

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA
MAY 14, 1959

All members of the Commission were present except Mr. Cantey. Also present were Director Richardson, Jim Webb, Bob Lunz, Lewie Schley, Crawford Billings, Dan McKeithan and G. G. Thrower.

A resolution of appreciation and esteem for Director Richardson was read and the Secretary was instructed to see that it be properly framed and presented. Director Richardson expressed his appreciation and his friendship for the Commission and said that he would always be available for help with the Commission program.

A resolution of Mr. Cox was adopted as follows: "Be it resolved that the Commission grant to retiring Chief A. A. Richardson the use of the automobile now owned by the Commission and used by him, in consideration of his continued service to the Commission as Director-Emeritus; and should the Commission call on Mr. Richardson for service entailing expense that the same be borne by the Commission."

Mr. Johnson moved that Mr. Webb be appointed to succeed Director Richardson upon his retirement and this motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Webb said that he appreciated the confidence placed in him and pledged his complete efforts to the job.

Mr. Warren brought up the matter of the position of assistant director and Mr. Johnson suggested Jeff Fuller for the position in recognition of the fine work he has done in the fisheries division. It was brought out that federal funds could not be used in paying this salary.

Mr. Johnson moved that Mr. Fuller's salary be raised \$1,000 and this motion was amended to include a similar raise for Frank Nelson and raises for other personnel recommended by Mr. Webb as follows: Herman Holbrook, \$5,300; L. G. Webb \$5,300; Walt Schrader \$5,300; Paul Shrauder \$5,000; Bob Stevens \$5,000; Otho May \$4,590; O. M. Dennis \$2,860 (all these under federal aid)



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H. M. Bowers \$2,180; Glenmore Shirey \$2,376; R. Owen, \$2,180, the last hatchery superintendents. All raises would be effective July 1.

Mr. Warren reviewed the work that had gone into the passage of the Commercial Fisheries Bill and stated that none of the changes had hurt the Bill particularly. He told the Commission that Dr. Lunz and Mr. Schley had been in attendance in the Legislature with him and had attended all of the Committee meetings and very many sessions of both the House and Senate when the Bill was under consideration. He pointed out that the House had amended the Bill in a number of particulars and that the Bill had met with very little strenuous opposition in either House or Senate but that a number of amendments were proposed and adopted by the House which were entirely satisfactory to the sponsors of the Bill; that delay in passage of the Bill by the House was caused by a point of order being raised that it had not been considered by the Ways and Means Committee in accordance with the House Rule requiring revenue and appropriation measures to be referred to the Ways and Means Committee. The Bill was then referred to the Ways and Means Committee and another hearing was then had by that Committee; that Committee made certain amendments which were adopted by the House when it was reported out; that the Bill was then passed by the House and went to the Senate and several amendments were added there, in which the House finally concurred and the Bill enrolled for ratification (Since ratified May 14, 1959).

A discussion was then had of a consolidation of the position of Director of Commercial Fisheries Division with the position of Director of Bears Bluff Laboratories. Dr. Lunz was present and made a statement to the Commission about such consolidation. *★ correction - see June 10* In the discussion it was brought out that Director Seabrook was now serving on a hold-over basis since 1958, it appearing that he had been appointed in 1957 for a term of one year.



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A motion of Mr. Cox, addressed to the Vice Chairman, was adopted as follows:

"That the Commission thank our Chairman for the fine work done in obtaining passage of the Commercial Fisheries law; and that the Commission take whatever steps may be necessary and proper to engage the services of Dr. G. Robert Lunz as Director of the Division of Commercial Fisheries in conjunction with his work as Director of Bears Bluff Laboratories, and that with the proper approvals that his salary for both jobs as combined be \$10,000.00 a year, and that the Chairman be authorized to act in accordance with the foregoing at the proper time." *and along lines & under conditions discussed*

Dr. Lunz brought up the boat that had been turned over to the Boy Scouts, which was badly deteriorated, and suggested that he be allowed to tow it to Bears Bluff and use whatever equipment was suitable. This was approved on motion of Mr. Hopkins.

The appointment of Frank Wolfe as warden in upper Spartanburg county was approved, effective July 1.

Mr. Warren brought up the boat safety bill passed by the General Assembly and read a letter from the Governor and another from the six members of the legislative water safety committee endorsing Thomas C. Welch, Jr., of Charleston for director of the Division of Boating.

A general discussion was held on the bill, particularly the law enforcement problems and training of personnel, and it was agreed that much would be involved in setting up the Division, but that nothing should be done at present.



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Mr. Johnson suggested the possibility of furnishing wardens with trucks instead of cars, saying this would save the Department much money.

A number of warden appointments were approved.

Mr. Warren presented a petition from a group of Jasper citizens opposing renewal of a sanctuary in the county. The sanctuary agreement with the landowner had expired in April and he had requested a renewal. There was some discussion as to whether the old river going into the property was a navigable stream and whether it could be posted against fishing if the land were not in a sanctuary.

The Commission, by a 5-1 vote, upheld Director Richardson in his plan to renew the sanctuary agreement. (It was later discovered that the sanctuary agreement reserved fishing rights for the landowner and the Commission said that the landowner must give up these rights if he wished the land placed in the sanctuary. The matter was then left up to Director Richardson for determination.)

A continuation of the deer disease study with additional costs was approved but expenditure of money for statistical work by N. C. State was disapproved.

Mr. Webb read a letter stating that charges brought against Supervisor Ross in Abbeville county had been dismissed by Judge Littlejohn.

The appointment of Warden Artie Heath of Beaufort was approved.

Supervisor Flood stated that he had had considerable trouble with Warden Cravens of Colleton and Mr. Webb was instructed to call Cravens in and "straighten him out," or discharge him.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Eddie Finley

