

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT BONNEAU FERRY
SEPTEMBER 19, 1969

Present were: Chairman Eltzroth, Commissioners Eppes, Glenn, Mishoe, Rhame, Commissioner Emeritus Cantey, Executive Director Webb, Director Ryan, Fred Ramage and Alvin Poston.

The matter of a point system for hunter violations was brought up by the Chairman and Director Ryan was instructed to make a report on the possibility of such a system for the Department at the next meeting.

Commissioner Rhame reported on a trip to Florida, including their training program with the military, their experience with exotic fishes, especially the walking catfish, and work of that Department with wild turkeys. A copy of the guidelines on regulation of exotics, as well as a cooperative program with the military, was presented to the Executive Director by Commissioner Rhame for the Commission.

The matter of operating cost on all equipment was discussed. Webb stated that we now have an operational cost report but that it was going to be updated and more information would be available in the future. Chairman Eltzroth stated that he wanted a record on all equipment operations as soon as possible. The possibility of renting a computer to assist in assembling this information, as well as other fiscal work, amounting to \$700 per month rent, was suggested by Mr. Ramage. The computer is to be rented from Burroughs Company, who in turn would help in the original programming in the amount of approximately \$500. The length of the lease is to be for a six-month period. In answer to a question by the Chairman, it was stated that General Services equipment is unable to do this additional work due to an over-burdened schedule. On a motion by Commissioner Eppes, seconded by Commissioner Glenn, the Commission authorized both the leasing and programming of the computer.



Chairman Eltzroth inquired as to why no raincoats or overcoats had been issued for Department personnel and stated that he would like to see the personnel outfitted in both. Mr. Webb recommended that this be done and on a motion by Mr. Eppes, seconded by Mr. Mishoe, he was authorized to completely equip Conservation Officers with whatever wearing apparel he deemed necessary.

The budget for the fiscal year 1970-71 was discussed. After much discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Glenn and the motion being seconded by Commissioner Eppes, the Commission granted the Chairman and the Executive Director the authority to work together on finalizing the budget, and the action gave the authority of the final draft to them with the full Commission's approval.

Major Cantey brought up the subject of tidelands and was advised by the Chairman that this was to be handled by the Attorney General.

With regard to the Marine Resources Center, it was pointed out that there was some plan to set up such a facility by July 1. It was agreed that after June 30, 1970, the South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department would have no connection with Bears Bluff Laboratory.

On a recommendation from Mr. Webb, Donald Shook was approved to fill the Conservation Officer's position in Lancaster County, subject to the approval of the Commissioner from that district.

Officer Frank Wolfe was re-commissioned, as were a number of non-pay game wardens.

Mr. Webb advised the Commission that Conservation Officer Laurie Baughman of Aiken County had resigned and that no recommendation would be



made at this time for a replacement.

Chairman Eltzroth suggested the possibility of the Department constructing their own building or leasing office space. After much discussion, a sub-committee was appointed to study this possibility. On a motion by Commissioner Rhame, seconded by Commissioner Eppes, the Chairman appointed Commissioners Glenn, Thompson and Mishoe to study this proposal and to report back to the Commission its findings. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Commission was to attend the first meeting. Commissioner Glenn was designated as Chairman of the Committee. This Committee was also assigned the task of studying the present office space with the possibility of reassignment in mind.

Commissioner Rhame raised the question of the Fort Johnson property as a site for the Marine Resources Laboratory. Chairman Eltzroth said that there should be a memorandum of understanding forthcoming between the College of Charleston, the Medical University and the Wildlife Department in the very near future.

Commissioner Glenn inquired as to progress of the management plans on Bear Island and was advised by Executive Director Webb and Director Ryan that a progressive management program is being outlined by Biologist Brock Conrad and that implementation of this program had already started. It was also understood that periodic reports would be made on the progress of the project.

Commissioner Glenn recommended that a study be made of the new house at Euter Springs with the idea of developing the under-storage area. The Chairman appointed a committee consisting of Commissioners Mishoe, Rhame and Glenn to explore this possibility and report back at the next meeting.



Commissioner Rhame was designated as Chairman of the Committee.

Chairman Eltzroth brought up the matter of certain employment procedures in the future and it was agreed that some new approach should be given to the matter of personnel selection.

Executive Director Webb announced that Conservation Officer Rye would resign to accept a Magistrate's position and the question was raised as to whether or not he would be granted a leave of absence. It was decided that he could not be given a leave of absence if he planned to run in political elections in the future.

Commissioner Glenn inquired as to the possibility of allowing Conservation Officers to entertain friends at Belmont. It was decided that the procedure would be for any officers interested in this to contact the Executive Director directly for such arrangements.

Respectfully,

Pat Ryan

