

## MINUTES

S. C. WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION  
Dutch Plaza  
Columbia, South Carolina

MARCH 28, 1975

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife & Marine Resources Commission was held at Dutch Plaza in Columbia, South Carolina at 10:00 am, March 28th with Chairman Hudson presiding. Other Commissioners present were Buchanan, Boykin, Lumpkin, Rhame, Bennett and Harris. Other present were Dr. Timmerman, Mr. Webb, Mr. Belangia, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Culler, Mr. Chastain, Dr. Laurent, Dr. Joseph, Mr. Cotty, Mr. Cartee, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Pendarvis, Mr. Welch, Mr. Evans, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Latimer and various other staff members. Also in attendance was Dr. Jacqueline Jacobs, Executive Secretary of the South Carolina Wildlife Federation and a representative from The State Newspaper.

### CALL TO ORDER

ITEM I. READING OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: Minutes were approved as they were mailed out.

### COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman reported to the Commission on staff action to be taken on various matters which included: 1) establishment of criteria for license agents, 2) review and update policies within the Department, 3) methods to summarize publications and monthly reports for Commissioners, 4) in-depth progress report by one Division Director at each Commission Meeting, 5) the provision of information by the staff on numerous Corps projects, 6) a moratorium on the issuance of weapons, excluding law enforcement, until criteria is developed for this, 7) budget status and necessity for efficiency in each Division, and 8) the development of a system to evaluate next fiscal year's budgetary preparation.

Jeff Fuller read a proposed resolution on Handgun Control opposing the efforts of the Committee on Handgun Control who are undertaking efforts to halt the sale of handgun ammunition. Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to adopt this resolution and Commissioner Boykin seconded it.

### ITEM II. OLD BUSINESS

A. FOX HUNTERS: Commissioner Boykin reported that the Attorney General's office ruled that fox hunters must possess a license to hunt fox. However, if field trial status is granted, non-residents do not need a license. A motion was made by Commissioner Boykin to pass this and it was seconded by Commissioner Harris. This is the same policy as present law exists and was adopted by the Commission. The letter from Commissioner Boykin will be turned over to John Culler and he will publicize this action.

A second request was made to have any information sent out at least ten (10) days prior to a meeting.

B. CROP STUDY - J. W. WEBB CENTER: Commissioner Rhame reported that his committee recommended that crop planting for the current year at the Webb Center be continued until further development of the management plan is complete. Dr. Timmerman noted that the recommendations for research activities at the Center



would be available in two to three weeks for incorporation into the management plan. Commissioner Harris noted that the staff should provide indications as to the amount of money to be spent in the next four years on managing the Center so as to be part of the management plan. A motion was made by Commissioner Rhame and seconded by Commissioner Boykin to accept this recommendation.

C. LEASE - DEVEAUX BANKS: The Audubon Society desires to obtain a long-term lease so as to employ someone to stay on the island for additional protection of the brown pelican rookery. Dr. Timmerman recommended that the lease be extended with the provision that either party may cancel on a one year's notice. This way the Department can maintain control of the property. Ed Latimer agrees with this. Commissioner Harris made a motion to approve this and Commissioner Rhame seconded.

D. POSITION STATEMENT - TROTTER SHOALS: Jeff Fuller gave a summary report of the biological effects of the Proposed Trotters Shoals project and expressed opposition to the project. He indicated the need to analyze the economic aspects of the project, also. Dr. Jacobs of the S. C. Wildlife Federation expressed their opposition to the project and requested that the Commission take a formal position opposing the project. She read a Resolution to this effect; a copy is attached. The Commission voted to tentatively support the S. C. Wildlife Federation's position and requested that a special meeting be held to 1) invite and hear proponents, including but not limited to W. J. Bryan Dorn, and other opponents of the project, and 2) analyze a review study of the economic aspects of the Corps EIS to be conducted by personnel at Clemson University. The staff should get together all information on this for the Commission. Commissioner Harris made a motion and Commissioner Boykin seconded that the Commission go on record as agreeing with the opinion of the Wildlife Federation until this study is done.

E. BOATING SAFETY: This will be reported on at the April meeting.

### ITEM III. NEW BUSINESS

A. IN-DEPTH REPORT - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: Wash Belangia gave an in-depth progress report for the last six months concerning the Division of Administrative Services.

B. MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION ANALYSIS: Dr. Timmerman noted that due to rising printing costs, the I & PA Division will be about \$50,000 in the red on the publication of the magazine this fiscal year. He desires the guidance and recommendation of the Commission as to how to approach this problem. Following considerable discussion, the Commission approved a motion to raise the subscription rate of the magazine to \$5 a year and have the staff develop proposals to subsidize the needed \$50,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris and seconded by Boykin.

### C. DIVISION REPORTS:

1. Game and Freshwater Fisheries Division: Jeff Fuller proposed a list of hunting seasons dates and regulations for the Commission to approve, which they so did. Commissioner Harris requested that the staff make recommendations on the raising of quail versus the wild quail at the Webb Center.

2. Law Enforcement and Boating: Conservation Officer Jim Mills gave a



brief status report on the progress of the Hunter Safety Program. He indicated that 135 applications for hunter safety instructor status had been received. Tommy Welch reported that the Mayor and other residents of McClellanville had requested that a portion of Jerramie Creek be zoned as a no wake area and proper signs be installed. Their investigation supported the request and this was approved by the Commission.

4. Marine Resources: Dr. Joseph noted that the bill on the mechanical harvesting of shellfish has been prepared and will be introduced by Senator Dennis the week of March 31, 1975. He also stated that the May meeting of the Coastal Plains Regional Commission will be at the Marine Center which may host the Governors of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida if they all attend.

5. Natural Area Acquisition & Resource Planning: Dr. Laurent stated that due to the overriding public interest, the Department is serving as a coordinator of a steering committee to lay out the facts concerning the Congaree Swamp. This will take about six months and they will hold their first meeting on April 3, 1975.

D. ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS: Nothing to report at this time.

E. SALARY REVIEW COMMITTEE: Since the Brown Study did not upgrade the salaries of conservation officers, Dr. Timmerman indicated that he would meet with Dr. Mullins at the State Personnel Division and report back to the Commission.

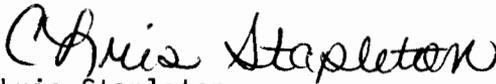
F. APPOINTMENTS: Dr. Timmerman reported that at the last Commission Meeting the non-pay appointments were not approved. These were approved by the Commission with a motion made by Commissioner Rhame and seconded by Commissioner Boykin.

Mailed out prior to this meeting were recommendations for re-appointment of James E. Rumfelt, Gray Court, S. C.; Richard E. Luther, West Columbia, non-pay, property of Crafts-Farrow State Hospital, Richland County; Bobby Joe Robertson, Elgin, non-pay, property of Crafts-Farrow State Hospital, Richland County; and a correction requested for Walter G. Baxter, non-pay, Tillman, commission renewed with authority limited to Tarboro Plantation, Jasper County, corrected commission to be extended to Statewide Authority.

All these were approved subject to approval of the resident Commissioners.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Chris Stapleton,  
Secretary to the Commission

