

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 21, 1973

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held in the Conference Room in Columbia on September 21, 1973, Chairman J. W. Hudson, presiding. Also in attendance were Commissioners Glenn, Dennis, Rhame, Harris, Lumpkin, Major Cantey, Executive Director Webb, Dr. Timmerman, Pat Ryan, Jeff Fuller, John Culler, Joe Logan, Brock Conrad, Benny Reeves, Charlie Bearden, Bob Joyner, Gene Howell, Dr. Joseph, Jack Bayless, Wash Belangia and members of the press.

CORRECTION OF MINUTES: Senator Dennis called attention to two corrections in the Minutes of August 20, 1973. These were: On Page 4, under heading Use of Department Facilities and Services, fourth line should be amended to read that such use of facilities is cleared through the Supervisor. A Memorandum stating this Use of Department Facilities and Services is to be distributed to all personnel of the Department.

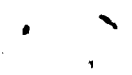
At the top of Page 4, the word "Development" should be changed to read "Budget and Control Board".

ACTION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING:

Policy on Accident Responsibility for Department Employees - Executive Director Webb reported that the previous policy of having the individual responsible for any accident is rescinded and personnel will not be held responsible for payment of any claim but in the case of an habitual offender of this policy, his record will be reviewed and a decision made as to retain this individual in employment.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion that this policy be adopted by the Commission. This was seconded by Mr. Rhame and passed unanimously. Commissioner Glenn, along with this motion, recommended that a report be given to the Commission quarterly on accidents involving Department vehicles.

Distribution of Magazine Brochures in Highway Department mailout: John Culler presented a proposed Resolution to the Highway Department, copy of which is attached to these Minutes. Senator Dennis moved the adoption of this Resolution, seconded by Dr. Lumpkin. Motion passed unanimously. It was suggested that this Resolution also be sent to the Governor.



Commercial Harvesting of Eels - Jack Bayless presented a paper setting forth the objectives and procedures for study of the American Eel. This paper and the accompanying operational budget for 1974 on this study is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes. The Commission heard Mr. Bayless present proposed regulations governing the harvesting of eels. After discussion of some possible changes in these regulations, Commissioner Rhame moved the adoption of these regulations, seconded by Dr. Lumpkin, the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bayless is to turn this over to Mr. Latimer for final preparation. A copy of these proposed regulations is attached to a copy of these Minutes.

Surplus Equipment Disposition - Executive Director Webb presented a letter to the Commission wherein he has contacted the Attorney General's office and requested an opinion concerning Sale of Department-owned property to employees. This states that property may be sold at fair market value which fair market value is to be determined by obtaining three (3) bids on any item from uninterested parties. A copy of this opinion is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Department Aircraft - Executive Director Webb reported that the airplane has been purchased and is now in operation. Chairman Hudson reiterated the policy of the Department in stating that the aircraft is for official use only and has to be cleared through the Executive Director's office. He stated that a log will be maintained in the Executive Director's office for public inspection.

Status of Sea Islands - At a previous meeting, Dr. Timmerman had been asked to look into the possibility of available federal funds for purchase of these. Dr. Timmerman has prepared a written report on this project, which is attached. He requested that each Commissioner review this report during the month and he will have a proposal to present at the next meeting. Senator Dennis suggested that revenue derived from a documentary stamp might be used for purchase of some of these lands. Dr. Lumpkin made a motion that this Commission endorse and ask the House to pass the Bill on a documentary stamp. This was seconded by General Harris and carried unanimously. Chairman Hudson requested Wash Belangia to see that this endorsement is carried through.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of 1974/75 Budget - This was presented by Executive Director Webb using charts and slides for the Administrative section of the Department; Dr. Timmerman presented the budget for the Marine Resources Division and Mr. Ryan presented the budget for the Game and Freshwater Fish Department. The Commission accepted the budget as presented and congratulated the Department on its presentation.



Appointments -Commissioner Rhame moved to accept the appointments as previously mailed out by Executive Director Webb. This was seconded by Commissioner Glenn. Mr. Webb stated that a man is badly needed in Darlington County and he requested permission of the Commission to proceed to fill this vacancy immediately when a suitable applicant is available. The Commission instructed Mr. Webb to fill the vacancy in Darlington County.

The appointment of non-pay game warden of Marion Burnside is due to expire and his re-appointment was approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Glenn requested that the Commission be advised of any openings within their districts in order that they may be kept up-to-date on vacancies.

Executive Director Webb recommended that the commission of non-pay game warden John W. Murray in Berkeley County be revoked. Senator Dennis moved that this recommendation be accepted and this commission be revoked. This was seconded by Dr. Lumpkin and carried unanimously.

Game and Freshwater Fish Report - Mr. Ryan passed out his written report for his Division and it is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

Marine Resources Report - Dr. Timmerman passed out his written report for his Division and this is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

Finance Report - The Finance Report as mailed out and previously reviewed by the Commission was accepted and is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

A set of guidelines which has been prepared by personnel of the Marine Resources Division for use of the Wetlands was presented to the members of the Commission by Dr. Timmerman. He suggested that these guidelines could be of use to people interested in securing a permit.

Construction of New Columbia Office Complex - Wash Belangia is working on this project and will submit a report to the Commission prior to the October meeting.

Proposed Rule and Regulation Concerning Use of Crab Traps - Dr. Timmerman recommended that this be brought up at the October Commission meeting.

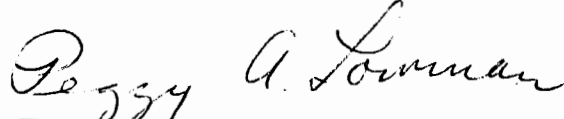


Waterfowl Management Area Seasons Recommendations -

These recommendations were presented by Brock Conrad. A motion was made by Commissioner Rhame, seconded by Dr. Lumpkin, to adopt these seasons as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

At approximately 12:10 P. M., the Commission went into Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted,



Peggy A. Lowman, Secretary
Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission

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