

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT WAMPEE MAY 12, 1965

Present were Commissioners Johnson, Cantey, Tison, Hopkins and Glenn, Directors Webb and Lunz, Pat Ryan, Jeff Fuller, Frank Nelson, Gene Howell, Bob Stevens and Fred Ramage.

Dr. Lunz said that before the next meeting the budget request for his Division would have to be submitted to the Budget and Control Board. He said that Mr. Stevens had died and Mr. Welch was leaving and the budget would have to be revised. It was agreed that Commissioners Cantey and Glenn would look over his requests for the Commission.

Dr. Lunz also brought up the matter of REA-sponsored program which had been suggested to him, but said he didn't want to get tied up and agreed to drop consideration for the present.

He said the Toomer case--about which he had written the Commission--was a real problem. He said that Toomer had long been a thorn to the Department and that if he got away with defying the Department and its inspectors it would be a serious blow to law enforcement.

Mr. Tison moved, seconded by Mr. Cantey, that: "The Commission express complete confidence in what Dr. Lunz has done and that he take whatever further steps he thinks best."

Dr. Lunz said that warrants had been served on Mr. and Mrs. Toomer but that Solicitor Murdaugh had said it was best to drop charges against Mrs. Toomer.

Mr. Johnson said he had received a letter from former Commissioner Heyward asking whether it would be possible for him to receive legislative reports and copies of bills. The Secretary was instructed to see to this.

Mr. Johnson also said he believed the Commission should go back to the practice of inviting members of the Advisory Committee to all meetings and this was agreed to.

Mr. Johnson then brought up the matter of charging for the management area hunts, and Mr. Webb said there was some question as to whether charges could be made for hunting on private lands. He said he had taken up the matter of charging on Federal and State owned lands under cooperative agreements, which was agreeable.



Mr. Ryan said that the Attorney General's office had said the Department has the right to charge for the hunts, and could put out management area permits. He also said that Grady Patterson, assistant Attorney General, did not want to give a definite legal opinion where privately owned lands were concerned, although it was indicated that the Department possibly has inherent power since a majority of private lands are under a signed cooperative agreement with the landowners. It was agreed that management area permits would be issued stating this year.

Mr. Cantey asked how much the permits should be and Mr. Webb suggested that since the turkey and deer seasons would be some months apart it would be best to have two permits and that they be \$3 per permit.

Mr. Nelson said that some management areas have both Forest Service and private lands and this might present a problem, since all lands covered are not under lease agreements. Mr. Ryan said that Assistant D. A. Grady Patterson's opinion did not cover this.

Mr. Johnson suggested that under future Wildlife Management Area lease agreements that a clause be inserted that would give the Department permission to charge a fee on all cooperative leased lands.

Mr. Webb said the Department could not give the right to trespass on private property.

The trespass problem was discussed generally and the minutes of the last meeting were cited where Mr. Nelson had said all permits point out that the holders can not trespass on private lands.

A motion was then adopted that a fee of \$3 be charged for persons taking part in the management area hunts, one for deer and small game and one for turkeys.

Mr. Johnson asked about the possibility of trapping some excess deer from the AEC area before it is opened to special hunts and Mr. Webb said he would look into it.

Mr. Webb said that things had been worked out with Mr. McDougall for clearing the basin for the Barnwell lake and Mr. Cantey said that he had inspected the area.



Mr. Webb said that he was putting on Mr. Harter as a game warden in Allendale county, Mr. Harter having been approved at the last meeting.

No definite action has been taken in the matter of Warden Cravens, Mr. Webb said but he hoped to have it cleared up soon.

Mr. Webb said purchase orders have been submitted to the Purchasing Department for the cars authorized at the previous meeting.

Mr. Ryan reported on work planned for the booklet on South Carolina fishing.

The Secretary was instructed to correct the minutes of the last meeting to say that the map of the ramps and landings had been approved as outlined by Mr. Welch, and that this should be considered as separate from the proposed fishing booklet.

Mr. Ryan reported on a conference he had had with Bryan's regarding the fishing booklet.

A motion of Mr. Hopkins was adopted that the boat recommended by Mr. Welch be purchased, since Mr. Glenn had approved the recommendation. Mr. Glenn said that the use of boat in life-saving should be considered.

Mr. Tison said that he thought that hereafter all expenditures exceeding \$2,500 asked by Mr. Webb and Dr. Lunz should be held for study by the Commission for at least 30 days, or until the next meeting. He said that in the past the Commission had been asked to approve matters with which they were not familiar and for which they did not have sufficient time for study. He cited the bringing up of the boat purchase at the previous meeting as an example.

Mr. Cantey and Mr. Johnson both agreed, Mr. Cantey saying that projects were not being kept up with and Mr. Johnson mentioning the loose-leaf notebooks which were no longer being used. Mr. Johnson cited the weed control cost at the Barnwell Lake as an example and said the Commission might conceivably stifle itself with future commitments.

Mr. Tison said he was not absolutely wedded to the \$2,500 limit and his motion was adopted that: "No expenditure in excess of \$3,000 be brought up and passed upon



by the Commission without an intervening meeting, providing that the Commission can waive this in the case of emergencies."

Mr. Cantey asked how running accounts of expenses were kept up with and Mr. Webb and Mr. Ramage explained the system.

Mr. Johnson suggested that the Secretary get a copy of the Wildlife Management Institute report and a copy of the Arthur Andersen report for Mr. Glenn. Mr. Cantey said he would send Mr. Glenn his copy of the Andersen report.

Mr. Ramage mentioned that the major recommendations of the report had been put into effect.

Mr. Johnson mentioned the fact that Buck Buchanan should not be put in the position of having to handle licenses and also be responsible for the money from them.

Mr. Tison asked about the methods of motor purchases and Mr. Webb explained.

Mr. Tison suggested that the Commission go back to its regular meeting date of the second Thursday in each month at 10:30, unless changed for cause. The monthly meeting date would be subject to change by the Chairman.

Mr. Webb said that the entire first floor of the present building at 1015 Main has been assigned to the Department, which could move in around mid-July or August 1. He said he would like authorization to move the present Commission room to the Industrial Commission Hearing room, which was agreed to.

Mr. Webb said it was not yet known whether or how much rent would be charged and he was still looking into the possibility of the Department building its own building.

The commissioning of all wardens where there was no objection from the particular Commissioner was approved.

Mr. Hopkins said that the president of a coon club at Marietta wanted to get a non-pay warden's commission and that he would go through the regular channels.

The commissioning of Monroe Sikes as a Calhoun warden and James Paul Edwards as a McCormick warden was approved, the latter subject to approval by Mr. Cox.



Mr. Webb presented the salary schedule for the coming year but since the changes involved over \$3,000 it was passed over until the next meeting, which has been set tentatively for June 10. Mr. Webb said the schedule would have to be in the hands of the Budget and Control Board by June 15.

Mr. Webb mentioned a letter he had received inviting him to a meeting of a field trial association May 18.

Mr. Webb said that he had talked with Governor McNair, who wanted the Department to continue as the agency handling the Outdoor Recreation program. He said that with the Governor's approval he had appeared before the Ways and Means Committee of the House and asked for \$20,000 for the program. He said a definite plan must be prepared, submitted and approved before federal money is available to the State agencies.

A motion of Mr. Canteay was adopted that Mr. Webb be authorized to set up the operation contingent upon getting the \$20,000 with which to operate.

Mr. Johnson said he had talked with Van Newman and he would have a report at the next meeting.

Mr. Fuller then gave a report on an accident at the Barnwell Lake, where a plane trying to spray the lake had spilled chemical on 19 or 20 cars and some sidings and other property, ruining the paint jobs. He said Julian Johnston was looking into the matter and checking the damage claims.

Mr. Johnson said a policy should be established under which no contracts should be entered into unless there were adequate bond to protect the Department against any contingencies.

Mr. Stevens then described the hatchery operation, which was to be visited in the morning, and said after earlier failures the hatchery was concluding a very successful year. He described the several ingredients necessary for the success, paying particular praise to the law enforcement personnel which had cooperated so well and so cheerfully. He said he was writing a letter on this to Mr. Webb.

Mr. Johnson said that this cooperation was much appreciated but that credit should



go to Mr. Stevens and Mr. Fuller.

Mr. Stevens said that fry had been furnished to 12 agencies and all states receiving fry had promised to provide information on their raising and hatching results. He said this would prove of much value to the Department and would save much money, and as well as being a nice gesture had already brought returns in fish given by other states--notably walleyes and blue cats.

Mr. Webb said there was an amazing amount of friction in other states among the various divisions and he was proud of the lack of friction and of the fine cooperation shown among the Department divisions in South Carolina.

Mr. Nelson said much of the credit for the fine cooperation should go to Mr. Webb.

Mr. Ryan then told of work being done in promoting the Striped Bass Derby which will be held August 6-14. He said the Moncks Corner Chamber of Commerce was most enthusiastic and everyone was working hard. He said two meetings had been held and everything was moving along nicely.

A motion of Mr. Tison was adopted that the Secretary write Mr. Cox a short note expressing the sympathy of the Commission at his indisposition, and hoping for his early recovery.

Eddie Finlay

