

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Marine Resources Center, Fort Johnson
Charleston, S.C.
September 17, 1993
1:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 1:00 P.M., on Friday, September 17, 1993, at the Marine Resources Center, Charleston, S. C., with Chairman Burnside presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included: Commissioners Burnside, Pendarvis, Miller, Poston, Graham, Haynsworth, Rasor and Leary. Staff members present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Brock Conrad, Paul Sandifer, Jim Quinn, John Miglarese and various other staff members and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting. Chairman Burnside expressed thanks to all of the staff that helped with the Commission Retreat.

ITEM I - READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the August 20, 1993 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that we are working to prepare the budget request to be submitted to the Governor and this will be completed in the near future. Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that a proviso requiring a reduction in the budget by 1% for FY 94-95 has been implemented and this results in a reduction of \$188,000 for the Department's budget. Dr. Timmerman noted that the Department's revenue collections are off by approximately \$220,000 as compared to the same time frame last year and he stated that we are following this closely and that such has occurred before in years when there is a drought.

Chairman Burnside recognized Van McCarty who introduced Mr. Al Cannon of the S.C. Wildlife Federation. Mr. Cannon introduced teachers and students from the Charleston area who are in support of the Hunter Education Program and urged the Commission to continue this program for a variety of reasons which they presented to the Commission.

ITEM III - NEW BUSINESS

A. 1994 Legislative Proposal: Dr. Timmerman noted that the 1994 Legislative Proposal had been sent to the Commissioners (copy attached to original Commission minutes). Larry Cartee informed the Commission that this includes the same proposals presented to the Commission at the August Commission meeting and is being submitted to them for their consideration and approval. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the 1994 Legislative Proposal as submitted.

B. Proposed Video Policy: Sonny Baines noted that this policy has been sent to the Commission for their consideration (copy attached to original Commission minutes). Commissioner Graham noted that the CEC Advisory Board had reviewed and adopted this policy and recommended it for approval to the Commission. Commissioner Graham went over this policy and following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the policy as submitted.

C. Proposed Property Acquisitions - Heritage Trust Program: This matter was deferred for discussion and action by the Commission in Executive Session.

D. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Dr. Timmerman noted the 1% budget reduction totalling \$188,000 will have to come in areas where there are state funds, and with the Commission's approval he would work with the Chairman on implementing these reductions.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Brock Conrad noted that the turkey survey is being completed and a report on this survey will be presented at the October Commission meeting.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: There was nothing further to report.

4. Conservation Education & Communication: There was nothing further to report.

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer noted that the Governor's Cup South Carolina/North Carolina Shootout will be held this weekend out of Georgetown and he invited any of the Commissioners that would like to attend to this event.

E. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Law Enforcement & Boating: Commissioner Miller noted that the Board met last week at the Dennis Wildlife Center and went over the items discussed at this meeting. Commissioner Miller noted that the Glock Model 40 pistols have been ordered for the Conservation Officers and training for these weapons will start in December. He further noted that the body armor for the Conservation Officers will be ordered shortly. Commissioner Miller noted that the Board recommended that a service pin in five (5) year increments for Conservation Officers be implemented, and following discussion, the Commission agreed to accept this matter in principle and asked Caroline Agardy to work up a proposal for detailed consideration by the Commission.

2. Marine Resources: Commissioner Pendarvis noted that the Board had met and went over the items discussed at the meeting held on September 10, 1993. He noted that the major item of discussion included shrimp baiting and to date over 10,800 shrimp baiting licenses have been sold. Commissioner Pendarvis noted that shrimp baiting poses a number of social problems and a number of issues have been raised which they are asking the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board to review and to develop any appropriate recommendations. In addition, the Board adopted a proposed bill regarding adding a new section to provide catch or possession limits, seasons and other requirements pertaining to sharks which are to be consistent with federal regulations (copy attached to original Commission minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve this proposed legislation as submitted and for such to be included with the Department's 1994 Legislative Package.

F. Other Remarks: There were no further remarks from the Commissioners, and at this time, Commissioner Pendarvis moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Haynsworth seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Burnside announced that at this time, the Commission would hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

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RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting.

The Commission adopted a motion to accept the staff recommendation to cancel the Law Enforcement commission of an officer who is no longer employed by the Department.

The Commission adopted a motion to accept the staff proposed acquisitions under the Heritage Trust Program (copy attached to original Commission minutes).

The Commission adopted a motion to accept staff recommendations for salary adjustments and expanded use of the Buck Sergeant classification under Option 1. Commissioner Pendarvis voted in the negative on this motion.

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G. Appointments: There was no action regarding appointments by the Commission at this meeting.

H. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Burnside noted the next meeting would be held in Columbia at 10:00 a.m. on October 15, 1993.

ITEM IV - ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting, the Commission adopted a motion to adjourn.