

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Moose Lodge, Kingstree, S. C.
September 19, 1986
2:00 P. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 2:00 P.M., September 19, 1986, at the Moose Lodge, Kingstree, S. C., with Chairman Webster presiding. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting was mailed to the state's media. Commissioners present included Commissioners Webster, Compton, Stokes, Thomason, Owen, Quackenbush, and Harrelson. Directors and staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Benny Reeves, Bill Chastain, Paul Sandifer, Brock Conrad, Sonny Baines and various other staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

ITEM I. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the August 22, 1986 Commission meeting and approve them as submitted.

Following the reading of the Minutes, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that the Commission would now hold an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting. Chairman Webster asked Commissioner Compton to report on the actions taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Compton reported that the Commission took the following actions in Executive Session:

- (1) The Commission voted to reconsider the vote by which it agreed to give the Belin Board of Trust an easement to cross the Department's property at the Murrells Inlet Boat Ramp and further, tabled this matter until such time as the Belin Board of Trust can provide further information to the Commission regarding its position on this matter or until such time as the matter is resolved between the Board's representatives and the Department's staff.

- (2) The Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments and re-appointments of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented (copy attached to original Commission Minutes).
- (3) The Commission adopted a motion to grant an easement to Mr. Dean Davidson and/or his company for a sewer line across the Department's property at Lake Oak Grove subject to the appraisal as presented to the Commission.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to adopt and ratify these actions. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM II. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that the Division of Conservation Education and Communications received the Seton Award at the meeting of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in Providence, Rhode Island. He noted that this is a very prestigious award and a distinct honor going to the agency that has the best communications and public relations program in the country. Sonny Baines presented this Award to the Commission, noting that the credit for such goes to the staff in the Division. The Commission expressed congratulations to Mr. Baines and his staff for receiving this Award.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Staff Meeting notes to the Commission for their information. He advised the Commission that we are looking for an alternate site for the District One Law Enforcement Office now located at Lake Oak Grove. He stated that if this property is sold, we will need to seek legislative authorization to keep the funds and use for securing other property or constructing an office building.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that our Budget Hearing was held on September 16, 1986 and he also noted that he appeared on a panel discussion prior to this Budget Hearing. He expressed appreciation to the Commissioners that attended the Budget Hearing and distributed some information concerning this matter to them.

He also noted that the Conservation Officer Awards Banquet was held on that date and he expressed appreciation to Commissioners for being in attendance at this Banquet. Bill Chastain reported to the Commission that District One Officer Bobby Ray Hogan was selected as the "Conservation Officer of the Year".

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. 1987 Legislative Proposal: Dan Dobbins noted that he had mailed the Commissioners a corrected draft of the 1987 Legislative Proposal (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). He discussed this corrected draft with the Commission and went over some of the items that they inquired about. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the 1987 Legislative Proposal as presented.

B. Proposed Policies - Wildlife Magazine Subscriber List & Photography Use: Commissioner Quackenbush noted the proposed policies concerning the S. C. Wildlife Magazine subscriber list and photo requests have been adopted by the Conservation Education and Communications Advisory Board and sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, Commissioner Quackenbush moved for the Commission to approve these policies. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Advisory Board Appointments: Dr. Timmerman noted that several Advisory Board appointments will expire at the end of September or early October and such were reported to the Commission at the last meeting. Following discussion of this matter, Commissioner Harrelson moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Compton seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Webster announced that the Commission would hold an Executive Session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters.

B. Proposed Fall Turkey Season for 1986: David Baumann noted the proposed 1986 Fall Turkey Season for parts of the Western and Central Piedmont Hunt Units had been sent to the Commission earlier (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion of these recommendations, Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the proposed Fall Turkey Season for 1986 as recommended with an amendment to allow bow hunting during this season for fall turkey hunting. Commissioner Thomason seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

C. Proposed Steel Shot Zones for South Carolina: John Frampton advised the Commission that the proposed non-toxic shot zones for South Carolina for waterfowl hunting have been sent to the Commission (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Mr. Frampton advised the Commission that this proposal was discussed with the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board and the staff provided them with three (3) options for consideration. He stated that the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board voted to accept Option 3 as presented by the staff with an amendment added to implement statewide uses of steel shot in 1990-91, rather than 1991-92. Following considerable discussion on this matter, the Commission adopted a motion to approve Option 3 as recommended by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board with Commissioners Stokes and Harrelson voting "No" to the motion.

D. Proposed Rules & Regulations for Heritage Preserves: Dr. Wade Batson of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board noted that the proposed rules and regulations for heritage preserves had been sent to the Commissioners (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). He noted that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board has concerns on security of heritage preserves and these rules and regulations are being proposed. He also noted that the Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommends approval of these proposed rules and regulations to the Commission. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the proposed rules and regulations for heritage preserves as presented by Dr. Batson.

E. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves advised the Commission that it appears as though we will face a budget cut in the neighborhood of 2-4%. He stated that when further information is received concerning this matter, it will be distributed to the Commission.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Brock Conrad informed the Commission that the Southeastern Wildlife Disease Workshop will be held in Columbia on September 24, 1986.

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

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

5. Marine Resources: Dr. Sandifer advised the Commission that the Division had to implement an emergency closure of North Santee Bay to shrimp trawling due to the small size of shrimp that developed following its opening on September 3, 1986. Dr. Sandifer discussed the shrimp baiting issue, noting that there has been tremendous activity and various problems relating to shrimp baiting along the coast. He stated that his staff is working with the Division of Law Enforcement and Boating and a detailed report will be developed for presentation to the Commission at the October meeting. Dr. Sandifer further advised the Commission that his staff has completed one series of cruises evaluating two of the trawling efficiency devices and the next cruise to evaluate these devices will begin on the 29th of September and end on October 10, 1986.

Chairman Webster recessed the regular meeting at this time for the Commission to hold an Executive Session as previously approved.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was resumed and participants were invited into the meeting. Chairman Webster asked Commissioner Harrelson to report on the action taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Harrelson reported that the Commission adopted a motion to approve Advisory Board appointments of the following individuals or recommend to the Governor for appointment as follows: Law Enforcement & Boating - Yancey McLeod (Commission Appointee) and Marion Burnside (Gubernatorial Appointee); Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries - Ed Muckenfuss (Commission Appointee) and Kenneth Williams (Gubernatorial Appointee); and Marine Resources - Ben Hardesty (Commission Appointee) and X. O. Bunch (Gubernatorial Appointee). The Commission adopted a motion to approve and ratify this action.

F. Other Remarks: Commissioner Compton, on behalf of the Commission and Staff, expressed thanks to Commissioner Stokes, Officer Pel Bradford, Jim and Doris Utsey, O. F. Peacock, and Jack Oliver for hosting the Commission Meeting in Kingstree

and making the visit very enjoyable.

G. Appointments: The Commission took action on this matter earlier in the meeting.

H. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Webster announced that the next meeting will be held in Columbia on October 17, 1986, at 10:00 A.M.

ITEM V. ADJOURN

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

