

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA OCTOBER 22, 1965

Present were Commissioners Parler, Cantey, Glenn, and Hopkins, Directors Webb and Lunz, Pat Ryan, Frank Nelson, Jeff Fuller, Fred Ramage, Gene Howell, W. K. Stringfellow of the Advisory Committee, and Bartow Culp, president of the S. C. Wildlife Federation. Also present were Senator Marshall Williams and Rep. Hall Yarborough of Orangeburg county.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, with the suggestion of Mr. Fuller adopted that a resolution prepared by the Attorney General and adopted by the Commission at the September meeting, regarding the acquisition of Oak Grove Lake, be made a part of the minutes of the September meeting.

Senator Williams and Rep. Yarborough then spoke briefly in asking that an Orangeburg man suggested by the delegation be approved, although he was over the age limit set by the Commission. Their request was received as information with the matter to be taken up in executive session.

Mr. Parler said a report from the University of Georgia on the Charleston pollution has been given him by Dr. Lunz, and that he would turn this over to the Governor.

Dr. Lunz said that he was extremely pleased with the statement of Dr. Hubert Webb, who is now heading up the Board of Health laboratories, on the Charleston pollution and what must be done by the industries responsible.

Dr. Lunz added that an analysis of the water and of the bottoms was being made for the Division of Commercial Fisheries and the Public Health Service.

Dr. Lunz also explained the duties and responsibilities of the Pollution Control Authority and of the Board of Health regarding pollution.

Mr. Webb said that he was still working with the Sauer interests and others on a gift to set up special training and education for Department personnel. He said the Legislative Council is drafting an agreement and will be urged to complete this so the money might be made available for the present calendar year.

Mr. Parler said that he had talked with Congressmen Rivers' secretary regarding



the possibility of establishing offshore reefs through the use of outmoded ships or other equipment.

Major Cantey brought up the question of renovation of the old superintendent's house at Belmont. It was brought out that federal aid money would be available and that renovation cost would be \$7,000 to \$8,000 while a new house could be built for around \$18,000.

After further discussion a motion of Major Cantey was adopted that: "Director Webb be authorized to proceed with construction of a house for the caretaker at Belmont out of any available funds, not to exceed the approximate amount used in the construction of similar houses for the Department." The motion was seconded by Mr. Hopkins and adopted.

The action of Mr. Webb in dismissing Warden Hodges of Charleston county was confirmed by the Commission.

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

Mr. Glenn asked about the status of the phosphate leases and Mr. Webb said that he had talked with Attorney General McLeod. Mr. Webb said that the Department was concerned only with the effects on game and fish and that if only 100 acres a year were worked, with the land restored to its former condition as soon as possible, and no pollution of the streams or marshes was permitted from the operation there would be no particular objection, provided this were spelled out in the contract. He said that the Attorney General said that he would recommend holding up the awarding of contracts pending the bringing in of experts for further study.

Mr. Webb also mentioned the pumping problems being experienced in North Carolina. There was a general discussion of the situation, including the granting of leases.

Mr. Stringfellow said that while in Colleton county he had heard considerable



criticism of the bonus scaup regulation, which increases the limit by two bonus scaup below the seaward side of the Seaboard railway from Charleston to the Georgia line. He said some had expressed the belief this had been done for the benefit of Bear Island.

Mr. Webb explained how this line had been agreed upon, saying that the Fish and Wildlife Service had insisted upon it and that without it there would have been no extra scaup allowed.

Mr. Webb discussed a letter he had received suggesting the deer season be closed in Low Country areas because of the deer dieoff. Mr. Webb explained that the deaths were due to parasitism that is aggravated by over population and that closing the season would merely aggravate the situation. He then explained how overpopulation results in overbrowsing with a subsequent greater exposure to rumens or stomach flukes, and lung and stomach worms.

He also mentioned the fact that the law authorized him to grant landowners the right to harvest doe deer, with the approval of the delegations.

It was agreed that there be no change in the printing and distribution of the magazine for the time being.

Mr. Webb discussed the Recreation Advisory Committee and the Governor's ideas regarding it, saying that the Governor wished all recreation agencies to be represented. He also said the Governor had suggested creating a Division of Recreation in the Department and turning the state parks over to the Department.

Mr. Culp then mentioned the Federation awards banquet set for November 6 and invited the Commissioners to attend, saying invitations were going out to them and to Department personnel.

The Commission then went into executive session.

The Commission announced following the executive session that due to the fact that many persons had been rejected for appointment as game wardens, due to age, the



appointment of Mr. Ott, though in many respects desirable, was rejected.

The Commission felt that the Commission and many delegations would be embarrassed if the rule were broken.

*Eddie Finlay*

