

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, February 27, 1980

10:00 o'clock a.m.

DONALD F. WILLE,
Chairman

Wildlife and Fisheries
Building, Room 102
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.



Helen R. Dietrich, inc.

CONVENTION REPORTING

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 - (504) 524-4787

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . Pursuant to notice, the regular monthly meeting of Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Wednesday, February 27, 1980, in Room 102, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Donald F. Wille, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

DONALD F. WILLE, Chairman
 J. C. GILBERT, Vice Chairman
 WAYNE C. DUCOTE, Member
 JAMES C. FARRELLY, Member
 HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Member
 B. J. RAWLS, Member
 CHARLES A. RIGGS, Member
 J. BURTON ANGELLE, Secretary

A G E N D A

1. Approval of minutes of January 22, 1980. (5)

DR. LYLE S. ST. AMANT

2. Request for renewal of a permit from Atlas (7)

Construction Company, Inc. to remove



fill material from the beds or water-bottoms of the Mississippi River, at Mile 18 AHP, vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish.

3. Request for renewal of a permit from Atlas Construction Company, Inc., to remove fill material from the beds or water-bottoms of the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP, vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish. (9)

MR. JOE HERRING

4. Right-of-way on Saline Wildlife Management Area. (10)
5. Lease renewal of Wisner Wildlife Management Area. (13)

OTHER BUSINESS

6. Mr. Hugh Shearman re state duck stamp. (15)
7. Discussion of establishing Boating Safety Committee. (29)
8. Discussion of boating safety on Lake Pontchartrain. (29)
9. Recommendations of sub-committee studying shell dredging lease fees. (47)



10. Set dates for April and May meetings and public hearings on seasons and bag limits. (54)

11. Discussion of establishing of By-laws for Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. (57)

12. Authorize Commission Members to attend the Louisiana Wildlife Federation convention in Baton Rouge and the National Wild Turkey Federation meeting in Shreveport. (57)

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS NOT ON THE PRINTED AGENDA WERE ALSO CONSIDERED:

Adoption of resolutions of commendation, ex-Chairman Doyle G. Berry and Governor Edwin W. Edwards. (23)

Authorization for Commission Members to attend meetings of Ducks Unlimited, Louisiana Wild Turkey Federation and Louisiana Shrimp Association. (57)

Appointment of coordinator to arrange attendance at meetings of State Senate and House Natural Resources Committees. (60)

Election of Officers. (63)



Statement of Chairman-Elect J. C. Gilbert.

(67)

ADJOURNMENT

(70)



CHAIRMAN WILLE: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to welcome you all to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regular meeting.

I think the first thing on the agenda, which I don't see on our agenda, is the approval of the minutes of the last meeting.

MR. LUTTRELL: So move.

MR. RIGGS: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, I am sorry. I picked up the wrong agenda. The approval of the minutes of January 22, 1980, is what we need, and it has been moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Riggs.

MR. DUCOTE: We are approving them but I didn't see them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, you have not seen the minutes?

MR. DUCOTE: I had understood that we were supposed to get the minutes prior to the regular meeting, the minutes of the last meeting prior to the regular meeting, so that we could read them and approve them or change them as necessary.



THE CHAIRMAN: All right, do you want to open it for discussion and not approve the minutes?

MR. DUCOTE: I really don't see how we can approve any minutes that we haven't seen.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K.

MR. DUCOTE: Does anybody have them?

THE CHAIRMAN: The last meeting that we had was in Baton Rouge that we have the minutes for.

MR. DUCOTE: For the regular meeting, the last regular meeting. I haven't seen them. Have you?

MR. GILBERT: When do we get them?

THE CHAIRMAN: We usually get them in the mail.

MR. RAWLS: I hate to approve them without getting them in our hands.

MR. GILBERT: Pie, when will we have the minutes?

MRS. PENDLEY: I don't know. They are mailed from here and I will have to check with Jan.

MR. RAWLS: Let's just pass that until



we find out where they are.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K.

MR. DUCOTE: I am sorry.

THE CHAIRMAN: That's all right, Mr. Ducote. Every dog has his day.

We are going to put aside Item No. 1 on the agenda until we find out what the situation is on it.

Dr. St. Amant.

DR. LYLE S. ST. AMANT: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have two items on the agenda this morning. Both are requests for renewals of existing permits by the same company to remove fill material from the bed of the Mississippi River.

The first one is the Atlas Construction Company request for renewal of its permit at Mile 18 AHP in the vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish. This permit has been in existence and there has been no problem. We would recommend it be extended for another year, at the same royalty of ten cents a yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?



MR. LUTTRELL: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell.

MR. RIGGS: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Riggs.

All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed?

(No response)

Motion carried.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to ATLAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 18 AHP, vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from February 27, 1980 to February 27, 1981, at a royalty rate of ten cents per cubic yard.



DR. ST. AMANT: The next item is by the same company, Atlas Construction Company, who requests that we renew their permit for removal of fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP in the vicinity of Woodland in Plaquemines Parish. This permit has been active with no problem. We would recommend it be extended for one more year at ten cents a yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?

MR. RAWLS: I so move.

MR. RIGGS: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Riggs. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed?

(No response)

No opposed. Motion carried.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries

Commission does hereby grant permission to ATLAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP, vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from February 27, 1980 to February 27, 1981, at a royalty rate of ten cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: That is all, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. St. Amant. We appreciate it.

MR. FARRELLY: I would just like to make one comment, that it is good to see Dr. St. Amant back again with us. Not that I mind looking at Harry Schafer, but I am just glad to see Doc is with us again.

DR. ST. AMANT: I am glad to be back.

THE CHAIRMAN: That's for sure, Doc. All of us feel that way.

Joe Herring.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first item we have on the agenda is



asking you to ratify something that we had to take care of this last month pertaining to some drainage problems on our Saline Wildlife Management Area.

On February 8 the Corps of Engineers along with the Tensas Levee Board contacted us pertaining to 36-inch culvert which went under a levee that was on our property. This levee at one time was the property of the Levee Board but when we purchased Saline Wildlife Management Area and after that they abandoned this levee, it reverted back to our ownership. But there was a little piece of private property right on the edge of our Saline Wildlife Management Area that this culvert and this levee were hindering from proper drainage.

I can show it to you here (indicating on map). This is our boundary line right here and the little piece of property is just a few acres in a corner here. They felt that the situation needed to be taken care of immediately because of some flooding in there and they didn't feel like they could wait until the Commission meeting. So, we got with them on it and did work it out and told



them to go ahead verbally and remove the culvert. It was kind of an emergency situation to alleviate a drainage problem and flooding problem on some property there. We are bringing it back to you now for ratification. We felt like it had to be done at that time.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., are there any questions on it?

MR. LUTTRELL: This is a temporary right-of-way?

THE CHAIRMAN: Right. It is just to give them ingress and egress rights to do that job at that time, right.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?

MR. RIGGS: I move ratification.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Riggs and seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed?

(No response)

Motion carried.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



About two years ago the lease that we had on our Wisner Wildlife Management Area with the Wisner Foundation expired and since that time we have been operating the Wisner Wildlife Management Area on just a letter, you might say, authorizing us to go ahead and conduct our wildlife management area activities on it according to the original lease agreement.

At that time the Wisner Foundation people were anticipating pulling certain properties out of this Wildlife Management Area for use in a different manner, possibly to develop it or lease it to someone else or whatever they intended to do we are not aware of, but, anyhow, they did have other plans for approximately 8,000 acres of the Wisner Wildlife Management Area.

This is a map here (indicating), showing at one time from the red all the way through the black was our Wisner Wildlife Management Area. It went on to the Gulf. Through the years they have pulled some of the property out on the highway going to Grand Isle from year to year because they have that right. It is a lease on it, we don't



own it, they own it.

Now the idea is they want the whole southern part of it, you might say, to pull it out, leaving us 14,000 acres in the northern part, to go ahead and draw up a new lease on it and include the 14,000 acres. They said they would give us 25 years fee-free on the area.

I would recommend to the Commission then that we accept this into our Wildlife Management Area Program as we have in the past under the same stipulations we have on all our other wildlife management areas in the state. It would be a good 14,000 acres to keep in this system, to keep our hunting areas up for the public there and our management area system somewhere around a million acres. I would recommend to the Commission that we accept it.

MR. DUCOTE: I so move.

MR. RIGGS: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Ducote, seconded by Mr. Riggs. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.



THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

Motion carries.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., do we have anyone else from the staff who needs to be heard today?

Under Other Business we have Mr. Hugh Shearman here with Ducks Unlimited. No?

MR. HUGH SHEARMAN: Lake Charles American Press.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Lake Charles American Press. He is going to make a little presentation for us. Come on up to the mike, Mr. Shearman.

MR. SHEARMAN: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: This concerns a state duck stamp, for those of you in the audience that are interested, and he is going to make a little presentation. Mr. Shearman, would you identify yourself, where you are from and who you are with.

MR. SHEARMAN: Thank you, sir. My name is Hugh Shearman. I am the publisher of the Lake Charles American Press. I have been very interested in federal duck stamps, and state duck stamps



for a number of years. It has been a hobby.

My presentation this morning will take approximately 20 minutes. I would like to show you some slides of federal duck stamps as well as state duck stamps. At the present time there are 17, actually 16, states who have duck stamps and duck stamp prints. I am going to show you the prints, starting as I said with the federal duck stamps which were originated by the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act passed in 1934, then the last ten years of federal duck stamps which are in color and then state stamps and/or prints, good ones and bad ones as well as poor ones.

I will ask for questions after the slide presentation and then I will read you a letter from a man who has been instrumental in doing a duck stamp program for other states, for your consideration, my thought being that of all states that should have a duck stamp program perhaps Louisiana should have one more than anybody else.

With that in mind, if we could turn off the lights I would briefly go through the film presentation.



(Here' followed slide presentation, as detailed in Appendix A hereto.)

MR. SHEARMAN: That concludes the slide presentation. You might have some questions regarding what you saw that I might not have covered.

MR. DUCOTE: Do the states generally sell the prints as well as the stamps?

MR. SHEARMAN: No, actually the artist, all he gets is the right to put out so many prints. The state sells the stamps and the state takes the money from the stamps. The stamps are like the federal duck stamps, you have to have the stamps to hunt in the state. There is no procedure, you understand; you can do what you want, but what has been going on, the same way as the federal, is that the artist takes 2,000 or whatever for the print collectors and that is what he gets for his winning entry. If he sells them all, fine, and if he doesn't sell them, that is something else.

Now I would like a few more minutes to read a letter from a man who is prepared to come



down and talk to you gentlemen about the mechanics of doing something like this, if you find that you are interested.

(Mr. Shearman here read letter from Mr. Russell A. Fink on this subject, a copy of which is attached hereto as Appendix B.)

MR. SHEARMAN: I have known Mr. Fink for roughly 15 years and I have been buying state and federal duck stamp prints from him. He is a very reliable man. He has been a judge in the federal duck stamp program. He has been used by a number of people as an appraiser for estates on federal duck stamp collections, and he is a very honorable gentleman. I am not trying to sell you people Mr. Fink. That just happens to be one man that I know who is in a position to help carry out a program like this.

If you gentlemen want more information, I can certainly get it for you. I am willing now to answer any questions you might have that I can answer.

MR. DUCOTE: Would you prepare something



for us that would show what we would do in the line of how many stamps we could expect to sell, which would be the unpublished number of federal duck stamps we sold last year, and you could find out from this Commission how many licenses we sold and, well, I guess --

MR. SHEARMAN: You really have more information than I have, Mr. Ducote.

SECRETARY ANGELLE: Hugh, in these other states, is that a mandatory fee for the duck stamp?

MR. SHEARMAN: Yes. With that question, Burt, I think I have here prices. California started out with a dollar duck stamp. Maryland started out with \$1.10, Iowa with a dollar, Massachusetts \$1.25, Illinois \$5, Michigan I don't have, Indiana \$5, South Dakota, \$1, Mississippi \$2, Wisconsin \$3.25, Nevada \$2, Florida \$5, Alabama \$4.20, Tennessee \$2. There doesn't seem to be any pattern. Maryland wants to go from their original \$1 up to \$5.

SECRETARY ANGELLE: A question along the lines of management more than the artistic part. The mandatory provisions also carry I am sure a



penalty so that when the duck hunter is out in the field and he does not own one of Louisiana duck stamps, he would then be in violation. My question is, are you familiar with the system? I am sure this would have to go to the legislature and get that authorized to assess these penalties.

MR. SHEARMAN: I am sorry, I don't know.

SECRETARY ANGELLE: I will get that information.

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Shearman, what would be our procedure do you feel if we decided that we wanted to sponsor such a move?

MR. SHEARMAN: Well, I would think that first you should get an answer to Mr. Ducote's question so that you would have some idea of what you are talking about in dollars. Then I think that you should have somebody who knows a lot more about it than I do, either Mr. Fink or somebody else, come and translate the number of stamps and the dollars into a program that would answer Mr. Angelle's questions better than I can answer them.

If at that time you still feel that it is something that you would like to proceed with,



I happen to know of one new member of the House who would be very happy to introduce the bill. That was just volunteered to me because one of the representatives from Calcasieu Parish was in my office the other day and I told her I was coming down here and she said, "I think it is a great idea and I would be very happy to sponsor the bill."

I think that if you fellows feel that it has merit and that the money that is generated can either be used in Louisiana at your discretion, can be given half to Ducks Unlimited, half kept here, or keep it all here, I think that is entirely up to you gentlemen and the legislature. I am not in a position to tell you what to do. I am not even going to suggest anything.

MR. GILBERT: Just one other question. Did you say this Mr. Fink was the originator of the turkey stamp also?

MR. SHEARMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. GILBERT: He would be a good man to talk to if he has knowledge of both of them.

MR. SHEARMAN: He is the only man I know.



If I had another man, I would give you a choice. Now I am sure Burt can find other people that have been active in doing this, purely by getting in touch with the other states, but from what I have seen, Iowa and Maryland have done by far the best job. Everybody has made some mistakes and I have no doubt that sooner or later, if you all go along with the program, somewhere there would be something crop up that we are not familiar with. My only thought is that if you have a man who has already drunk a keg of beer, you had better stick with him, you know he can do it.

MR. RIGGS: How many state licenses did we sell? You wouldn't know.

SECRETARY ANGELLE: About 125,000.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shearman, I want to tell you how much we appreciate your presentation here today and I think, much as I hate to do this -- we have been committee'd to death for the last couple of weeks -- I think we are going to appoint a committee and I think Mr. Riggs -- did you institute this thing, Charlie? Mr. Riggs will chair the committee and I am going to put Mr.



Luttrell on it and myself on it.

MR. SHEARMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am going to give you copies of my presentation, for all of you. This is what I told you. I don't know that you particularly want that without the slides but it has some additional information, and that is the letter from Mr. Fink.

THE CHAIRMAN: We will enter this into the minutes and that way everybody will have a copy of it. I do appreciate your presentation, Mr. Shearman. Thank you very much.

All right, we have a couple of resolutions here, too. Briefly what we have is a resolution for Mr. Doyle Berry who served on this Commission for quite a few years. I think all of you know him. He was chairman of the Commission when he resigned the Commission because of his business commitments.

(The Chairman hear read the last two paragraphs of the formal resolution.)

We have copies of the resolution if anyone would like to see it, and we will enter



it into the minutes. The reporter will be glad to give you a copy of it.

The second resolution is to Governor Edwin Edwards, who I think everyone in this room knows has been a real, real good friend to the sportsmen of this state. It is with mixed emotions that we lose Governor Edwards as governor. Of course, we feel like Mr. Treen will do a good job, too, we hope. It is hard to tell until the man gets into the office. But this is a resolution to Governor Edwards.

(The Chairman here read the last two paragraphs of the formal resolution.)

This will be entered on the record at this time.

MR. DUCOTE: I move adoption of these resolutions.

MR. FARRELLY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Ducote, seconded by Mr. Farrelly. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: None opposed. The



motion carries.

(The full texts of the resolutions are here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Doyle G. Berry has served the people of Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission with distinction since January 31, 1972, on which date he was appointed to this Commission by Governor Edwin W. Edwards, and

WHEREAS, during the past eight years he has served as a loyal member of this Commission and as Chairman of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission since October 21, 1975, and

WHEREAS, during this long period of outstanding service to the people of Louisiana, particularly the sportsmen of this state and those tens of thousands of persons in Louisiana who are dependent upon



wildlife and fisheries resources for a livelihood, Doyle G. Berry has given unselfishly of his time and personal funds to extend and broaden the efforts and accomplishments of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, during the past eight years the public image of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been enhanced by the many beneficial activities and programs initiated by the Commission in the interest of proper stewardship of the state's extensive wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, Doyle G. Berry has played a major role in accelerated land acquisition by the Department, game restoration, fishery development and numerous other programs that have resulted in great benefits for the people of Louisiana,



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fish-
eries Commission does this date commend
the outstanding and distinguished ser-
vices of Doyle G. Berry, and herewith
adopt this resolution of appreciation
and gratitude.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife
and Fisheries Commission was established
by the Louisiana Constitution and it is
constitutionally mandated that the Com-
mission protect, conserve and replenish
the natural resources of the state, the
wildlife of the state, including all
aquatic life; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is
mandated to meet openly at least once
each month and this meeting undoubtedly
will be the last of such meetings to
be held during the present term of
office of the Honorable Edwin W.
Edwards, Governor of the State of



Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, all seven members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission were appointed to this Commission by the Honorable Edwin W. Edwards; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is the policy-making arm of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, with the responsibility of establishing management programs and policies; and

WHEREAS, these management programs and policies are of tremendous importance to all of the people of Louisiana in the utilization of wildlife and fisheries resources; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility of this Commission could not have been effectively attended to without both the attentive ear and open heart of Governor Edwards; and

WHEREAS, the present sound and viable status of Louisiana's



wildlife and fisheries resources is due in great part to dedicated consideration given by Governor Edwards to protection, conservation and replenishment of the state's wildlife and fisheries resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this, the last action to be taken this date by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission should be, and appropriately is, an expression of appreciation to Governor Edwin W. Edwards for, and on behalf of all the people of Louisiana, whose lives are directly affected by the quality of the state's wildlife and fisheries resources, which are at their highest level in history as a direct result of the dedication and attention of Governor Edwin W. Edwards.

THE CHAIRMAN: Now we need a discussion -- I think this was brought up by Mr. Ducote -- on establishing a boating safety committee. I am



going to go ahead and appoint a committee, but you had some people you wanted to introduce. Go ahead.

MR. DUCOTE: Yes, I would like to take Items 6 and 7 on the agenda together. I will be happy to introduce some people from the Metropolitan Area Safety Committee. Captain Bill Lansden from the Orleans Levee Board; Tim Murray, who is a local boat dealer and boating enthusiast; and two gentlemen from the Coast Guard, Lt. Cook and Lt. Lander.

These people are from the Metropolitan Area Safety Committee and we are trying to establish some sort of boating safety program in Lake Pontchartrain. The latest registration that we have in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes shows 34,168 registered boats from 12 to 65 feet. I feel that most of these operate within Orleans and Jefferson Parish and there is no boating safety arm of this state that enforces anything in Lake Pontchartrain and in these two parishes.

The Orleans Levee Board has a patrol boat, which is antiquated, if I might say, but it is a very slow moving older boat and it is the



only thing that Lake Pontchartrain has. The New Orleans Police have the authority and they naturally don't have any money, and the Wildlife and Fisheries is charged with the enforcement of our state boating laws.

I feel that we need to establish some sort of committee from this Commission, working with the Metropolitan Area Safety Committee, to try to get some facility out there for enforcement of our laws.

I would like to call on Captain Lansden to tell us what he thinks in the meetings that he has had is necessary in Lake Pontchartrain and what type of enforcement is necessary and what type of accidents and fatalities he has had.
Captain Lansden.

CAPTAIN H. B. LANSDEN: Thank you,
Mr. Ducote.

Gentlemen, as Commissioner Ducote stated, I am the Chairman of the Metropolitan Area Safety Council's Committee on Water Safety. The Council as a whole, of course, addresses safety throughout the metropolitan area, Orleans Parish, Jefferson,



St. Bernard and anyone else within this particular area who is interested in various kinds of safety.

Our particular area of concentration is water safety. That is water sports, recreation, swimming, boating, et cetera. For a number of years we have been watching the growth of the boat population, if you will, in Lake Pontchartrain and in the greater metropolitan area as a total. However, that which is most visible and that which probably brings more concern to us is the boat operation and conduct of operations on Lake Pontchartrain, and the law enforcement and safety enforcement authority there.

There are a number of people who address this and have some responsibility. The U. S. Coast Guard from the standpoint of overall law enforcement and from the standpoint of encouraging, not enforcement, but encouraging safe boating operation and safe boats is the Coast Guard Auxiliary, a volunteer arm, which has conducted inspections on a voluntary basis to help individuals learn about the kind of equipment they should have on their boats.



The Orleans Levee Board, as a hand-off from our basic reason for having a patrol boat, also conducts some enforcement and presence on Lake Pontchartrain. The RESCUER was bought some years ago, primarily as a search and rescue vessel for the Lakefront Airport. This was brought home again this weekend, of course. We are still using that boat right now fulltime to investigate and search for wreckage and victims of this accident over the weekend. That is the primary responsibility. This is brought into focus periodically at the board meetings out there.

The people in the business and who are interested in recreation address this also. They are all members of this subcommittee. We have representatives from the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Power Squadron. We have Mr. Murray who does represent the boat dealers in a sense. Others have been invited and do attend. We probably have an attendance of some 20 or 25 people at our various committee meetings.

We have found through discussion, observation and correspondence, approaching the various



agencies, that we do not have a fulltime coordinated law enforcement and safety program in evidence on Lake Pontchartrain.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has been the primary agency responsible for state enforcement. I think we will be in a position to lend great support to this effort out there.

The boats that are currently on the scene are the U. S. Coast Guard, and I would like to ask the gentlemen here if they would address their mode of operations from the Coast Guard standpoint. I have mentioned the Levee Board's boat and its primary responsibility. That is about it. Last year NOPD removed their patrol boat from service and so there are no others out there.

I think if we did have some additional assistance, especially over the weekends, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with fulltime presence during daylight operating hours -- not only presence but also enforcement of violators -- it would lend considerably to the improvement of safety for boat operations on Lake Pontchartrain.

Thank you.



THE CHAIRMAN: I have a question to ask you. In Shreveport within the city we have a lake called Cross Lake, which is in the city limits of Shreveport. The city itself maintains the safety and the boating laws on that lake. I am just wondering within the charter of the City of New Orleans there might not be a provision for the City of New Orleans to take care of the safety and boating regulations on that lake. I do know in Shreveport we have enforcement power. We go out there occasionally and assist those people but they have their own lake patrol, and they didn't want us to fool with it. I am just wondering if New Orleans has the same charter in their city ordinance, and we might be stepping on some ground that we should not be.

CAPTAIN LANSDEN: I believe it would be the reverse. Maybe Mr. Ducote would like to address that.

MR. DUCOTE: I can answer that. First of all, Lake Pontchartrain is in three parishes. You have got St. Tammany, Jefferson and Orleans so you have three parishes. Second of all, I have been



through this with Orleans Parish, and the authority is the New Orleans Police Department, and they have absolutely no money and there is no prospect of getting any. We wouldn't be stepping on their toes whatsoever.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., Wayne, I know it is three parishes but is it within the City of New Orleans?

MR. DUCOTE: Well, Orleans Parish is within the City of New Orleans and the jurisdiction of the lake extends within certain underground boundaries in Orleans Parish, but you have two other parishes that our boat would be interested in patrolling in the jurisdiction of the lake.

I know what you are talking about, the authority of a state agency in the city.

THE CHAIRMAN: Right.

MR. DUCOTE: Let's put it this way. If we don't have it, the City would give it to us.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. I do know this, that the state police cannot come into the City of New Orleans except when they are invited by the City. Of course, you know we went through this,



not the last Mardi Gras but the one before.

MR. DUCOTE: I will get a letter of invitation from the Mayor and Chief Parsons.

THE CHAIRMAN: All I am asking you to do is cover your bases on the thing.

CAPTAIN LANSDEN: If I am right, Mr. Chairman, we have discussed this situation for a number of months really and, although I do not have a positive answer for you, because I don't think there is one, the State does have jurisdiction, as Commissioner Ducote pointed out. I believe that goes right up to the lakeshore. There are state laws which are to be enforced and that is where in our discussions and information we receive from various agencies -- incidentally we do have representation from the Wildlife and Fisheries on our committee. I am sorry I didn't recognize Mr. Seale who was here earlier, and also we have had other representation, too.

We have talked this over and there are laws, both state laws and city laws, which could be and can be enforced. I am not sure that we have the line of demarcation, though, clearly



defined, and it might be that some legislation would be required to clear this up. But there is no question from any agency represented in our discussions that the Wildlife and Fisheries does have the complete authority right up to the shoreline.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, I know that we have the authority. It is just like the state police have the authority to give a ticket within the City of New Orleans. However, to come in and actually police the City of New Orleans, they have to have specific permission from the City of New Orleans. So, what you are asking us to do is to take the policing over in Lake Pontchartrain, as far as boating safety goes. Now, when this is done, we might have to have something in writing from the City of New Orleans, is what I am saying, and I think that all the bases should be covered.

CAPTAIN LANSDEN: That may be coordinated. We are not asking you to do that. You have that authority now, I am positive of that. As a matter of fact, the police that operate our boat, the Levee Board boat, have commissions from the



Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to act for you in that area.

MR. WILLE: Special commissions?

CAPTAIN LANSDEN: Special commissions from you.

MR. WILLE: Well, tell them it is not worth the paper it is written on.

CAPTAIN LANSDEN: Well, we haven't arrested anybody that I know of.

MR. LUTTRELL: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question? Mr. Ducote, do not about five or six parishes touch this lake, instead of just three? Six or seven? Perhaps seven. Then we are fixing to get into something that we don't know whether all seven would agree to or not. It is going to take a tremendous study.

MR. DUCOTE: Let's put it this way. Primarily your boating interest, you have 34,000 in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes, and if the other parishes don't want to agree, we will just patrol this side of the lake.

MR. LUTTRELL: I was thinking about the money. We got into this, Mr. Secretary, when we



were forced to patrol the lake to be sure that those dredge boats went under the bridge properly. We forget those bad points so quickly. I am not against this. I am just wanting to be very careful again.

Mr. Angelle, do you remember what went on here? I was here and you, I believe we were the only two who were here, but we got into something big. You were here, Mr. Wille?

SECRETARY ANGELLE: I remember very well, Mr. Luttrell. In fact, I think come March 10 -- you know, this was created by executive order -- and I guess this is one point we need to bring to the attention of Governor-Elect Treen. He may issue an executive order, either continuing or releasing us from those responsibilities, which it costs about \$200,000 a year for the operation of the boat.

MR. LUTTRELL: And I would like to interrupt just a second. Which one of you that do that, would you please notify the man that this is not the first time and neither was the executive order from Governor Edwards the first time. There was a



time before that under McKeithen in which this same thing came about and the cost was so tremendous, finally the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission just discontinued it, and no one objected and it was over with. I am sorry to interrupt.

SECRETARY ANGELLE: In talking to Wayne, I told him I had no particular objection. However I had some reservations and I looked at the political implication of this and we will be looking at the need of boat equipment, people and the whole budget for a number of other large lakes in the state, and I can just name about 25 of them here that I have been writing down -- Toledo, Black, St. John, Henderson, Calcasieu, Vermilion, Lake Maurepas, Lake Bistineau, Verret, Providence, Catahoula Lake, Cross Lake -- and all of these areas are large, large bodies of water that need -- I think once you start this you are going to set up a momentum in the legislature. I think we need to look at it real, real close.

MR. LUTTRELL: Yes, I want \$200,000 or \$300,000 for my lake, too!

MR. DUCOTE: I would just like to say



that I don't think we need the fulltime enforcement similar to the WIDGEON that is on the Causeway right now. I am not looking to spend a couple hundred thousand dollars. I am looking to take perhaps existing agents that we have in the field and put them only on weekends, on Saturday and Sunday and perhaps one afternoon, and this is only during the summer months. The expenditure would be a boat that would be stationed at the lakefront.

As far as personnel, I would think that you could take some of the enforcement agents who are in the field during the hunting season and then put them there on weekends and change some of their days and hours around. I don't believe the personnel expenditure would be any more. It would just be a question of the boat and fuel. Maybe \$20,000 for the purchase of a boat and \$4,000-\$5,000 for maintenance a year. That would be the expenditure that would be required.

If it does require us to get into enforcement for other large areas of the state, I think it should be done. We lose a lot of lives and a lot of property through boating accidents



and when you start talking about 34,000 people in two parishes and probably -- how many? -- probably 100,000 throughout the states, you have got a lot of people involved in a lot of sports and --

SECRETARY ANGELLE: 275,000 registered.

MR. DUCOTE: O. K., 275,000. Now if you take 275,000 cars and put them on the street and don't put a policeman anywhere around them, you are going to have a lot of people doing a lot of crazy things, and that is exactly what is happening. Somebody has got to assume the responsibility and whether it takes time, effort and/or money, somebody has got to pay for it. If it is this board, I am going to try to see that we can get some money from the legislature if that is where it has to come from. Nobody else wants to assume responsibility, so I will just take it upon myself to do it, if that is possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., Mr. Ducote, I will tell you what we are going to do. We are going to make you chairman of this committee and we are going to put Mr. Rawls on this committee with you and we are going to put Mr. Farrelly. I think all



of you from the southern part of the state should be able to handle it. What I want you to do is to coordinate, make the necessary recommendations to this Commission as soon as possible, because summer is going to be upon us before we know it.

MR. DUCOTE: I would like to meet with this New Orleans committee first and try to see what their needs are and see if there is something we can do with the present equipment and personnel that we have. What staff member would be proper to work with, Burt?

SECRETARY ANGELLE: Chief of Enforcement.

MR. DUCOTE: Chief of Enforcement.

Well, I will work with him and see if we can work out something for this season with these gentlemen as far as what their needs are and report back to the Board, hopefully next month.

I would like to say that the Coast Guard is here and I appreciate them coming. A lot of people have a misconception what their authority is. Primarily they are search-and-rescue. They go get you when you are down and save you when you are drowning, and that's it. Their responsibilities



are not really in enforcement that much, unless it is a reckless operation. The Coast Guard has two boats here, and you all have one of those SORC boats, don't you, stationed here periodically? You have two boats that float around the state, don't you, for enforcement?

LT. J. D. COOK: We only have one boat that floats around the state and it also includes Mississippi and it is designated for boating safety.

MR. DUCOTE: I would like to see if we could get that periodically during the summer.

Other states, gentlemen, especially in Florida, you know, it is a water patrol all over the state. You can't go in any little bayou without seeing a water patrol man. I think it saves a lot of lives. I appreciate it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the Coast Guard want to say anything this morning?

LT. COOK: We came as observers, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. How about you? What is your name? Would you come up and state



your name at the mike.

MR. TIM MURRAY: My name is Tim Murray. I am with Tim Murray Sailboats and representing the Better Boating Association of Greater New Orleans.

There is a particular difference here which I might point out to people that aren't familiar with the geography of Lake Pontchartrain. From Slidell all the way along the south shore until you hit the Seabrook Launch Ramp, there is no access to the lake. There is basically no way to get a boat in and out or into a harbor. There is a small ramp at Seabrook which receives limited use. Then we have the West End area where approximately 1,000 boats are in the water and a large ramp at that area. There is a secondary ramp just a few miles away at Bonnabel Boulevard.

From that area all the way west to Lake Maurepas for some 20 miles there is no place to get in and out of the lake.

Now this enforcement area, because all the boats are coming primarily in and out of the West End area, really is a situation that exists



within about a three to six-mile range. It is not a situation with the whole lake, 50 miles one way and 25 miles the other way, which needs to be patrolled. You are really talking about patrolling a very limited area and you are talking about having a presence so new people getting into boating that don't understand what is what in boating can see that there is a presence of order on that portion of the lake where it is very congested. We really are not talking about trying to patrol the entire lake, because this particular portion of the lake is the problem area that needs the attention.

We appreciate your consideration of it.
Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, sir.

O. K., we need the recommendations of the subcommittee studying the shell dredging lease fees, please.

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Chairman, the subcommittee was comprised of Jim Farrelly, Charlie Riggs and myself. We are prepared at this time to recommend to the Commission that the so-called



Ed Lennox lease that we okayed some 30 days ago in which we did not put a cubic yard figure, we are prepared at this time to recommend to the Commission that 21.5 cents per cubic yard be inserted in that lease that has been approved with that particular company. Twenty-one and a half cents is the highest per cubic yard figure that any shell lessee is paying at this time.

In addition to the 21.5 cents per cubic yard, we are going to recommend that at least a \$10,000 bond be required of this particular company. The reason for that is that this is a non-exclusive lease. There is no minimum in this lease. On leases that the State has, concerning fill material, the bond runs from \$2,000 to \$4,000 and \$5,000. The fill material per cubic yard is only ten cents, so 21.5 cents is going to generate considerably more money than 10 cents per cubic yard. We would ask Dr. St. Amant to require a \$10,000 bond or more, at his discretion, but at least a \$10,000 bond.

DR. ST. AMANT: This recommendation falls in line with the existing exclusive leases



but I think for the record we should make a correction or at least identify the fact that this is not a lease. It is a permit exactly like the permits that we use in the Mississippi River. It is non-exclusive. It is for limited periods of time in an area that is completely surrounded by an exclusive lease, and it is comparatively small when we look at it with respect to the existing exclusive leases.

I think that if we have this in the record we will have no problem. What we are looking at here is a standard permit that we give you here every month for consideration. It means that if tomorrow morning someone else comes in here and wants to dredge within this circumscribed area and you want to consider it, you can issue him a permit and he can move his equipment in there right beside of Radcliff Materials that would be operating. I think this should be in the record, just to be sure there is no mistake about this.

The 21.5 cents does meet the requirement of all the shell dredging royalties that we are collecting and certainly \$10,000 is not an



unreasonable requirement in a performance bond for this thing.

MR. GILBERT: Dr. St. Amant, for the record identify the correct name of the company involved.

DR. ST. AMANT: This is Radcliff Materials and the permit would be for the Point-au-Fer dredging area. It encompasses an old lease that was at Point-au-Fer that has been there. The lease has been in operation for perhaps 60, 65 years; since about 1920 someone has owned this area. The lease as a permanent contract is going to expire and what this permit does is to bring it in line with all of the shell leases in the state which will expire in 1984 and 1985. After 1984 and 1985 the State of Louisiana will have to consider whatever negotiations they will make with any future leasing.

These leases that we are now operating under were put into effect by early administrations a long time ago. They are binding legal contracts which this Commission and this Department have no way of doing anything except to



exercise the operation of them properly.

MR. DUCOTE: Twenty-one and a half cents is what we are currently getting from the other lessees but is that the current market value, what we should be getting? If all of our leases were to expire tomorrow, what would be the rate we would want to charge, the royalty?

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, the royalty can be set at anything, either by the legislature and in some cases we have the right, the Commission has the right, to set these. Generally speaking, the royalty is set in an appropriate manner because obviously it is going to be passed on to the consumer, and the competitive product with shell in the State of Louisiana is limestone which comes from some other state. As long as shell is competitive in this area, I suspect you could do whatever you wanted with the royalty.

They have a committee, Mr. Gilbert is handling it, and they are now considering a method to have a sliding scale. What do you call it?

MR. GILBERT: Percentage of value.

DR. ST. AMANT: A percentage of value



type thing, which in the future, as these leases are renegotiated or even before they need renegotiation, if we have the right or the legislature has the right, we may be able to change this royalty to take care of the inflationary problems we have. As the value of the stuff goes up, the royalty would go, and as it goes down, as in the case of recession, it would go down, and this would be a better way to handle it, I think.

MR. DUCOTE: Do you know what the current retail price of limestone is?

DR. ST. AMANT: Oh, it is running -- I don't know, Mr. Lennox might be able to answer that, but we looked into it and right now it is running a little bit higher than shell, maybe a dollar or two per yard.

MR. DUCOTE: You mean from other states?

DR. ST. AMANT: Yes. All that stuff depends on two things, the volume of the contract and how far you have to haul it and how far it is from the railroad line or the barge line. When you get into that kind of thing, it can shift pretty fast.



But this committee, and you are on that, Mr. Farrelly, is looking at it and all the information will be made available to all the members when the information is in.

MR. DUCOTE: In some cases limestone is cheaper.

DR. ST. AMANT: Yes, it may be.

MR. DUCOTE: Shell costs ten bucks a yard now, retail.

DR. ST. AMANT: Oh, yes, but it depends on what you buy. If you go and buy shell to put on your driveway, you may pay \$10-\$12 a yard, but much of this shell is going into contracts for the production of cement and this is involved in the construction industry all over South Louisiana. It is an economic thing that is pretty complex and I really don't know the economics of it. I have to depend on the shell industry and other people and the economists to give us that. We have made some studies in the past and this committee has been looking at this. Just off the top of my head I am not in a position to give you any detailed information, but I am sure it will be



available in the committee's report.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. St. Amant.
Mr. Lennox, do you have anything to say?

MR. ED LENNOX: No, thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: You are satisfied. Then
we have a motion right now to approve the rate for
this particular permit on the floor.

MR. GILBERT: And to include a \$10,000
bond.

THE CHAIRMAN: Right. I understand that,
Sonny.

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. FARRELLY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell and
seconded by Mr. Farrelly. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed?

(No response)

The motion carries. You have got your
permit.

We need to set the dates for the April
and May meetings and the public hearing on seasons
and bag limits.



The April meeting will be held on April 28, at which we will have the shrimp hearing, at the same time we have our informal meeting, at the Hilton Inn in Kenner, and then the 29th we will have our formal meeting and have input from the shrimpers at that time, too. Do I have a motion for that?

MR. GILBERT: So move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. FARRELLY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Gilbert and seconded by Mr. Farrelly. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., that will be April 28 and 29 at the Hilton Inn for our annual shrimp hearing.

Now we have a public meeting coming up in May to set the bag limits and the seasons, to get input from the public. The proposal at the informal meeting would be that we hold our meetings in Monroe on May 9, in Lake Charles on May 15, and in Baton Rouge on May 16. Do I have a motion?



MR. RAWLS: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Rawls.

MR. GILBERT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Gilbert.

Any other --

MR. GILBERT: The May meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we can get that included in this before we move, if Mr. Rawls will amend that motion, if we may, to include our regular May meeting on May 19 and May 20. Our informal meeting would be the 19th and our formal meeting would be the 20th.

MR. RAWLS: I so move as amended.

THE CHAIRMAN: Fine. It has been moved as amended by Mr. Rawls. Do I have a second?

MR. RIGGS: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Riggs.

All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Motion carries.

The next thing we have on the agenda is



discussion on the establishing of By-laws for the Louisiana Wildlife Commission. We have discussed this in the informal meeting and I have decided to appoint another committee. Do we want any discussion on this first? Mr. Ducote.

MR. DUCOTE: I just feel like we should have some semblance of By-laws. We have passed some resolutions in the past but I think in order for the staff to see exactly what we are looking for and what we think we require as far as agenda and delivery of minutes and operation of the Board and election of officers and appointing of committees, I think that it is necessary that we have some sort of By-laws, some sort of operational code.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. I am going to appoint this committee and I am going to make Bobby Rawls chairman and put Jim Farrelly and Wayne Ducote on there.

Now the next thing on the agenda is to authorize the Commission members to attend the Louisiana Wildlife Federation Convention in Baton Rouge and the National Wild Turkey Federation



in Shreveport.

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Chairman, I would propose that we authorize one or more members to attend these meetings that I am going to suggest to you. Each year in the past, and I think it is part of our job to attend the Wildlife meetings, not only the state but our national meetings, and I would propose at this time that one or more members of the Commission be authorized to attend the Louisiana Wildlife Federation meeting, the Louisiana Wild Turkey Federation meeting, the National Wild Turkey Federation meeting and the Ducks Unlimited national meeting. Those are the only four that I know of, but I would propose at this time that one or more Commission members be authorized to attend those particular meetings.

MR. LUTTRELL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to second that motion and speak to it.

If I am mistaken, I would like to be corrected, but I believe after a period of many, many years, fighting with Texas and California for first, second and third place in the total number of dollars sent to DU, for this year, for



the first time Louisiana has passed Texas. I think I have that from my state chairman. The total number of dollars sent nationally to DU will read California one and Louisiana number two. For that reason, and we have had a tremendous number of people out of Louisiana who have gone to the DU meeting, I hope the Commission will see fit to grant all those people who care to go to go, and I hope that Louisiana will become number one. If I have anything to do with the duck stamp, we will become number one, because they are using their duck stamps and whipping the socks off us, and we are just using ten percent of our license fee what our good people give.

While we are passing out honors, the Governor of the State of Louisiana is a \$1,000 sponsor of Ducks Unlimited, and there are not too many of those in the State of Louisiana. I manage \$200. I can't manage that amount. So I second it, Mr. Chairman.

MR. FARRELLY: Mr. Chairman, could I add to that list and invite the members to go to the Louisiana Shrimp Association meeting, which is



held once a year. This year Governor Treen is a speaker, also John Breaux who is the chairman of the fisheries in Washington, and I think Burt also is one of the speakers. I would like to also authorize one or two members to go to this particular meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: One or all members, Jim.

MR. FARRELLY: One or all members, I am sorry.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, that would be fine. We can amend that motion, Mr. Gilbert?

MR. GILBERT: Yes, I would like to.

THE CHAIRMAN: To include that. Where is that going to be held, Jim?

MR. FARRELLY: Here in New Orleans.

THE CHAIRMAN: Here in New Orleans, good. And we have a motion, an amendment to the motion and a second. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Chairman, I have one other thing I would like to propose to the Com-



mission in the same category. The newly-elected Governor is sworn in on March 10. There is a possibility of a special session. Then on April 21 the legislature begins their 85-day session.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission needs to be represented at each meeting of the Senate and House Natural Resources Committees. The House Committee meets twice weekly, the Senate Committee meets weekly.

I would propose that the Chairman appoint a member of this Commission to act as a coordinator to see that at least one member of the Commission attends each Natural Resources Committee meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: Sonny, why don't we go ahead and pass this motion, if we can. I think we are going to confuse the thing. Then we will go back, we will just keep that in the form of a motion, another motion. Is that all right with you?

MR. GILBERT: Sure.

THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor of the motion on the attendance to the DU and the various meetings throughout the State, say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed?

(No response)

O. K., there being no opposition, we will go ahead and make a motion out of that.

Mr. Gilbert's second motion was that we appoint a coordinator to work with one of the staff to see that a Commission member is present at the legislature when needed, which may involve at least once or twice a week during the session which is coming up. I am in complete agreement with Mr. Gilbert. I think we should and I would like to appoint Mr. Gilbert to handle this situation.

MR. GILBERT: Thank you, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: I don't believe we need a motion on that, do we, Sonny?

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Angelle, do we need a motion to that effect?

SECRETARY ANGELLE: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is just an appointment.

Is there any other business to be brought before the Commission today? Anybody else wish to



to be heard?

O. K., gentlemen, I have a little thing I would like to add to the agenda today. I have served for, oh, 30 days as Chairman of the Commission and at this time I think that with the important legislation coming up in the current year that there is no way possibly that I can devote the time or do justice to my present position as Chairman of this Commission.

Therefore, at this time I am going to request that this be my last meeting as Chairman. I would like to step down and give the chairmanship to Senator J. C. (Sonny) Gilbert, who has proved his dedication in the past and who I am sure will handle the chairmanship of the Commission in an outstanding manner.

I have enjoyed it but my business commitments are not going to allow me to spend the time which is required. We have already had, I believe, about eight meetings this month concerning the legislature and I have had to be away from my business when I should not have been. So, I think that Sonny Gilbert would be capable of handling



this and I think that at this time I will step down as Chairman, give the chairmanship to Sonny, and I think that it would be in order for the Commission at this time to elect a vice-chairman to serve with Sonny, so I will leave this open.

SECRETARY ANGELLE: You must elect your chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have to elect the chairman? I thought he automatically took over.

MR. LUTTRELL: No, no. Mr. Wille, I make both motions, if I may get a second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Wait just a minute. Go ahead.

MR. FARRELLY: No, I think I was going to do the same thing that Mr. Luttrell was going to do.

MR. LUTTRELL: And that they be elected by acclamation.

MR. RAWLS: I so move.

MR. FARRELLY: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any objections? No objections, then Mr. Gilbert will be Chairman of the Commission. Now we need a vice-chairman



so we need to open up nominations for vice chairman.

MR. LUTTRELL: My nomination was that the two men be nominated at the same time and be elected by acclamation. The vote was unanimous. There was no opposition so the two men -- I am sorry, Mr. Chairman -- the two men are now elected chairman and vice chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: I don't know, who did you nominate? I didn't hear any names, Mr. Luttrell.

MR. LUTTRELL: I nominated J. C. Gilbert as Chairman and Charlie Riggs as Vice Chairman, and also move that the nominations cease and that they be elected by acclamation.

MR. FARRELLY: I will second the motion.

MR. LUTTRELL: And he seconds the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: You are putting two motions at one time. I think you need to elect the chairman and then turn around and nominate and elect a vice chairman, Mr. Luttrell. I am not trying to correct you on Robert's Rules of Order but I think that is the way it should be done. Let's do it right.



MR. LUTTRELL: All right, being chairman, we will do it your way, but Robert's Rules of Order is the other way.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. Go ahead and let's do it my way then.

MR. LUTTRELL: That's correct, that is the way we should do it.

THE CHAIRMAN: As my last act as Chairman, I think you will do it my way, Mr. Luttrell.

MR. LUTTRELL: I think we should. I move the nomination of J. C. Gilbert as Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. Now I need a motion to close the nominations.

MR. FARRELLY: I will make that motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., by acclamation then, Mr. J. C. (Sonny) Gilbert will be Chairman.

Sonny has given me permission to go ahead and get the vice chairman out of the way.

MR. RAWLS: That won't be legal.

THE CHAIRMAN: It won't be legal? O. K., Mr. Gilbert, from your position, go ahead and open it for vice chairman.

CHAIRMAN-ELECT GILBERT: Gentlemen, the



floor is open for vice chairman of the Commission.

MR. FARRELLY: I would like to nominate Charlie Riggs as vice chairman.

MR. LUTTRELL: I would like to second that motion.

CHAIRMAN-ELECT GILBERT: We have a motion and a second that Charlie Riggs be nominated vice chairman. Is there any objection?

(No response)

Hearing no objection, Charlie Riggs is now Vice Chairman of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Gentlemen, I have a statement that I would like to get in the record.

In 1974 the people of this State voted to place the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in the Louisiana Constitution, Article IX, Section 7. I shall do my best to see that the power and authority vested in the Commission by the people is carefully guarded and never misused in order that one of the State's most valuable resources, its wildlife, will be available for all future generations.



As Chairman, I will have an open mind on any matter that is presented to this group, will listen to all sides, and my decision will be in favor of the one that will do the most to protect and perpetuate the fish and game of this State for the best interest of all hunters, both sports and commercial fishermen, trappers, oyster fishermen and shrimpers.

I will ask the people of Louisiana to do this -- in the event you have a problem concerning fish or game, or anything which the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has jurisdiction over, please contact me, and I will check the matter out and give you an answer.

I feel that the Commission should act as a balance, weighing different viewpoints presented by the citizens of Louisiana. The seven Commissioners bring knowledge of fish and game from practically every section and area of this State. It is my feeling that the Commission should function as a review board. Both Congress and our own State Legislature have boards which function in this way.



The management of Louisiana's wildlife resources is far more important today than ever before. This is due to the changes in the land and waters of this State, the disappearance of many acres of hardwood bottomlands and the ever increasing numbers of hunters and fishermen.

I want to thank each of you Commissioners for granting me the privilege of serving as your Chairman. I say to you that together, let us strive to make this Commission one of which we can all be proud -- the hunters, the fishermen and every citizen.

Don, I thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: If nobody has anything else, I guess the last official action will be to close the meeting.

MR. DUCOTE: Don, I would like to commend you on your job you did as Chairman this month. I think it has been an extremely busy month and I think you handled it well. I am sorry to see you resign. I am glad to see we have a good man in Sonny but I thank you for your efforts this month.



THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Wayne, I appreciate it.

The meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 11:45 o'clock a.m., Wednesday, February 27, 1980, the meeting was adjourned.)

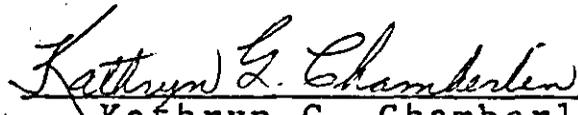
Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing (70 pages of typewritten matter) is a true and correct transcription of the tape recording and of the stenographic notes of the proceedings herein, transcribed by me, at the time and place hereinbefore noted.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 10th day of
March 1980.


Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.



Gentlemen: My presentation will take approximately 20 minutes. Its purpose is to suggest to you the feasibility of Louisiana issuing its own duck stamps as already has been done by 16 other states. 17

First, we will show you some slides, starting with the Federal Duck stamps which were originated by the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act passed in 1934 - then the past 10 years of Federal stamps in color - and finally examples of state stamps. Good ones, as well as poor ones and mistakes made by other states.

We have for your consideration a letter written to me by a man who deals in duck stamp prints, pictures and decoys, and who has helped other states start their duck stamp programs.

And, finally we will attempt to answer your questions. But if we can't I am sure that I will be able to find some one who has the answers. So, if you are ready, I would like the lights turned off and we will start our slide presentation.

#1 MALLARDS by "Ding" Darling, a cartoonist and conservationist who designed the first duck stamp print himself as president of the National Wildlife Federation. He was known as "the best friend ducks ever had."

#2 CANVASBACKS by Frank Benson. The most priceless of all and also the smallest in size - 3"x5". Less than 100 ever printed. Present value \$6-8,000.

#6 1939-40 GREEN WINGED TEAL. A first and second edition, both extremely rare, by artist Lynn Hunt, Sr.

#7 1940-41 BLACK DUCKS by Francis Lee Jaques. Still honorary limited competition.

#8 1941-42 RUDDY DUCKS, Edwin Kalmbach. Two editions, both unknown numbers. The first was flopped (reversed) as seen here; the second corrected as now seen. This same mistake was made again in 1946.

#9 1959-60 LABRADOR RETRIEVER. The best seller - three editions by Maynard Reece, who has done 4 other Federal prints, plus state prints as we will see later. This is the only federal stamp that is not a duck or goose.

#10 The first four color prints by Edward Bierly, 1970-71. By this time, and really much earlier, the entries were by open national competition.

#11 CINNAMON TEAL by Maynard Reece (again). Loud colored; extremely valuable.

#21 GREEN WING TEAL by Ken Michaelson, this past year's 1979-80.

And now for the states -

The first - Iowa by Maynard Reece, a familiar name. This came out in 1972 for \$100 and is presently valued at \$3,500.

California was the first state to issue stamps in 1971. I think they chose a poor artist and though I have a collection, I did not bring any. In 1972 they made a mistake and only issued 12 prints.

Ringneck by Mark Reece, son of Maynard, and a fine artist in his own name.

Last year's Iowa stamp by Klippinger - Wood Ducks.

1976 First Mississippi Wood Ducks. Notice the difference between this and this - REVERSE -

1977-78 Mississippi

#4 1979 CANVASBACK, Mississippi

South Dakotas: 1976 - Mallards
1977 - Pintails
1978 - Canvas Backs

1976 Indiana - Only print issued. I have been told there was a second year issued but only given to friends of the governor. Thank goodness that couldn't happen here.

1975 Massachusetts. This print is monstrous, 17-1/2"x13-1/4". Then they got back to a normal size. All are decoys, rather unique.

Illinois started in 1975. Again with mallards, by far our most popular duck.

In 1976, for what reason I don't know, this was issued, again a monstrous size 14"x19-1/2", Wood Ducks, really hard to frame these on a wall. Then back to normal in 1977 and 1978. Then in 1979 a normal sized picture, but with a 3-1/4" remarque.

Maryland, 1974. Another first for the mallards. 1975 by Stanley Stearns, who has done 3 federal stamps and 2 of Maryland. Again in 1978 RED HEADS LANDING and Maryland WOOD DUCKS, 1979.

Lights, please.

Gentlemen, do you have any questions at this time? If not, I will read a letter from Russell Fink, who is a dealer from Lorton, Virginia, with whom I have been doing business for many years.

Feb. 27, 1980

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AGENDA ITEM 6.



February 18, 1980

Mr. William Hugh Shearman
Lake Charles American Press
327 Broad Street
Lake Charles, LA 70601

Dear Hugh:

I was glad to hear that Louisiana is considering a state duck stamp. I think that it could be one of the most successful of the state programs.

I'd like to give you a little background about myself and my past relationship with the various state agencies which have duck stamp programs. I'm doing this primarily to point out that I'm not just talking through my hat and to show that I can speak with considerable authority and experience on the subject.

Both California and Iowa had duck stamp programs prior to 1974, but I was not too closely allied to either one. However, in 1974 Maryland introduced their program, and I got in with both feet. The bill was rushed through the State House of Representatives and the Senate so that it would apply to the current year hunting season. The basic bill was dumped onto the Department of Natural Resources with instructions to work out the details. They didn't have time for a contest so they appointed the artist for the first stamp design. I was called in to assist them by reviewing their proposed program and playing the devil's advocate. Whenever I found something that could result in a problem, we worked it out. Since that time, a few changes have been made, but it remains one of the best of the state duck stamp programs.

Sales of the stamps have varied somewhat over the years, but the state can count on the sale of about 50,000 stamps. An effort is being made now to raise the price of the Maryland stamp to \$5.00. This would result in about \$250,000 in revenue annually to help our wildlife resources.

The print program which usually goes hand-in-hand with the stamp program is an unusually large boost to the artist. Not only is

it a great honor for the artist to have his design used for the stamp, but he can reap a large monetary reward from the sale of his limited edition prints. Editions in the neighborhood of 2,000 prints are not uncommon, and the artist can expect to receive between \$40.00-\$50.00 per print. Done properly, it will result in a lot of positive publicity for the State of Louisiana.

The idea of making prints for collectors from the stamp design goes all the way back to the 1934 Federal Duck Stamp design. It seems to be one of those things where no one is hurt, and everyone benefits. The artist's reputation is enhanced from the sale of the prints and the nationwide publicity dealers such as I will give him. He gets a real boost monetarily from the sale of the prints. The purchaser benefits from the pleasure of owning the print and almost assuredly from the increase in value of the print as a collectible. The state benefits directly from the sale of the stamps and indirectly from state income tax and state sales tax on the profit from the sale of the prints. The economy receives a little boost in the areas of manufacturing-paper production, printing, packing materials, shipping, framing and framing materials, advertising, etc. It all seems to help, and there are no drawbacks.

I also assisted in drafting the revised rules and format for the Federal Duck Stamp contest, and I was the primary force behind the Wild Turkey Stamp and Print program. Both of those programs are enjoying tremendous success. The National Wild Turkey Federation this year will net about \$200,000 for their research programs, and that is with a voluntary stamp purchase. The duck stamps are mandatory hunting licenses.

A ballpark figure of how many stamps a state will sell can be arrived at by the number of Federal stamps sold within the state. State stamp sales will run a little less because there's always that 10 percent who don't get the word. Public information and distribution of the stamps to outlets of hunting licenses are the two biggest problems. Hunters must be made aware that a stamp is necessary, and all outlets of hunting licenses must have an ample supply of stamps.

There are many more refinements that can be made to make the program efficient. If care is not exercised, record keeping can become a monumental problem. Example: Illinois has a serial number on each stamp. The first year, the law stated that an application had to be filled out for each stamp and the stamp had to be signed by the purchaser at the time of purchase. That meant that out-of-state hunters couldn't have their licenses purchased for them in advance, a friend couldn't pick up a stamp for you, collectors couldn't purchase mint stamps for their collections, and so on.

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Mr. William H. Shearman
February 18, 1980

I wanted 600 stamps for my collectors so I sent a check for \$3,000 (\$5.00 per stamp) and a note stating that I wanted the stamps for collectors and they wouldn't buy them if I had my name on the face of the stamp, I didn't plan to travel to Illinois to sign them, and I had no intention of filling out 600 applications. If they couldn't send me mint stamps, please return my check. The law was amended that day, and I got my stamps.

Massachusetts is probably the best for recording duck stamp sales. They have 12 stamps per sheet, 2 sheets per booklet. The booklets are numbered. Each outlet is responsible for "X" number of dollars per booklet. A record is kept of the booklet numbers, and that's all there is to it.

Also, I just helped the State of Delaware with their duck stamp program. It's their first this year. It will be judged on February 29. Had it gone ahead as they had outlined, they would have had some serious problems.

Hugh, this letter is turning into a book large enough to bind and sell. All I can say is that I will assist Louisiana in any way I can to make their duck stamp program profitable, efficient, and popular. I've got quite a bit of mileage behind me in the business of duck stamps, and I'm willing to share the knowledge. There's no point in everyone learning the same lessons the hard way. Keep me posted.

Sincerely,



Russell A. Fink

RAF:daa