commission and the Delegation whereby the Delegation could pledge that the Department involvement would not be more than a certain sum, and said the Delegation could pass either an act or a resolution or write a letter to this effect to the Commission.

A motion of Mr. Cox was then adopted that "The Commission enter into an agreement with the Cherokee delegation that the Commission's limit of responsibility in the watershed not exceed \$20,000, and that the Delegation supply the Commission with a letter committing itself to this figure, and that Director Webb be authorized to execute such papers as were necessary for the presentation of the matter to Congress."

In answer to a question by Mr. Tison regarding the drawing power of the lake,



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several persons described the great numbers of people who would fish and the heavy population of the area, as well as the lack of good fishing waters at present.

The reappointment of J. W. Daley as a non-pay warden was approved subject to the approval of Mr. Heyward.

Mr. Webb explained plans to have francolins raised by Frank Hill of Union so that there could be quantity releases if raising was successful.

There was a general discussion of the availability of biologists to help landowners and pondowners and the need for letting the public know these services are available.

*Eddie Finlay*

