

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING

Room 335, Rembert C. Dennis Building
Columbia, S. C.
July 18, 1986
10:00 A. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at 10:00 A.M., July 18, 1986, in Room 335 of the Dennis Building, Columbia, 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, Owen, Stokes, Harrelson and Bennett. Directors and Staff present included Dr. Timmerman, Larry Cartee, Dan Dobbins, Brock Conrad, Bill Chastain, Benny Reeves, Gene Smoak and various other Staff and guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

ITEM I. PRESENTATION - MIDLANDS CHAPTER OF QUAIL UNLIMITED, INC.

Mr. Rodney Redd of the Midlands Chapter of Quail Unlimited, Inc. presented a quail print to the Commission for their support over the past year. Mr. Redd gave a special thanks for support from Mark Hall. Chairman Webster expressed thanks to Mr. Redd for this presentation.

ITEM II. READING OF THE MINUTES

The Commission adopted a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the June 20, 1986 Commission Meeting and approve them as submitted.

ITEM III. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman distributed notes from the last Staff Meeting and went over these briefly with the Commission.

Dr. Timmerman informed the Commission that he and Staff have been meeting with the Officers in each law enforcement district to discuss legislation and numerous other matters.

Dr. Timmerman distributed the Six-Month Vehicle Accident Report to the Commissioners for information.

Dr. Timmerman distributed a news release from the Department of the Interior to phase out the use of lead shot by 1991.

Dr. Timmerman advised the Commission that we will be working on getting bond money released for our new communications system and renovations at the Marshlands House.

The Commission adopted a motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Chairman Webster announced that an Executive Session will be held at the end of the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters.

ITEM IV. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dan Dobbins distributed the final year-end Legislative Report to the Commission and went over this briefly. He commended Gail McTeer, Van Hagler and Mike Fields for their tremendous assistance in the General Assembly this year. Mr. Dobbins noted that the 1987 Legislative Proposal will be submitted to the Commission at its September meeting.

ITEM V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Santee Reserve Boat Ramp: Dr. Timmerman noted that we need to get clearance from The Nature Conservancy and the Collins Creek Gun Club to provide for use of the boat ramp at the Santee Coastal Reserve. The Commission agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting.

B. Man-Drives - WMA: The Commission deferred this matter until the August meeting.

ITEM VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 1987-88 Budget Proposal: Commissioner Compton discussed the proposed FY 1987-88 budget request as adopted by the Commission Finance Committee (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). Following discussion, the Commission adopted a motion to approve the recommendation of the Commission Finance Committee.

B. Division Reports:

1. Administrative Services: There was nothing further to report.

2. Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries: John Frampton distributed the Proposed Early Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations (copy attached to original Commission Minutes) and discussed such with the Commissioners. The Commission adopted a motion to approve these regulations as submitted.

Mr. Frampton distributed a draft letter to WMA cooperators on the question of Sunday hunting for review by the Commissioners. Larry Cartee noted there was some question by staff on whether the Commission wanted the staff to review Sunday hunting on private land only, or on all WMA land. The Commission noted that we should present the question statewide on private and WMA lands, and address any particular problems that may come up on WMA lands. The Commission asked the staff to go forward on this matter under this direction.

Mr. Frampton informed the Commission that the Department of Interior is gradually phasing out lead shot and we will probably have to implement steel shot in 1987-88 in some counties of the state. He noted that we will ask the Commission to reach a decision on this matter in the next several months to enable some time for suppliers to phase out lead shot.

Mr. Frampton noted that the recommendations for the 1986-87 Waterfowl Season will be presented to the Commission at the August meeting.

Mr. Frampton stated that input on the Waterfowl Survey will be presented to the Commission in the near future.

3. Law Enforcement & Boating: Bill Chastain distributed a draft Health and Fitness Awareness Program and noted that the Commission will be asked to take action on this at a future Commission meeting.

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

5. Marine Resources: There was nothing further to report.

C. Other Remarks: Chairman Webster introduced Rob Keck, Lewis Yount and Sonny Gilbert with the National Wild Turkey Federation. Mr. Yount noted that they will be making a special presentation to the Governor at noon and he invited the Commissioners to attend.

Following this discussion, the Commission held an Executive Session as approved earlier in the meeting.

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 actions taken in Executive Session. Commissioner Harrelson reported that the Commission adopted a motion to approve all appointments, re-appointments and promotions of Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers as presented (copy attached to original Commission Minutes). The Commission adopted a motion to approve and ratify this action.

D. Time and Place of Next Meeting: Chairman Webster stated that he would notify the Commission of the date, time and place of the August meeting.

ITEM VII. ADJOURN

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

