

## MINUTES

### SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE & MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335 - Rembert C. Dennis Bldg.  
1000 Assembly Street  
Columbia, S. C.  
April 17, 1992  
10:00 a.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 17, 1992, at the Rembert C. Dennis Building, Room 335, Columbia, 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, Compton, Pendarvis, Owen, Leary, Miller, Poston and Graham. Staff members present included: Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Paul Sandifer, Brock Conrad, Benny Reeves, and various other staff and guests.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.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 March 20, 1992 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

#### ITEM II - COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman discussed the budget problems in the Department, noting that the Senate version of the budget bill will take an additional 1% in cuts over the cuts of the House version. He noted that the budget bill will be going to the Conference Committee for deliberation. He further noted that in his 30 years in State Government, he has had the most problems this year with the budget and the current system that we are going through does not work and we will be seeking to develop a new budget strategy this summer. He noted that he had appeared before the Senate Fish, Game and Forestry Committee and the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to make them aware of what our budget problems are in the Department.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a copy of the Quarterly Vehicle Accident Report to the Commissioners for their information.

ITEM III - LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dan Dobbins noted that the April 13th Legislative Report had been sent out to the Commissioners and he went over various bills in this report and noted that all of the Department's proposed legislation has moved well in both the House and the Senate.

ITEM IV - NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation - Joe Carter: Mr. Joe Carter, representing Taw Caw Plantation appeared before the Commission noting that he is representing Ms. Nadine Chastain concerning 400 acres of managed wetlands. He noted that he had been working with the Department and the Corps of Engineers regarding mitigation of wetlands for highway impacts and he addressed a number of issues concerning this issue with the Commission. Mr. Carter posed the question to the Commission concerning what is the mitigation policy of the Commission and is there a mitigation policy and he also asked for the opportunity from the Commission to go to the Corps of Engineers without a stated objection from the Department on this particular project. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to accept Mr. Carter's presentation as information at this time.

B. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: Benny Reeves noted there was nothing further to report.

Dr. Timmerman noted that funds from the Documentary Stamp Tax had been miscalculated by the Tax Commission and a Proviso has been put in the budget to excuse the Department from paying back any of these funds that were miscalculated by the Tax Commission.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: There was nothing further to report.

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

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

5. Marine Resources: Paul Sandifer noted that the shrimp trawling season opened off shore on April 8th and there was a good over-wintering crop of shrimp. Dr. Sandifer asked the Commission for authority for the staff to open the season in state waters based on sampling and he further asked for authority to close the season based on biological information, when needed, and in both cases the Commission would be informed of such actions. Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the recommendation from Dr. Sandifer.

C. Advisory Board Reports:

1. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: Commissioner Owen noted that the Board met last Thursday at Webb Center and they are proposing an alligator harvest recommendation for private lands and this will be mailed out for the next Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Owen went over the other items discussed at the Board Meeting and provided background on these items.

Commissioner Miller asked about the doe harvest in the Fant's Grove area and it was noted that the staff would review this matter.

2. Conservation Education & Communications:

Commissioner Graham noted that the Board met on March 20th and that Carolyn Randolph was there as a new Board Member and Gene Foxworth has resigned from the Board.

Commissioner Graham went over the items discussed at the meeting, noting that the Board recommended efforts to upgrade the RESPECT Program and that the Board requested that the Commission approve a motion whereby the RESPECT message would be printed on all publications in the Department where practical. The Commission adopted a motion to approve this recommendation from Commissioner Graham.

D. OTHER REMARKS: There were no further remarks from the Commissioners at this time.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel, real estate and legal matters. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Burnside noted that, at this time, the Commission would hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel, real estate and legal 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.

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Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to authorize the Legal Staff and those necessary to negotiate and finalize the sale or lease to include the terms of the lease, the length and the amount and all related items for land owned by the Department in McCormick County pursuant to a request from Western Telephone Company. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

Commissioner Compton moved for the Commission to approve the DWCO re-appointments, appointments, proposed cancellations as presented by staff and to also approve the DWCO appointments of Donnie Loftis and Robert Lambert with statewide authority. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and it was adopted by the Commission.

E. Appointments: This item was previously acted upon by the Commission.

F. Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Commission agreed to hold its next meeting at Riverbend Sportsmen's Lodge, north of Spartanburg, on May 15, 1992, at 2:00 p.m.

ITEM V - ADJOURN

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