

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION 29 1973

WAMPEE

November 20, 1973



The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at Wampee at Moncks Corner on November 20, 1973, with Chairman J. W. Hudson, presiding. Also in attendance were Vice-Chairman Glenn, Commissioners Harris, Rhame, and Dennis along with Executive Director Webb, Dr. Timmerman, Wash Belangia, Dr. Laurent, Dr. Joseph, John Culler, Pat Ryan, Jeff Fuller, Ed Latimer, Bill Chastain, Joe Logan, Brock Conrad, Charlie Bearden, Ned Pendarvis and Billy Durant.

OLD BUSINESS

Relocation of Columbia Office - Wash Belangia reported that the new office should be ready for occupancy the second or third week in January. Problem areas will be moved in first. He will be meeting with the Bankers Trust people to arrange a conference room area with four to five Administrative Offices downtown. Senator Dennis made the motion that these arrangements be approved by the Commission. General Harris seconded and the motion was passed.

Corp of Engineer Permits and Environmental Impact Statement Procedure - Dr. Timmerman discussed the new procedure for handling Corp Permits and Environmental Impact Statements as devised by Dr. Laurent. It was the feeling of the Commission that it was a satisfactory procedure and a copy of this formal procedure is forthcoming at a later date.

Cape Romain Buoy - Commission Resolution & Response - Dr. Timmerman reported that the Resolution has been mailed out on this. He has also written U. S. Senators and two Congressmen in coastal areas requesting that they use their influence in passing this resolution. We have not had any response on this Resolution at this time. As soon as a reply is received, it will be given to the Commission.

Boating Regulation - The three Regulations that were approved at the last meeting have been filed.

Acquisition of Additional Property for Dennis Wildlife Center - Senator Dennis reported that due to being out of town, etc., he has not had a chance to do anything with this, but will check with the Committee and report back to the Chairman of the Commission before the next meeting.



Dr. Timmerman gave a brief summary of the Status Report on Belmont Game Management Area which was passed out at the meeting. Chairman Hudson asked that the staff send in a statement on their feelings on research at Belmont prior to the next meeting so that action can be taken on this. It was suggested that negotiations be continued until a decision is reached.

## NEW BUSINESS

### DIVISION REPORTS:

Game & Freshwater Fisheries - Jeff Fuller presented his report and briefed the Commission on some of last months activities. Chairman Hudson suggested that we get in touch with Trout Unlimited regarding a donation of seven miles of stream on the Saluda River. They are willing to give it to us if we put in a trophy type trout stream with permits. Chairman Hudson will follow up on this.

Commissioner Glenn raised the question if there could not be a limit on deer per hunter per season or per year. Chairman Hudson asked Jeff Fuller to give us some idea of how the deer population is coming. If we are not hurting them, there is no reason to put a limit on them.

Marine Resources - Dr. Joseph gave a brief report on the activities at the Marine Center for the month. There was nothing in his report that required action to be taken. He also noted the fact that the Governor's Conference on Marine Resources will be held in Charleston at the Mills Hyatt House December 17th and 18th.

Mr. Latimer asked the Commission to set a hearing date in the matter of CAROLINA SEAFOODS, INC. objection to Oyster Lease 21 to BULLS BAY SEAFOOD. Chairman Hudson requested, subsequent to the Commissions approval that the attorneys can appear before Commission at the December meeting.

Law Enforcement & Boating - Pat Ryan briefly went over the monthly activities of the Law Enforcement and Boating Division. A report on this was mailed out.

Information & Public Affairs - John Culler went over his activities for the month. He gave the Commission a brief on the problems his division has had with getting the subscriptions to the magazine mailed out. An agreement with a company in Iowa has been entered into and hopefully the new subscription system will be more efficient. Also, one thousand copies of the next magazine will be put on a newstand at fifty cents per copy as an experiment. He will present a proposal in January to the Commission to change the magazine over to ten issues instead of six per year.



Administrative Services - (Finance) - Wash Belangia reported that a Chief of Personnel, Al Courie, was employed. The first Division of Administrative Services Organizational meeting was held this month. They are working on a procedure for handling legislation. Formal recommendation will be received for legislative procedures. This will be mailed out and up for approval for the January meeting.

Commissioner Glenn asked that when variations in expenditures occur compared with last year, that an explanation be included in the finance report. In the future supplemental sheets with explanations will be attached to report.

Appointments - Senator Dennis moved that the appointments that were mailed out be approved. This was seconded by Commissioner Glenn.

Mr. Robert A. Player of Sumter and Mr. Larry W. Snipes of Greenville were appointed and approved by the Commission, although their recommendations were not mailed out according to the ten day notice.

Mr. G. D. Stuart <sup>Ballard, P.O. Box 671, Pawleys Island, S.C.</sup> was appointed as a non-pay Conservation Officer for the Barruch area due to the urgency of the matter, although his application has not been mailed out prior to this meeting.

Wash Belangia reported that he talked to Mr. Austin of the Highway Department regarding the Departments license plates. The dye for the plates has not come in and if it does not come in in time for the deadline for displaying new plates, that he will send a substitute tag until the new tags come in.

Internal Controls and Management Reporting Project - Chairman Hudson reported that he met last month with Pat Smith, State Auditor, who was concerned over some of our procedures. The Commission was polled by telephone and asked Chairman Hudson to ask an outside accounting agency to come in and go over the departments system. Arthur Andersen and Company of Charlotte has been commissioned to do this report. In the future a weekly report will be mailed to the Commission by Arthur Andersen on their progress in setting up a new procedure. They are trying to work out a program that will fit the Auditors Office and General Services and where we can be in accord with their procedures. They have reviewed the program with various departments such as purchasing, etc. They hope to begin immediately on the purchasing area which is priority, then receipts area and then the reporting area. Another area of concern with the Budget and Control Board about us not spending money that we asked for during the period of the year. It seems that we have a larger and larger carry over every year, and we continue to ask for appropriations. We have asked them to recommend to us what money we need at the end of the year to carry over. Prior to the next meeting you will begin receiving the status reports. The program will be implemented as they go along. By the final day of their study, everything should be implemented.



Closure of Certain Lands (Santee Area) During Duck Season -

A map of the areas in question was mailed to the Commission prior to the meeting. Closure of this area was requested by the Federal Fish and Wildlife people to keep boats from coming in and flushing ducks and geese from resting areas. This was approved by the Commission.

COMMENTS

Mr. Hudson has recommended to the Commission that Wash Belangia be appointed as Administrative Assistant to the Commission and that Chris Stapleton take minutes of the meetings. This was approved by the Commission.

Mr. Webb asked the Commission, due to the change in the Accident Policy, that the balance of Conservation Officer Rushing's account be cancelled. The motion was made and approved by the Commission that this balance be cancelled.

Dr. Timmerman reported that the organization staff meeting was held at which time several items of departmental concern were discussed.

Dr. Joseph reported briefly on the Wando River Environmental Study. He said that our involvement in this study was minimal and at this point we neither concur with or disagree with any of the findings or recommendations of Water Resources.

There being no further business at this time, the Staff was dismissed and the Commission went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

(Miss) Chris Stapleton,  
Secretary

