

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina
September 17, 1982
10:00 A.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held in Room 335 of the Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., at 10:00 a.m., on September 17, 1982, with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the State's media. Commissioners present at the meeting included Commissioners, Webster, Compton, Owen, Quackenbush, Dawson, Atلمان, Harrelson, Stubbs, and Dennis. Directors and staff members present included Dr. Timmerman, Dan Dobbins, Sonny Baines, Benny Reeves, Ed Joseph, Pat Ryan, Joe Logan and various other staff. Guests at the meeting included Al Dozier of the "Greenville Piedmont," Jackie Jacobs of the South Carolina Wildlife Federation, Fred Felder of Charleston, Michael Rowe of the Governor's Office and Pat Robertson of the "Columbia Record."

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introduced all guests at the meeting.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Compton moved to dispense with the reading of the Regular and Executive Session Minutes of the August 19, 1982 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted. Commissioner Stubbs seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman noted that he has been discussing an ongoing license agreement near Bear Island related to a peat operation which has changed ownership. Buford Mabry briefly discussed the proposed license agreement for the Commission's consideration. Following discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve the license agreement as recommended. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Staff Meeting Minutes to the Commission for their information.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies will meet in Jacksonville, Florida from October 31-November 3. Pre-registration forms have been distributed to each Commissioner.



Following other discussion, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters following the regular meeting. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that an Executive Session would be held following the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters.

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Department's Aircraft:

Dr. Timmerman noted that about \$45-\$50,000 is needed to renovate the Department's Cessna 180 to get it fixed for a safe operating condition; it is used more than the other aircraft due to the lower operating costs. He noted that some unobligated capital improvement funds could be used for this purpose and such will be pursued in this manner unless there are objections from the Commission. There were no objections from the Commission on this matter.

B. Budget Discussion:

Dr. Timmerman noted that the Department's budget allocation had been received and some information on this was distributed to the Commission. The Department must reduce its budget by about \$514,000 and the only way to do this is to put a freeze on filling positions. Dr. Timmerman recommended a freeze on 12 of 20 vacancies in Law Enforcement, 12 vacancies in Marine Resources, one in IP&A, one in Game Management and several in Administration and Boat Titling and Registration. Following discussion, Commissioner Dennis moved for the Commission to endorse the concept of freezing positions as proposed by Dr. Timmerman. Commissioner Quackenbush seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Dr. Timmerman noted the funds cut out of the budget this year will not be in our budget for next year.

C. Report on Memorial for Former Chairman J. Drake Edens, Jr.:

Commissioner Harrelson asked John Evans to report on this matter. John Evans suggested a plaque be developed in memory of Mr. Edens and read over the inscription to be on the plaque. Commissioner Harrelson moved for the staff to proceed with having this plaque made. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

D. Other Old Business:

Chairman Webster noted that Mr. Fred Felder was in attendance to discuss use of the boat ramp at the Santee Coastal Reserve. Mr. Felder noted that he was representing himself and his guests concerning use of the Santee Reserve boat ramp. Mr. Felder requested that they be allowed to use the ramp about 6-8 weeks during the duck season.



Chairman Webster advised Mr. Felder that the Commission would consider his request and let him know what decision is made. Dr. Timmerman and Commissioner Dawson noted that several other individuals would like to appear before the Commission to discuss this matter. Commissioner Dennis moved for Dr. Timmerman to notify the other individuals that request use of the Santee Reserve ramp and ask them to come to the October Commission meeting to discuss this matter. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Fall Turkey Season:

Brock Conrad noted that he had mailed out a recommendation for the Commission's consideration on a fall turkey season. Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt this recommendation as presented. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Commissioner Dennis noted that Mr. Paul Hilson and a group are concerned about the boundary line for still and dog hunting in the Francis Marion and he would like to appear at the next Commission Meeting. Chairman Webster asked Commissioner Dennis to invite Mr. Hilson to appear at the next Commission Meeting. Commissioner Harrelson requested that the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board investigate the possibility of placing a limit on the number of deer that can be taken on the big game permit for non-resident hunters.

B. Discussion of Radio System:

Chairman Webster noted that this matter will be postponed until the next meeting.

C. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services:

Benny Reeves advised the Commission that the South Carolina Tax Commission has asked the Department to collect the casual sales tax on boats and motors. Mr. Reeves noted that we don't have offices all over the State and we don't have the people to handle this proposed duty. As such, Mr. Reeves stated that more people and space would be needed if we had to collect this tax. Chairman Webster suggested we sit down and talk with the Tax Commission regarding this matter. Commissioner Dennis noted the real issue is the convenience to the public and this can be handled on a local basis by the Highway Department with its offices in each county. Commissioner Dennis stated, however, that our Department should not be called upon to collect this tax without some similiar arrangement as with the Highway Department with personnel and funds to be provided to do the job. Commissioner Dennis noted the Commission should look at this very carefully because of the convenience to the public.



2. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries:

Jeff Fuller noted that he talked with the Yawkey Trustees about the South Island Ferry operation and they have agreed to fund an engineering study to allow the ferry to operate at low tide.

3. Law Enforcement and Boating:

Pat Ryan discussed the Operation Game Thief Program noting that a citizens group to handle the funds is one component and he asked for guidance from the Commission. Commissioner Quackenbush moved for the Commission to approve the use of the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board for this function. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

4. Information and Public Affairs:

John Evans reported on the Department's exhibit at Columbia Mall in support of National Hunting and Fishing Day. Commissioner Dennis commended Mr. Evans regarding a recent story in the Charleston newspaper. Sonny Baines distributed some material on the YCC Program and a bill in Congress to the Commission for information.

5. Marine Resources:

Ed Joseph reported to the Commission on the opening of Shrimp Season this week.

D. Advisory Board Reports

1. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries:

Commissioner Owen noted the Board will meet in October. He advised the Commission that the Board will further discuss the elimination of man-drives on either sex days and the prohibition of man-drivers carrying firearms.

2. Law Enforcement and Boating:

Commissioner Quackenbush noted the Board did not meet this month. Commissioner Quackenbush noted that he personally does not favor law enforcement being included in the vehicle leasing proposal. He asked that the staff committee looking into this matter consider what it would take to exempt law enforcement from this requirement.

3. Marine Resources:

Commissioner Compton noted the Board will meet on October 22, 1982. Commissioner Altman stated that Senator Ellis had requested the Board meet at Little River to hear concerns of people in that area. Commissioner Compton stated that this could be arranged.



4. Heritage Trust:

There was no report from the Board this month.

E. Salary Review Committee

Dr. Timmerman noted this report is in order and a copy has been forwarded to the Chairman.

F. Appointments

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the recommendations for appointments and reappointments of Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers and Conservation Officers (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to adopt these as recommended. Commissioner Owen requested that the DWCO appointment of David W. Davis be extended to include Pickens and Anderson Counties. Commissioner Harrelson amended his motion to include this request from Commissioner Owen. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion, as amended, and it was adopted by the Commission.

G. Other Remarks

Commissioner Owen noted that the Commission had requested that salaries of members on the diving team be reviewed. Dr. Timmerman stated that we are working on promotions first and then this matter will be reviewed.

H. Time and Place of Next Meeting

The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting in Columbia on October 15, 1982, at 10:00 a.m. The Conservation Officer of the Year Program will be held at the Carolina Inn at 1:00 p.m.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting, the Commission voted to recess the regular meeting and go into Executive Session.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the Commission returned to regular session and invited participants into the meeting. Chairman Webster announced that, in Executive Session, the following items were acted upon:

1. The Commission adopted a motion to appoint Wayne H. Reeves as a Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officer with authority in Dorchester County.



2. The Commission adopted a motion to accept the staff recommendation to revoke the Commission of Conservation Officer Larry McLain and that he be terminated.
3. The Commission adopted a motion to approve the staff recommendation to promote Clarence R. Murray to Captain in Law Enforcement District #5.

Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to approve and ratify these motions. Commissioner Quackenbush seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

There being no further business, the Commission adopted a motion to adjourn.



MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HARRY R. E. HAMPTON MEMORIAL WILDLIFE FUND, INC.

Columbia, S. C.
September 17, 1982

1. The Board of Directors met in Room 335 of the Dennis Building, Columbia, S. C., at approximately 2:00 p.m. on September 17, 1982.
2. The Board approved a motion to expend the necessary funds for an appropriate plaque in honor of former Board Chairman J. Drake Edens, Jr.
3. The Board approved a motion to provide Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr. the authority to expend the necessary funds in the future for flowers whenever appropriate.
4. Board member Charles L. Compton advised the Directors that the IRS tax exemption should be finalized and approved by October 15, 1982. He noted that we should prepare our promotional campaign for implementation as soon as this tax exemption is finalized.
5. Board member Charles L. Compton noted the Directors need to appoint two replacements on the Board of Directors and new officers need to be appointed in the near future.
6. There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was adopted to adjourn the meeting.

