

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT PALMETTO BLUFF Oct. 28, 1953

All members were present except Mr. Oliphant and Mr. McKeithan. Also present were Director Richardson, Frank P. Nelson and Jefferson C. Fuller, Jr.

The organization setup in regard to the relationship of the Administrative Division to the other Divisions was discussed and it was decided to determine this definitely at the next meeting.

Mr. Warren read a letter from Senator Weathersbee of Jasper complaining of night hunting and asking for another warden for the county.

Mr. Richardson stated that Jasper had three wardens, as many or more than the surrounding counties and that in addition he had authorized the Jasper wardens to call on Supervisor McKerley for additional help when needed.

Mr. Richardson was instructed to write Senator Weathersbee and Rep. Hugenin regarding this.

Mr. Warren mentioned that a Georgetown legislator on a Charleston television program had said Georgetown needed more wardens and Mr. Richardson said the Georgetown situation was the best it had been in years.

Mr. Johnson suggested that Mr. Richardson let the delegations know when extra wardens were used in their counties and that the Jasper and Georgetown delegations be particularly informed of this.

Action on the appointment of Oscar D. Clark as a non-pay Abbeville warden was held in abeyance.

Stephen F. Wyndham was approved as a fulltime warden for the Francis Marion project with part of his pay to come from federal funds.

Linwood V. Free of Cottageville was approved as a non-pay Colleton warden.

W. M. Hiott of Pritchardsville was approved as a non-pay Beaufort warden subject to the approval of Mr. Warren.

Ernest E. Sires of Ravenel was approved as a non-pay Charleston warden.

Mr. Richardson read a letter from Rep. Phil Finklea of Florence asking why persons handling licenses were required to put up bond and under what authority this was done. Mr. Richardson was instructed to explain the license setup to Mr. Finklea.

A motion of Mr. Cantey that the Director be instructed to tell the supervisors to see that the wardens explained the license setup to agents was approved.

COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 28 (continued)

The need for mounted specimens of game and fish was discussed and it was agreed that Mr. Webb and Mr. Nelson should make a recommendation as to payment of Waddy McFall for preparing specimens.

Mr. Warren brought up the letter he had written to the papers asking shrimpers not to trawl inshore and said that the figures he had cited-- which has been given by Bob Lunz--had been disputed. He also stated that the Attorney General had later changed his ruling in regard to the Beaufort law and the trawlers had been notified they could not troll in the inshore waters.

Mr. Warren also brought up letters Mr. Lunz had written to the News and Courier and to the Southern Fisherman.

The question of printing the report of Bears Bluff in the annual report was brought up and it was decided to do this.

The annual report to the General Assembly was discussed and it was agreed not to put all recommendations in this but to decide upon some recommendations and present them to the two committees.

The need of letting Federation chapters know the Commission's recommendations as soon as possible was discussed and it was agreed that a decision on the recommendations should be on the agenda of the next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at Spartanburg at a date to be decided by Mr. Johnson.

The question of acquiring land for a duck sanctuary in the Combahee area was discussed but no action taken.

Mr. Richardson read a letter from the Marion delegation asking that Robert McIntyre be appointed as a county warden and it was agreed that a warden should be named subject to the approval of Mr. McKeithan and Mr. Richardson.

Mr. Richardson said that a pamphlet of game laws including the 1952 Code and subsequent laws was being prepared.

Mr. Warren said that he had received an application from a Mr. Hugenin for Jasper warden but no action was taken.

The question of wardens accompanying other officers in still raids was brought up and, although no definite vote was taken, sentiment opposed this.

A letter from Dave Tillinghast of the Greenville Piedmont regarding the Armstrong Sanctuary and the possibility of having it put in a state sanctuary was read by Mr. Warren.

COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 28 (continued)

Mr. Richardson said the area could be put in a sanctuary if the owners desired and all they had to do was make application. The Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Tillinghast and the president of the sanctuary group and inform them of this and the procedure that should be followed.

Mr. Johnson said that sanctuaries should be patrolled regularly and that the owners of the land should be notified of these patrols. He also said that whenever a person reports a violation to a warden or a supervisor he should be informed of the investigation and its results.

Mr. Cantey inquired as to wardens' duties in regard to poaching and Mr. Richardson said wardens prosecute for trespass when asked by landowners. Mr. Richardson said he would quote the section of law on trespass in a letter to all wardens.

The matter of fish distribution from state hatcheries was discussed without any definite action being taken.

It was voted to invite Charlie Brice, incoming president of the Federation, to the Spartanburg meeting.

*Eddie Finley*