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MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA NOVEMBER 22, 1966

Present were Commissioners Parler, Oliphant, Jones, Hopkins, Mishoe and Cantey; Directors Webb and Lunz; Pat Ryan, Frank Nelson, Jeff Fuller, Gene Howell, Fred Ramage and Johnny May; Advisory Committee Members Stringfellow and Culp; and Eugene DuPont.

The minutes of the October 6 meeting were read and approved.

A number of appointments and reappointments for regular and non-pay game wardens were approved.

Mr. Webb said that a check from part of the non-resident license revenue in the amount of \$5,582 would be presented to Eugene DuPont of Ducks Unlimited later in the meeting.

Frank Nelson reported on the proposed cooperative dove study, stating that the dove was one of the state's most important game species and more was needed to be learned about it for management purposes. He said a cooperative study among the southeastern states was planned and the state's share would be \$2,500 for four years, three-fourths of which would be federal aid money. He said it would be conducted by the Institute of Statistics at N. C. State and would involve many telephone calls and post cards for a survey of the kill, as well as determination of age, sex ratio, etc. This information will be used in setting seasons, limits and other regulations.

After Mr. Webb had said the project was a good one, the Commission voted approval.

Mr. Culp inquired about the goose population in South Carolina and whether anything could be done to make it like that at Mattamuskeet.

Mr. Webb explained why the population around Santee-Cooper could never be as great as that in Virginia and North Carolina but said it might be possible to increase populations with the cooperation of landowners; possibly through technicians working with them.

Mr. Parler suggested that the possibilities be studied and the public informed of services that might be available.

The Commission approved a recommendation of Mr. Webb that the grouse season in season in Game Zone One be Thanksgiving Day through January 31 with a limit of three.



Mr. Ryan discussed the free-running dog problem on the Horse Pasture area and said it would probably be best to try and work under the existing statute, rather than seek additional legislation. He cited a letter that he had written the Commissioners.

Mr. DuPont was then presented with the check for Ducks Unlimited and said that South Carolina's action was being followed by other states, which would mean a boost for waterfowl. He said the Little Quill Lake project in Saskatchewan was one of the best and that the check would go toward another Palmetto State project in Manitoba.

Dr. Lunz then brought up several matters, the first of which was the possibility that additional appropriation of \$75,000 might be needed if his Division were entrusted with enforcing the laws out to the 12-mile limit.

There was a general discussion of car use policy by Fisheries personnel.

Dr. Lunz said things were being worked out in the matter of the Maggioni interests giving up parts of their oyster acreage and that he was hopeful of the success of the negotiations.

The question of the signing of papers for the cancellation of the Atlantic Shellfish company lease came up and it was learned that the letter from Assistant Attorney General Coleman had been missent but that Mr. Parler would receive it tomorrow and sign it.

Dr. Lunz mentioned some additional hearings that would be necessary on similar matters.

He also stated that the Division and Bears Bluff Laboratories were not in as rosy a situation financially as some thought, giving figures.

The Commission gave Dr. Lunz authority to seek bids in Charleston on insurance for the inspectors' cars.

The question of what should be done with oysters in the Wando River where the Corps of Engineers were planning to dredge was discussed at some length. Dr. Lunz said that some \$10,000 of valuable seed oysters would be destroyed by the dredging. It was finally agreed that Dr. Lunz try to work out an arrangement with Mr. Flowers for



moving the oysters from the Wando to the Edisto, where they would be protected from harvest, as they would be coming from a polluted area. Mr. Parler asked that he be kept informed of the progress of the negotiations.

Mr. Culp invited the Commissioners to the Federation meeting in Greenville next October and suggested that the name of game wardens be changed to "conservation officers." Mr. Mishoe asked if there would be objection to "game protectors."

Dr. Lunz stated that everything contained in a letter from the Commission after the last meeting had been done.

Mr. Webb explained the compulsory retirement provisions of the state law in answer to a question from Dr. Jones.

Mr. Hopkins brought up the question of pollution in Huff Creek in Greenville county. Mr. Fuller said that he had talked with Ed Latimer of the Attorney General's office, who had explained the procedure that would have to be followed for the Department to institute proceedings. He said the Department had neither the personnel nor the equipment to do this.

Mr. Parler brought up the possibility of new legislation on pollution and also said it might be possible to go over the heads of state agencies and go direct to the Public Health Service.

It was brought out that there were several vacancies on the Pollution Control Authority and that these might be filled with persons not so strongly inclined toward industry.

Dr. Lunz mentioned the oceanographic institute planned for the Atlantic coast and said he was still hopeful that Charleston had a chance of getting it, adding that a crew was coming down in January to inspect the Charleston site.

Mr. May gave a report on the progress of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation program, saying that of 20 projects submitted five have been approved, two completed, one has been withdrawn and twelve are now pending. He said that under a new ruling projects where the federal share is under \$20,000 do not have to be submitted to Washington, which should speed up approval of projects.



He said legal work has been completed for the placing of markers for hazardous places in Santee-Cooper, Murray, Greenwood and Catawba-Wateree.

He also said he believed the December 10 deadline for preparation of the state-wide comprehensive plan would be met.

*Eddie Finlay*

