MINUTES OF MEETING OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AT PALMETTO BLUFF SEPTEMBER 4, 1968

Present were Commissioners Eltzroth, Cantey, Eppes, Glenn and Jones, Director Webb, Pat Ryan, Tommy Welch, Ed Latimer and Buck Buchanan.

Following an executive session Mr. Glenn said he would study the budget of the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

Mr. Webb presented a number of recommendations for salaried and non-pay wardens, all being approved except one in Mr. Mishoe's district where it was agreed Mr. Webb should check with all members of the Horry delegation and Mr. Mishoe for their approval.

Mr. Webb read a letter which he said had been prepared by Jeff Fuller regarding the striped bass study and the report on the probable effects of establishing a system of locks on the Congaree for navigation purposes. The letter asks all personnel of the Department to study the report and be in a position to explain its recommendations. It was received as information.

Mr. Webb said that all bids received for repainting the Cessna 180 seemed rather high and after some discussion he was authorized to accept the lowest of three bids submitted.

The monthly reports of the various Divisions were distributed and accepted as information.

Mr. Webb reported on a meeting he and Mr. Buchanan had had with Mr. Brown of the Division of Commercial Fisheries, Dr. Lunz being tied up with another engagement. He said they had worked out nothing definite in regard to the handling of salt water licenses. He then read a letter written by Dr. Lunz later.

The suggestion was made that Mr. Buchanan be made general agent for license handling for both Divisions of the Department, Mr. Eltzroth asking how much of a problem this would be. Mr. Buchanan said that at least one additional person would be needed.

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Mr. Webb said that there might be some trouble in instructing the conservation officers handling the licenses in the complicated structure of the Commercial Fisheries licensing.

Mr. Eltzroth asked Mr. Webb if there is anything in the statutes regarding this and after some discussion a motion of Mr. Glenn was adopted that Mr. Webb and Mr. Buchanan study and report on the matter, including probable cost of the changeover at the next meeting.

Dr. Jones asked whether it would be possible to get up a directory of all Department personnel with addresses and telephone numbers and Mr. Webb said this could be done.

A change in the boating regulations was presented by Mr. Welch, read by Mr. Eltzroth, regarding the required lights on boats in the hours of darkness. After a general discussion it was agreed that the boats must have a white light or lights displayed so as to be visible for 360 degrees.

A motion of Mr. Eltzroth was adopted that the Department adopt Coast Guard regulations in regard to equipment as of January 1.

Mr. Latimer and Mr. Welch were asked to draw up some suggested rules regarding boat equipment and present them for final action at the next meeting.

Mr. Eltzroth asked whether the Commission wished Mr. Welch to get up some safety rules for general distribution.

He also asked about the feasibility of licensing young boat operators, as is done with autos, and Mr. Welch said boating organizations generally were opposed. Mr. Eltzroth suggested that a study be made and recommendations made to the General Assembly.

Mr. Eltzroth said that sooner or later something would have to be done and everyone operating a boat should have a course of study and be required to pass

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a test.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Mr. Webb reported on the progress toward air-conditioning certain houses and the installation of an elevator at Dirleton,

The Secretary reported that the letter opposing gun registration had been sent to all members of the Congressional delegation and replies had been received from both Senators and some of the Congressmen.

Eddie Finlay

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