

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA OCTOBER 31, 1969

All members of the Commission were present, along with Major Cantey, Executive Director Webb and the Secretary.

Mr. Eltzroth told of a visit to Charleston with Mr. Webb and talks with Dr. McCord of the Medical University and Dr. Stern of the College of Charleston regarding turning property at Fort Johnson over to the Wildlife Resources Department. He said that a major thing to consider was that the College of Charleston will probably be taken over by the State of South Carolina, and in his opinion there is no doubt it will take place.

He said that Dr. Stern felt that he (Mr. Eltzroth) should state what was vitally needed, get the deed and have a memorandum of understanding regarding the additional land that might be turned over. He said around \$20,000 would be needed to get the desired 7.16 acres and the option to purchase the rest should be at the fair market value if the College did not become a state institution. If the College became a state institution the lands would be made available without cost to the Department.

Mr. Eltzroth then read the memorandum of understanding, adding that some changes might be needed in the future.

There was some discussion of the reverter clause.

Following this conference with Dr. Stern, Mr. Eltzroth and Mr. Webb had met with Dr. McCord, who was concerned over protection of the area of the island where he had a home. Mr. Eltzroth said Dr. McCord did not wish anything built on the property in front of the president's home without the approval of the Medical University, and Mr. Eltzroth said he had told him this would be taken up at the Commission meeting. He also said that the Commission would promise to help in securing 100 acres of land Dr. McCord said would be needed by the Medical University.



Mr. Eltzroth said that he did not agree with Dr. McCord on his suggestion for common use of the facilities, contained in his memorandum of agreement.

Mr. Eltzroth answered a question by Mr. Thompson on agreement for a "fair value" for the rest of the acreage.

In answer to a question from Mr. Glenn, Mr. Eltzroth said that the figure for the land was most reasonable.

Mr. Mishoe moved that the proposal be accepted as far as the College of Charleston was concerned and to authorize the Executive Director and the Chairman to negotiate further with the Medical University for a proposal acceptable to both parties and to authorize the Executive Director, with the approval of the Chairman, to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the two institutions; and to purchase the 7.16 acres from the College of Charleston for the sum of \$20,000 and to secure an option from the College of Charleston in line with the proposed memorandum of understanding previously submitted by the College of Charleston. This was unanimously approved.

Mr. Eltzroth said the needed funds could come from funds allocated by the General Assembly at the last session or from certain funds allocated to the salt water fisheries division.

Mr. Rhame asked about the Coastal Plains Regional Commission and its plans.

Mr. Eltzroth stated that the Governor has recommended the grouping of certain resource agencies under a Department of Natural Resources but that things were still in the planning stage.

Mr. Eltzroth said that he had received a call on the radio Monday from Mr. Thomason and Mr. Walsh of the Santee-Cooper Authority saying that they wished to talk with him, and get the view of the Commission on the Authority of renting part of Granby Landing on the Congaree below Columbia. He said that he did not believe



there would be any objection if there were no change in the condition of the river but that if dams and locks were involved it would be a different story. He said he told them he would poll the Commission.

Mr. Glenn asked about the pollution potential if the dams and locks were constructed and Mr. Eltzroth said the present statutes take care of the pollution possibility.

Mr. Webb said the he believed there should be no objection provided there were no change in the ecology of the rivers and Mr. Eltzroth commented that it would be none of the Commission's business until there is change.

Mr. Eltzroth said that since the Authority question had been verbal the answer should be verbal.

Mr. Eppes moved and Mr. Williams seconded that the Authority be answered orally that the Commission had no objection to the Authority renting part of Granby landing to a firm engaged in barge traffic.

Mr. Glenn said that he would have to vote "no" unless he knew more about the type transportation planned, and suggested that the motion might be amended to provide that the barge traffic would not affect the ecology of the stream.

Mr. Mishoe suggested that the Chairman be directed to discuss with the Public Service Authority the products to be transported, the Commission being concerned over the possible damage to fish through the transport of oil and other products.

Mr. Eltzroth mentioned the barge traffic on the Savannah and said there was some question as to what authority the Commission would have.

Mr. Eppes motion was adopted, Mr. Glenn dissenting.

A motion of Mr. Mishoe was adopted that the Chairman be asked to consult with Public Service Authority personally and point out to them the danger of oil traffic and other deleterious substances.



A joint meeting with the Authority was also discussed and Mr. Eltzroth said one could be arranged possibly next spring.

Mr. Webb brought up the plans for the Moncks Corner hatchery, Mr. Eltzroth suggesting that it should be used for all fish and not just striped bass.

The appointment of an additional Conservation Officer as plane pilot was approved on motion of Mr. Glenn.

Mr. Eltzroth said the Commission should give thought to the attitude of some of the big paper companies in expecting help in law enforcement. He suggested a policy be formulated by the next meeting.

He also said that International was planning to go into commercial hunting.

Mr. Mishoe suggested that the Commission policy be restated at the next meeting and Mr. Glenn suggested that Mr. Webb draw up a suggested policy.

Mr. Eltzroth said that he was concerned over the fact that certain workers were getting less than the minimum wage and said the matter should be studied and placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Webb is to make a report on this.

Mr. Webb told of a conversation he had had regarding the employment of a certain prospective conservation officer, saying that the man was now making more than he could pay him under the scale that has been set up.

A motion of Mr. Glenn was adopted that the Commissioners be kept informed as far as practical on what is taking place in their territory.

Mr. Thompson then brought up the invitation policy followed on a dove shoot given by an up-state company, Mr. Rhame saying that the shoot had become so big that it was out of hand.

Mr. Glenn asked about "leaks" of matter discussed in meetings and this was discussed briefly.

*Eddie Finlay*

