

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION IN COLUMBIA OCTOBER 5, 1961

Present were Chairman Johnson and Commissioners Cox, Cantey, Hopkins and Heyward, Directors Webb and Lunz, T. C. Welch, Louie Schley, Frank Nelson and Jeff Fuller.

Mr. Johnson expressed his appreciation to the Commission, and the hope that the progress of the Department could be continued.

Mr. Cox was unanimously elected vice-chairman, Mr. Cantey nominating and Mr. Hopkins seconding.

The question of new Commission stationery was brought up and it was agreed that proofs of the stationery should be sent to all Commissioners for their approval, and that it should contain the addresses of all members, and the listing of the vice-chairman.

A motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that action on the appeal of Charleston County Treasurer Bartley Riddock from a ruling regarding fisheries revenue be carried over to the next regular meeting, unless Mr. Heyward should advise the Secretary a week in advance that further continuance was desired.

Director Webb presented and explained the proposed budget for the Game Division for the coming fiscal year and it was approved, after some discussion of the possibility of operating under a lump sum appropriation.

The budget for the Administrative Division was also approved.

Director Lunz presented the budget for the Division of Commercial Fisheries and it was approved, with the exception that the Director's salary should be increased more--Mr. Johnson asking Mr. Cox to see what could be worked out on this.

On recommendation of Director Lunz the Commission approved a regulation providing that any shad net permit issued by the Corps of Engineers be considered as a "net previously set" as that term is used in Section 28-886. The Secretary was instructed to file the regulation with the Secretary of State.



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## MINUTES COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 5, 1961

Director Lunz brought up the recent upswing in fisheries violations in Beaufort county, stating that it was primarily due to the fact the shrimpers were suffering and that marketable shrimp were in short supply. He pointed out that in Beaufort the law was being interpreted differently by magistrates as to suspension of licenses and that he has conferred with the Attorney General about remedying this.

Mr. Cox moved that in disposing of the equipment of the Senator Warren a desk, dictaphone, typewriter and chair be turned over to the Division of Commercial Fisheries and that a cabinet be turned over to the Chairman.

A motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that "one of the secretaries in the office of Chairman Johnson be paid her salary by the Wildlife Resources Commission to cover such stenographic work as may devolve upon the Chairman, as has been customary in the past."

Mr. Heyward inquired as to why all the radio work is being done in Columbia and Director Webb said it was because it had been found that the work being done here was more satisfactory. He added that no directive had been issued on this and that wardens were still free to have their work done anywhere they wished by qualified companies.

Mr. Heyward also inquired about regulations as to the use of motors in marsh hen hunting and the Secretary was instructed to send out a release on this after getting the correct interpretation from Director Webb.

Several reappointments were approved, two subject to the approval of Mr. Tison.

Mr. Webb brought up some work that had been done by Supervisor McKerley in making an office in his home and a motion of Mr. Cox was adopted that the question of compensation be left to Director Webb, not to exceed \$1,000.



## MINUTES COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 5, 1961

The arrangements for an appreciation day ceremony for Thomas G. Samworth for his gift of Dirleton plantation were brought up by Director Webb and a date of October 16 at 11 o'clock was agreed upon. The ceremony will be held at the plantation near Georgetown. The Secretary was instructed to draw up a resolution to be signed by the Commissioners and presented to Mr. Samworth.

Director Webb said that a deal was being closed for an additional 462 acres in the vicinity and that there was the possibility of acquiring other land.

It was agreed that a letter should be prepared for the Governor's signature to be read at the ceremony.

Mr. Welch presented some proposed regulations to be added to the boating act regarding flotation and the imprinting of serial numbers and these were approved on motion of Mr. Heyward, the Secretary instructed to file them with the Secretary of State.

Director Webb said that he was awaiting more information about securing a plane for the Department and would report at a later meeting.

Recent correspondance regarding a dove shooting case was discussed and a suggestion of Mr. Johnson was approved that consideration be deferred until a full report is received, Director Webb being asked to write the parties concerned informing them of this.

Director Webb said no report had yet been received from SLED on an investigation of a complaint of illegal hunting in the Francis Marion.

Mr. Johnson asked that a full report on the operation of the public fishing lakes, including number of permits, costs of operation, costs of permits, etc., be made available as soon as possible.



## MINUTES COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 5, 1961

Mr. Cantey asked about the Hampton County lake and Director Webb said the lines were being run to see how much land it would be necessary to acquire.

Director Webb was given authority to secure an Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement.

*Eddie Finlay*

