

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

NOVEMBER 17, 1972

The monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was called to order in the Commission Room in Columbia on November 17, 1972, at 10:00 A. M., Chairman Joseph W. Hudson, presiding. Those also in attendance included Vice-Chairman Glenn, Commissioners Rhame, Eltzroth, Goodman, Lumpkin, Williams, Dennis, Major Cantey, General Harris, Dr. Timmerman, Dr. Joseph, Jeff Fuller, Ed Latimer, John Culler, Brock Conrad, Joe Logan, Bill Chastain, Gene Howell, Fred Ramage, Charlie Bearden, Don Archer and Executive Director Webb and Wash Belangia.

Mr. Latimer asked that the Commission delay beginning its meeting until Mr. Pritchard from Charleston could be heard. Mr. Pritchard was attending this meeting to appear as attorney for Mr. Earl Glines in regard to Oyster Lease Number 21. Mr. Glines had been sent a Rule to Show Cause why this lease should not be cancelled. Mr. Pritchard requested that the Commission allow him sufficient time to straighten this out. Mr. Pritchard stated that he was vitally interested in restoring this lease to compliance with the Department. The Chairman asked if there were any objections to granting this request to Mr. Pritchard. Hearing no objections, Mr. Pritchard was informed that he may proceed with arrangements to restore this oyster lease to be in compliance with the Department rules and regulations.

Mr. Glenn asked the Secretary to go over those items in the Minutes of the previous month's meeting which required action. Mr. Webb reported that the Bonneau project was listed on the Agenda and he would take that up later.

Dr. Lumpkin reported that work is going forward in the remodeling of the Dirleton House. Mr. Webb reported that the trailer for Mr. Samworth has already been ordered and should be delivered in about 10 days. Ed Latimer reported that the deed transferring the property to the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department has been signed and the deed giving Mr. Samworth the cemetery plot and trailer has also been executed.

The next item for action was the marking of Department-owned vehicles. John Culler reported that the decals had been ordered and this work will probably commence in a few days.

John Culler also reported that he had contacted Scout Executives and they are in the process of working out a merit badge program for the Boy Scouts and the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department. It is hoped that this



can be arranged so that boys can earn three merit badges - one for wildlife, one for fish and another for marine work.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Mr. Eltzroth suggested that the Secretary might establish a format to the Minutes whereby "Action To Be Taken" could be added in order to expedite the reading of the Minutes. This will be accomplished beginning with this meeting's Minutes.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Bonneau Fish Hatchery - Executive Director Webb reported the plans for the second contract will be completed so that the bids can be put out in December. There is one item to be deleted and that is for the area to be paved around the building. Senator Dennis suggested that the paving item be left out of the contract and that the Berkeley County Legislative Delegation be asked to do this for the Department. Chairman Hudson asked Mr. Webb to contact the Berkeley County Delegation and request this paving.

Mr. Eltzroth suggested that hereafter we refer to this facility by its proper name, The Dennis Wildlife Center.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Finance Report - The Finance Report was accepted as information as submitted to each of the Commissioners prior to the meeting.

Marine Resources Report - Dr. Timmerman read a letter to the Marine Resources Division from Mr. Clyde Eltzroth transferring title of a 32-foot vessel to the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department for sport fishing research or such other use as may be determined by the Marine Resources Division. Senator Dennis moved that the Commission extend its deep appreciation to Mr. Eltzroth for this very magnificent gift. The Commission concurred unanimously.

Mr. Eltzroth reported that the Beaufort Betterment Group had contributed \$1,000 to the Marine Research Foundation. Mr. Eltzroth stated that the Foundation is expected to meet in the near future for a re-organizational meeting and make plans to go forward and complement the work of the Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission.

Chairman Hudson passed a letter received from Senator Waddell concerning legislation on the bait-shrimp law on to the Chairman of the Marine Committee, Dr. Lumpkin, for consideration by that committee.

Dr. Timmerman reported that his Division is well underway in the preparation of the Sport Fishing Guide. John Culler, Chief of Information and Education, is doing a lot of photography work on this and reports that this will be available by the first of the year. Dr. Timmerman states that



it is hoped this will be ready by the end of February. Dr. Timmerman would like to request the Governor to place a forwarding letter in the Guide. Dr. Timmerman requested that the Chairman of the Commission ask the Governor for this letter. Chairman Hudson replied that he would do this.

Dr. Timmerman then presented his monthly progress report, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Dr. Joseph reported that in addition to his written report which is a part of the Marine Resources Report, the first of the Sea Grant Advisory Newsletters has been produced and he hoped that each Commissioner had received a copy. This will be coming out 8 or 9 times a year and its purpose is to transfer useful information and technology to the marine resource users.

Charlie Bearden, Chief of the Office of Marine Conservation Management and Services, also submitted his report in written form which is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Dr. Timmerman requested permission of the Commission to proceed with negotiations for the purchase of an additional vessel for estuarine survey work which will slightly exceed the previously requested amount of \$50,000. Mr. Glenn moved, Senator Dennis seconded, that Marine Resources be allowed to go ahead to secure information to present to the Executive Director for his approval to purchase this vessel. The motion carried unanimously.

At this point, Senator Dennis moved that the Director of Marine Resources obtain at the earliest possible date, a plat of the property at Fort Johnson. This was seconded by Mr. Eltzroth. The motion passed unanimously.

Projects Report - Don Archer - District Fisheries Biologist Don Archer presented a short pictorial resume of fisheries research and management program in District One. The slides shown were interesting and informative.

Appointments - Commissioner Eltzroth moved the approval of all appointments previously mailed to the Commission Members, subject to the approval of those individuals in Commissioner Thompson's District. Executive Director Webb presented the following named individuals for re-appointment: G. Herman Wise, Newberry; W. Ed Harrelson, Georgetown; James R. Grubbs, Sr., Estill; Joe L. Chapman, Jr., Luray. Commissioner Eltzroth moved that these be approved, seconded by Senator Dennis. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Webb recommended that the Commission of Walker Smith be changed to reflect a state-wide Commission. The Commission



approved this unanimously.

Santee-Cooper Rediversion Plan - J. C. Fuller, Jr. - Mr. Fuller explained the Rediversion Plan and its importance to the Department in having striped bass available to us to operate the striped bass hatchery or new facility, The Dennis Wildlife Center. Mr. Fuller illustrated his presentation by the use of maps.

Senator Dennis made the motion that this Commission seek a commitment from each member of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation to the effect that any appropriations implementing the Rediversion Plan include the safeguards mentioned by Mr. Fuller in his presentation whatever will be necessary to get the herring and rockfish into the lake system. Dr. Lumpkin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Eltzroth stated that this was a multi-million dollar attraction which we have in the striped bass and lake system and unless we preserve this annual turnover of money, the economy of the state will suffer.

Senator Dennis suggested that Mr. Hudson, as Chairman, write a separate letter to each of this state's two Senators and six Congressmen requesting that they reply to this Commission separately. Chairman Hudson stated that he would do this.

Chairman Hudson thanked Mr. Fuller for this very good report.

Committee Reports -

Committee on Review of Department-owned Facilities:

Chairman Hudson reported that this committee had met and will have some recommendations to present at the next Commission Meeting.

Committee on working hours and conditions of Conservation Officers - Commissioner Eltzroth, Chairman, reported that this Committee has met and organized. The Committee has formulated some plans of putting together some data and of getting ideas from various levels of the Law Enforcement personnel and hope to present some further progress by the next Commission Meeting. Mr. Eltzroth stated that it is anticipated that this study will require a good deal of time to make a thorough study.

Finance Committee - Commissioner Glenn, Chairman, reported that this Committee has met and hope to present a full and complete report at the next Commission Meeting.



UNCLASSIFIED ITEMS

Jack's Hole Boat Ramp - Mr. Mac Flood gave an explanation of the problem which they are encountering in building a boat ramp in this area. Mr. Flood suggested that a survey be made to determine the depth of the water and run elevations on the water to see what the costs to the Department will be.

Senator Dennis moved that the Commission ask the Santee-Cooper Authority to postpone action on this matter until we can furnish them with further information. He also suggested an appearance before the Santee-Cooper Authority by either the Chairman of the Commission or Mr. Webb to present this problem to them. Commissioner Eltzroth also suggested as a part of Senator Dennis' motion that the Commission spend money on civil engineers to get the necessary plats and necessary data so that the Commission can show dollar-wise what it is talking about. Senator Dennis accepted this as a part of his motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhame and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Eltzroth stated that the Commission should go on record thanking Mr. Flood for his diligent work in bringing this to the attention of the Commission.

Chairman Hudson requested Mr. Webb to proceed with getting surveys and other additional information the Commission will need to present this to the Santee-Cooper Authority.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 noon.

Respectfully Submitted,



Peggy A. Lowman, Secretary  
Wildlife and Marine Resources  
Commission

/pal



ACTION TO BE TAKEN

COMMISSION

Chairman Hudson to request Governor to write forwarding letter for Sports Fishing Guide.

Chairman Hudson to write to each member of the Congressional Delegation asking them to state their position on Santee-Cooper Rediversion Plan.

Contact Santee-Cooper Authority to postpone action on Jack's Hole until further information can be furnished to them.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Contact Berkeley County Delegation and request paving at Dennis Wildlife Center.

Get surveys, data, etc. to be presented to Santee-Cooper Authority regarding Jack's Hole.

Appear before Santee-Cooper Authority to present problem at Jack's Hole.

MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION

Meet with Mr. Pritchard to get Glines Oyster Lease in compliance.

Obtain additional costs for vessel for estuarine survey study.

Obtain plat of property at Fort Johnson.

