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LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 17, 1972

10:00 o'clock a.m.

JERRY G. JONES,  
Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries  
Building  
400 Royal Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana



**Helen R. Dietrich, Inc.**

*Stenotypists*

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P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The Board Meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, October 17, 1972, at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Jerry G. Jones, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

J. G. JONES, Chairman

H. C. WRIGHT, Vice Chairman

J. B. ANGELLE, Director

L. J. AUTIN

H. C. LUTTRELL

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A G E N D A

1. Approval of minutes of July 25, August 18 and August 29, 1972. (4)

HARRY SCHAFER

2. Request for permit to pump sand and gravel from Amite River by Mr. Leslie E. Allen, Denham Springs. (4)
3. Amending location of permit issued to Donald G. Lambert Contractor, Inc. to dredge (9)



approximately 1.3 million cubic yards of fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of Burnside, Louisiana between Mile 170 and Mile 171 AHP to Mile 171 to Mile 172 AHP.

KENNETH SMITH

4. Request from Tensas Parish Police Jury to close Lake Bruin to commercial fishing. (10)

RICHARD K. YANCEY

5. Maintenance of records on camps and boats. (15)  
6. Application for Mineral Lease at Rockefeller. (19)

JOE HERRING

7. Naming of the Cowley tract of land. (22)  
8. Use of electronic turkey calls. (26)  
9. Highway Department blacktopping road into District VII Office. (29)  
10. Doe season change - Franklin Parish. (31)  
11. Hunting season recommendations, Winter Quarters - Tensas Parish. (34)  
12. Vernon Parish deer season. (36)

OTHER BUSINESS.

- Drawdown of lakes - Mr. Schafer. (14)  
Shrimp season enforcement - Mr. Hogan. (51)  
Introduction of new Commission Member Luttrell. (4)



CHAIRMAN JONES: The meeting will come to order. Prior to going into the regular agenda it is my pleasure to introduce to you a new member of the Commission from Buckeye, Louisiana, Mr. Clay Luttrell. It is nice to have you with us.

MR. LUTTRELL: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Thompson and Mr. Berry could not be with us today. The first order of business is the approval of the minutes of the meetings of July 25, August 18 and August 29. You have been mailed copies of the minutes. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion? Any objection? Hearing none, so ordered. Harry.

MR. HARRY SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, I have been asked to handle two items for Dr. St. Amant this morning. The first is a request to pump sand and gravel from



the Amite River and from private land by Mr. Leslie Allen of Denham Springs. Dr. St. Amant has checked this out and there would be a new precedent set to pump gravel and sand from the Amite River bed. This is a scenic stream down below this area but up in this area there is pumping for sand and gravel from private land. He needs no permit for this private land. He does need a permit from us to pump sand and gravel from the river bed, and if you grant this request, we would recommend that all anti-pollution items be included in the permit.

THE CHAIRMAN: Harry, let me ask, are you recommending we grant the permit?

MR. SCHAFER: Dr. St. Amant said that he sees no reason why we should not grant it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Now the Amite itself is not a scenic river?

MR. SCHAFER: Not in this area. Down below this it is.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is below this? You mean a portion of the Amite is?

MR. SCHAFER: A portion of the Amite is, right.



THE CHAIRMAN: How far from --

MR. SCHAFER: This is the northern part of the parish, and I don't know -- do you know about where that starts, the Amite? It is down near where it enters Maurepas, going north, but I don't know how far away this is, but there are gravel and sand operations in this area already.

THE CHAIRMAN: In the river?

MR. SCHAFER: Right off the river. All the drainage goes into the river, and if we put safeguards in there, if this operation would pollute or silt up the river, then the permit would be cancelled.

THE CHAIRMAN: Harry, we do not now presently have permit holders pumping sand and gravel from Amite River, do we?

MR. SCHAFER: Not from the bed of the Amite River, according to what Lyle says here. He checked it out with Peter Duffy and I think Peter okayed it yesterday.

MR. WRIGHT: He is not going to pump sand and gravel from the Amite River itself, is he? I thought he wanted to get on private land.



MR. SCHAFFER: He wants to get on private land, too.

THE CHAIRMAN: You know I would really hate to start -- if he's on private land, that's a different thing, but I can't see us going and starting something where we are going to let these people get in these streams, even though it is not in the scenic rivers.

MR. LUTTRELL: It is my understanding that this gentleman wants to start on the bar and then move back into private land. He would move back into private land but he has to start on the bar to get a start. That is my understanding.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any hurry about it? The Director says maybe we should hear from the police jury up there and some of the local people, what they feel about it.

MR. SCHAFFER: I don't think there is any hurry about it, other than he wants to get in two pumps.

THE CHAIRMAN: Here is what Dr. St. Amant said: "The attached is a request for permit to pump gravel and sand from the Amite River bed," and



he has that in capital letters. "It is the first request for a permit of this kind. The Amite is a scenic river, although this section of the river is not under the Scenic Rivers Act. There is also a question as to whether or not this activity is on private property or on state water bottoms. I talked to Mr. Allen, who is the applicant, and apparently he is interested in dredging both in the river and into private property and would like for the Commission to consider issuing a permit for dredging in the river. This request meets the requirements of the Commission for such permit but it does set a precedent for this type of action in the area. Requests for all sand and gravel dredging are generally on private property and though at times it affects the river channel, there have been no permits issued nor any required. The only permit in a stream of this type is on the Tangipahoa River and was issued only for the purpose of taking water from the river to operate a dredging operation away from the river. This matter has been presented to Mr. Peter Duffy for his comments and it is suggested that the Commission make its



decision after hearing from him on the matter."

The application says, "I would like to take this means to apply for a permit to pump sand and gravel from the Amite River bed."

MR. WRIGHT: I suggest that we turn the permit down. I didn't understand that he was dredging in the river itself. I thought it was for private land.

THE CHAIRMAN: Why don't we just table the matter and suggest to him that we have some problems, that we don't really understand what he contemplates doing, and ask him if he would come down next month. Is that all right with you? We will just pass that.

MR. SCHAFER: The other item is routine. We have already granted a permit to the contractor, Mr. Lambert to pump 1.3 million cubic yards of fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of Burnside, Louisiana, for fill on I-10. He had requested originally that he be permitted to pump this from Mile 170 to 171, but the Corps of Engineers asked him to move because they wanted to do some work in that area, so he wants to move from



Mile 171 to Mile 172. I would recommend the change.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to DONALD G. LAMBERT CONTRACTORS, INC. to dredge approximately 1.3 million cubic yards of fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of Burnside, Louisiana, from Mile 171 to Mile 172 in lieu of from Mile 170 to Mile 171 as originally granted.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Harry. Kenneth.

MR. KENNETH SMITH: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have a request from



the Tensas Parish Police Jury to close all commercial fishing in Lake Bruin, due to what they believe is the detrimental effect it is having on the game fish population in Lake Bruin.

Now we have kept detailed records of commercial fish and rough fish species removed from the lake since 1966 when this program to remove commercial fish was begun. This was worked out between Commission personnel and the police jury to issue permits to take these commercial fish. In addition to keeping records on the commercial fish removed, we have also kept population samples which we conduct with rotenone each year in the lake. Our records show that the game fish population makes up a higher percent of the total standing crop of fish up there in this lake than has been the case in the past.

Consequently, we don't feel that the seining and the commercial fishing has had a detrimental effect on the fish populations. This commercial fishing season starts September 15 of each year and goes through March 31. Last year we released 13,000 striped bass in this lake. We had



intended to recommend to the Commission that this commercial fishing season and its consequential use of netting be stopped at the end of this coming May because the striped bass would be of such a size then that the nets probably would begin to remove a large number of these fish.

What we would recommend at this time, since they have requested this action, is that the Commission stop the fishing as of May 31 of next year. Then the striped bass would be large enough to remove these forage species from the lake, which the netting is doing at this time. That is our recommendation that the commercial fishing be stopped but not until May 31 of next year.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. AUTIN: I so move.

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin, seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.



(Text of the resolution  
is here made a part of  
the record.)

WHEREAS the Tensas Parish  
Police Jury has requested all commer-  
cial fishing be stopped on Lake Bruin  
because they feel it is detrimental  
to the game fish populations, and

WHEREAS detailed records have  
been maintained on commercial fish  
removed from the lake since 1966, and  
population surveys have been conducted  
annually which indicate the game fish  
make up a higher percent of the total  
population in 1972 than at any time  
since the surveys were started, and

WHEREAS there were 13,000  
striped bass (this is the large  
anadromous fish) stocked in Lake Bruin  
in February 1972 which will be of suf-  
ficient size by September of 1973 to  
be caught by commercial seines and nets,  
and



WHEREAS these striped bass will be capable, by the fall of 1973, of utilizing forage species and obtain the same effect in reducing competition with resident game fish populations as did the commercial netting,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission hereby closes all commercial fishing on Lake Bruin effective May 1, 1973.

THE CHAIRMAN: Kenneth, may I ask you a question? How are you coming with the drawdown on the lakes?

MR. SMITH: Which particular one?

THE CHAIRMAN: Just any of them.

MR. SMITH: We haven't had too much kick yet. We have had some kick but the one that we were really concerned about, Bistineau, seems to be going along pretty well.

THE CHAIRMAN: I read something interesting in the paper the other day. It was one of these fishermen and he said he had finally taught



all of these biologists that they were wrong in drawing down and he sees now that the chief of the fisheries division agrees with him, that you shouldn't draw them down.

MR. SMITH: We learn everything.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Dick.

MR. YANCEY: This first item will have to do with the maintenance of records on the use of the Commission camps and boats and also on the scheduling of the use of these facilities. It is proposed that a resolution be adopted that would specify that a complete record of all non-Commission use of the boats and camps would be maintained in the Director's office and also that a record or log of this use would also be kept aboard the large boats and also at the Commission camps as a cross-reference against the records kept in the Director's office, and thirdly, that these records would be available for inspection by any members of the news media or anyone else who may wish to look at them at any time. However, that these records would not at any time be removed from a boat or camp or the Director's office.



In scheduling the use of these facilities for official business which may be educational or informational type usage, for which there is a tremendous demand -- we get a lot of demands from schools and universities and what-have-you for groups to go to these refuges, laboratories, and examine the operations that are going on -- that in scheduling one of these trips that the individual or group making the trip would be so designated in the record in the Director's office and that the purpose of the trip would be clearly described and that also information pertaining to the time of arrival and departure of the individual or group would be set forth in the schedule.

So generally this item has to do with the maintenance of records and the scheduling of these facilities and it is suggested that a resolution to this effect be adopted at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?



MR. LUTTRELL: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Luttrell.

Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution  
is here made a part of  
the record.)

WHEREAS the Louisiana Wild  
Life and Fisheries Commission operates  
and maintains a number of camps, boats,  
headquarter facilities, and laboratories  
for managing the State's fisheries and  
wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS these facilities are  
frequently used by universities, other  
governmental agencies, and citizens'  
organizations on official business in  
connection with the State's fishing and  
wildlife management programs; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for  
maintaining more complete records on  
this non-Commission use and having such



records available for inspection in the main office, at the Commission's outlying camps, laboratories, headquarter facilities, and aboard the larger cabin-type boats; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a complete record of all non-Commission use of each major Commission facility and each large cabin-type vessel will be maintained in the Director's office and that logs will be maintained aboard each large twin-engine cabin vessel;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these records will show the name of the group using the facility or boat, purpose and date of the utilization, and the name of the person responsible for the group;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the records be forwarded to the Director's office by the 10th of the following month;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these records will be made available for inspection at any and all times.



THE CHAIRMAN: No. 6.

MR. YANCEY: Secondly, an application has been received by the State Mineral Board for a 360-acre mineral lease on the Rockefeller Refuge and the Mineral Board has forwarded a copy of this application, or at least a copy of the plat outlining the boundaries of this 360-acre tract to us, and they are suggesting that the Commission adopt a resolution approving of their advertising for bids on this 360-acre tract, certainly with the understanding that the rules and regulations previously agreed to by the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and the State Mineral Board would be incorporated in the advertisement for bids and also in the mineral lease if a mineral lease is issued. In other words, if the high bid offered for this tract is in line with what they think the going rate would be, then the mineral lease would be issued and in that mineral lease the rules and regulations would be incorporated that would protect the area from damage. This is the same procedure that has been used in the past, and we would recommend that the Commission approve of their advertising this



tract for bid.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me ask you something, Dick or Allen. If they do drill in that area, you wouldn't want them to do it by canals, would you?

MR. YANCEY: Well, all of the new mineral leases on Rockefeller are being developed by road. We have had this procedure in effect for quite a few years and presumably this is the procedure that would be used in connection with the development of this lease. The only time we have let them use flotation equipment in there in recent years is where you have a natural waterway that runs through one of these leases and it can be more easily reached using that procedure.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. AUTIN: So move.

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin, seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.



(Text of the resolution  
is here made a part of  
the record.)

WHEREAS the State Mineral  
Board, by letter dated October 12, 1972,  
has advised the Louisiana Wild Life and  
Fisheries Commission that there is an  
applicant for a mineral lease on a  
360-acre tract located on the western tip  
of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge in  
Cameron Parish; and

WHEREAS, satisfactory rules  
and regulations have been previously  
agreed to between this Commission and  
the State Mineral Board for the pro-  
tection of fish and wildlife on the  
Rockefeller Refuge during the course  
of any mineral operations that may be  
conducted; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED  
that the Louisiana Wild Life and  
Fisheries Commission does hereby  
approve of the State Mineral Board



advertising this 360-acre tract for bids and issuing a mineral lease to the high bidder -- provided adequate consideration is offered and that all the necessary rules and regulations last agreed to by the Commission and the State Mineral Board to protect the Refuge from damage will be made a part of any mineral lease that may be granted by the Mineral Board.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dick. Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The first thing we have is the naming of the Cowley property that we purchased in Bossier Parish. It is some 2,225 acres of land. About two weeks ago the Director and Assistant Director Yancey and enforcement personnel, along with the game division personnel, visited the area and it does have an abundance of game on it.

At this time we would like to recommend the name of Loggy Bayou, since that is the east boundary of this property. We would also like to recommend that we have a deer season on it for



archery only and that it continue through January 10, 1973. The reason for the archery season is that it is a small area for gun hunting.

Squirrel and rabbits then, it would be still hunting only through January 10, 1973, and woodcock and quail concurrent with the outside season for bird dogs only.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any further discussion?

MR. ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, do we need a resolution baptizing this area as Loggy Bayou?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir, included in that.

MR. HERRING: Loggy Bayou is a kind of historical stream along that side there and I think it would be a good name.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion?  
Hearing none, so ordered.



(Texts of the resolutions  
are here made a part of  
the record.)

WHEREAS the Louisiana Wild  
Life and Fisheries Commission has  
recently purchased 2,225.81 acres of  
land in Bossier Parish, and

WHEREAS the property is  
presently known as the Cowley Tract, and

WHEREAS, the Cowley Tract as  
well as the other property to be pur-  
chased adjoining this land the name  
Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area  
is being suggested, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED  
since the Loggy Bayou stream is on  
the eastern boundary of this land  
and is of historical significance  
that all land purchased in and around  
the Cowley property will now be known  
as the Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management  
Area.



WHEREAS the Commission has recently purchased the Cowley property and properly named the Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS hunting seasons need to be established on this area, and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that deer archery season only for the remainder of the deer season January 10, 1973 will be permitted and that gun hunting should not be permitted due to the small size of the area, and

WHEREAS it is recommended that a squirrel and rabbit season be permitted on the area and continue through January 10, 1973, still hunting only, and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that a quail and woodcock season concur with the outside season using bird dogs only will be permitted, and

WHEREAS, these recommendations are being made after a survey of the



property which shows a very good deer population and also squirrel, rabbit and quail in good numbers, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the deer, squirrel, rabbit, quail and woodcock season be accepted as recommended.

MR. HERRING: The next item then is the use of electronic turkey calls in the state. Now presently we have not had a problem with this but with our turkey populations building up, it can become a problem eventually. Checking with the other states who have had to do something about the use of electronic calls, they say that it is a very effective method in taking turkey. We feel that turkey hunting is a quality type of hunting that we are starting in our state and we are going to a lot of effort in trapping and transplanting turkeys over the state to provide better hunting, and we feel we can do the same thing now with the turkeys that we have done with deer in our management program.

We would like to recommend at this time



that the electronic calls, the record type, not be permitted for use in turkey hunting; that only the mouth or manually operated calls be used, and this is more or less pitting the skill of the hunter then against the turkey, rather than using electronic devices.

MR. WRIGHT: Joe, how effective are the electronic calls?

MR. HERRING: In checking with some of the other states, they just say they are effective and most states now have come to the conclusion that they should be outlawed and they have outlawed them in many states. They are effective. Now we haven't had the problem yet. We are just trying to head it off before we would have a problem like a lot of the other states have had, since we are building up our turkey population.

MR. LUTTRELL: Mr. Herring, are you of the opinion that the use of this device would deplete our turkey population greatly?

MR. HERRING: Well, it would make it possible to kill more turkeys easier, and we are in a building process with our turkey flocks and



maybe one of these days, if we had turkeys all over the state, an abundance of them, we could come back and relax this, but for the time being I think it would be best to go ahead and prohibit it before it becomes a problem.

MR. LUTTRELL: What you are saying is somebody could use the electronic calls --

MR. HERRING: Somebody that is not skilled could use it better. We'll put it that way. You are not affecting anyone at this time. It is just a precaution for the future.

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution  
is here made a part of  
the record.)

WHEREAS there has been some  
question if electronic calls are legal



for use in hunting wild turkey, and

WHEREAS presently there are no restrictions to prohibit the use of electronic turkey calls in this state, and

WHEREAS this device, according to other states, is very effective in taking turkeys, and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is in the process of trapping and transplanting turkeys over the state to build up a huntable population and

WHEREAS turkey hunting is a quality type of hunting, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the use of electronic turkey calls will be prohibited for use in hunting turkey in this state.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item on the agenda is blacktopping a road between the Pollard Estate Subdivision and our District VII office. I am sure that anyone who has traveled that road has found it very hard to get through at times because of the washouts and the cars do



drag the bottom occasionally. It is a continuous maintenance problem on the gravel road we presently have with the heavy traffic that we have coming through there. We did ask the State Highway Department to make an estimate of what it would cost and for them to do the work, the estimate cost is \$2,708.17.

They said that they could do the work this spring. Normally, when the Highway Department does a project this small for another state agency, there is no charge. However, if we would have to pay later on, I would like to recommend that we take it either way, that we do find the money either in this budget or have them do it next year, but normally they do not charge us.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. ANGELLE: Is this a city street?

MR. HERRING: It is a right-of-way by the parish there from the subdivision into our property. It is a right-of-way already set aside. That is why we use it now. We are on the right-of-way ground for a street. It is a public right-of-



way already, a dedicated right-of-way now.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions? What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item is from the Franklin Parish Police Jury. By resolution of July 6, 1972, the Franklin Parish Police Jury asked for a five-day either sex deer season during the first segment of the regular deer season in a portion of Franklin Parish lying east of Bayou Macon.

We did go along with this five-day season and the Commission set an any sex season here at our July meeting, and then it was published in our pamphlet. Now we have received a resolution from the Franklin Parish Police Jury, dated September 21, 1972, to rescind this July 6, 1972, resolution and



recommend that there be no any sex deer anywhere in the parish. It does put us on a very bad spot in changing these seasons like that after they are published, especially when we are restricting on it. We recommend that there be no changes in the season.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. LUTTRELL: Mr. Jones, I would like to remark on that. I can visualize a man with a pamphlet that he thinks is bona fide and clear in his pocket being arrested for killing a doe or buck in this parish, because it has been published and they were told by the Commission that they could kill them and now they want us to stop this. This wouldn't help the Commission at all. I would like to go along with Mr. Herring. I so move.

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Wright, that we deny the request of the Franklin Parish Police Jury. Any further discussion?

MR. ANGELLE: For the benefit of the press, the Franklin Parish Police Jury still



has the right of veto. In other words, I am bringing out that, in case they would come back and veto our recommendation, that whatever happens over there won't be caused by the Commission; it will be by their own action.

MR. HERRING: This is always a serious problem this time of the year when these parishes do change the season like that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution  
is here made a part of  
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Franklin Parish  
Police Jury by resolution on September 21,  
1972 rescinded their resolution of July 6,  
1972 for an any sex deer season, and

WHEREAS, the July 6, 1972  
resolution requested a five-day either  
sex deer season during the first segment  
of the regular deer season in that portion  
of Franklin Parish lying east of Bayou



Macon and

WHEREAS these recommendations were accepted by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and approved when setting the seasons and

WHEREAS these seasons have been printed in the 1972-73 hunting season brochure, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED after discussion that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission will not make the recommended any sex deer season changes as suggested by the Franklin Parish Police Jury.

MR. HERRING: The next one is a resolution from the Tensas Parish Police Jury. They are asking for five additional days of an any sex deer season in that parish. This is in Ward 1. It is land lying south and east of the Main Line Levee from Yucatan Lake to South Ward Line.

They do have an abundance of deer; in fact, an overpopulation in some of these areas. We have checked these areas. We are continuously



working within this area, our District personnel, and since we do have a good huntable population in there, we can have an extra doe season, and we would like to recommend to the Commission that we go along with these five additional days in here to help thin out some of the deer in this particular area, mostly in the Winter Quarters area.

THE CHAIRMAN: How do we explain that as compared to the one we just turned down?

MR. HERRING: This one is actually liberalizing. We do have an overabundance of deer. In fact, we would -- it's a doe season -- we would like for Franklin Parish to go ahead and continue with their doe season to help thin out some of the deer that they do have in these areas for good deer management.

THE CHAIRMAN: And no one will get in trouble by reading our pamphlet because we are extending the season.

MR. HERRING: That's right. You are liberalizing here and you are going ahead with liberalization.

MR. WRIGHT: Let me ask you, isn't most



of that land lying in that section of Ward 1, isn't all of that or most of that in clubs?

MR. HERRING: It is all clubs. They control that, anyhow.

MR. WRIGHT: They control it, anyhow.

MR. HERRING: There is no open land in there.

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Tensas Parish Police Jury's resolution September 12, 1972 asked for five additional days on the any sex deer season in their parish, and



WHEREAS, this request is being made due to heavy deer population in Ward 1, and

WHEREAS, the land that they are requesting the five-day any sex deer season to be in is that land lying south and east of Main Line Levee from Yucatan Lake to South Ward Line, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission grant an additional five days of any sex deer season in that area for the last five days of the first segments of the 1972-73 hunting season.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item on the agenda is the Vernon Parish deer season. As you will recall, at the last Commission meeting on September 26, the Commission did request that the game division resurvey Vernon Parish and check our deer herds in there and see what we could come up with in the way of recommendations pertaining to still and dog hunting.

We have had several people working on



that. Two of them are present today. We had Mr. Jerry Berra, who is one of our deer biologists, out of Monroe. We brought him in since he would be, you might say, a foreigner to that area, to look it over. Then Mr. Ray Palermo, who is also here from Alexandria, and Clyde Harrison, who is not present today but he is supervisor of that district.

We came up with the same thing we have on previous surveys, that we do have a good deer population and better populations in the still hunting area. Actually this area is not as good a range in the parish as the dog hunting areas that we do have, where the populations of deer are lower. At this time I really don't think we need to go into the background of the deer releases that we started in Vernon Parish in 1951 and continued on through 1964, putting out deer. We put about 150 deer in the parish for stocking purposes. We have built up a good population and from all indications and our people working over there week before last, spent most of the week in there, checking the area for deer signs, and talking to the people over there.



The people would rather just leave the season as it is right now.

We do have these people here. We can hear from them, if the Commission would so desire, but we also have a letter from the president of the police jury, requesting that we leave this season as is, plus one other police juryman sent a letter to us to leave the season as it is and as it has been set now.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have anyone in the audience from Vernon Parish that came to talk on the subject? O.K., we are going to call on you in just a minute, when Mr. Herring gets through.

MR. HERRING: Unless you would like to hear, I think the Commission has heard most of the things we have, plus this report that we did prepare for the Commission.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have read the report.

MR. HERRING: If you would like to hear from the individuals we had working in that area, we would be glad to call on them..

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, we have read the



report. Why don't we hear from the other gentlemen and then if we have some questions of them, I think we might let them sum it up for us.

MR. HERRING: That will be fine, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: The spokesman from Vernon. Would you come to the microphone, please, and state your name.

MR. KRAFT: My name is Jerry Kraft, Vernon Parish. Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, we have been pestering you all pretty good about all this hunting business.

Mr. Herring says that he has some letters there from members of the police jury, requesting that it be the same or remain the same. Well, it is very strange to me that they passed a resolution by a 11-1 vote to change it, and Mr. Herring comes up with letters that don't say that.

Mr. Herring referred to the word "tradition" quite often the last time we were down here. There was a whole mess of my ancestors that thought this whole world was for still hunting only, but things have changed a little bit. We have progressed



far enough that we do have dogs now, and as previously stated, we have overhunted the minor, very minor, 25 percent or less, ground that we have available to hunt on.

Now I think that it makes sense that if you scatter the hunters out over a larger piece of ground that you won't deplete the deer population quite so rapidly, because the deer will have somewhere to go. But like it is now, I can take any of you gentlemen out there any morning you want to during deer season, stand you on top of one of those sand hills, and you can hear five or six packs of dogs running, one place. A deer don't stand a chance of getting out of there without getting shot. If he runs through one set of spans he is going to hit another.

I don't quite understand some of the thinking. Of course, I am not a biologist, but I do believe we need a little bit of consideration. Now as previously stated, at the Alexandria meeting, at the meeting last month here, we had still hunters with us when we came to the Alexandria meeting as well as dog hunters. They agreed that



we do need a little fairer shake on this thing.

I don't quite understand, backing up just a little bit, where some of this information is coming from that Mr. Herring keeps coming up with. He referred to a couple of petitions last time around. I heard of one against it that a game warden was packing around, but the people, us dog hunters, we didn't send any petitions down here, so I don't know where that one came from.

Mercy, we have said enough. Thank you for any consideration you can give us. If you don't give us any, then I guess we will have to do something else. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the other gentleman with you want to be heard? Come on up, make yourself at home, and give us your name, please.

MR. McENNIS: I am Willard McEnnis and I have lived in this area all my life there and I have run dogs all my life and I have had dogs, and what we have wound up with is a little bitty small area in the northwest corner of Vernon Parish to run dogs in and then the whole entire other parish, the rest of the parish, is still hunting only. We don't



have anything against game management areas. We are for game management areas, but we feel like that the areas outside these game management areas should be left to hunt like you want to hunt, either with or without a dog, which allows the still hunter his part to hunt and the dog hunter, too.

Another thing that I would like to ask Mr. Herring is why he does not want to give us any dog hunting areas where we can run our dogs. Why is this, Mr. Herring?

MR. HERRING: It's not necessarily that I don't want to give it. We hear from one side here but we still have a majority of the people over there who want still hunting in that area and it has never been in this particular area dog hunting. It started off still hunting, back when we first started the season about 12 years ago, in this portion of the parish. In fact, it goes on down to the coastal area and goes up. As we went through the hunting last meeting, we actually have more days. We have been increasing the days in there. We started off about 10 or 12 years ago with about a week's season and we have worked up



now to make 25 days in there.

It is not that we are against you or anyone else. This is what our season has been in there. We have built up a good deer population. We feel like we could hurt the deer herd that we have in there by running dogs, and it has provided more recreation. We provide actually more recreation for more people on these areas, so that is the reason.

MR. McENNIS: We thank you for your answer there but, of course, we disagree, naturally, and we have got our opponents and he's got his, but I don't know. It is just sort of a conflict. We do feel like we have been discriminated against on this particular area. He did say a while ago that there were more deer in the still hunting areas than there were in the dog areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Why do you reckon that is?

MR. McENNIS: Because the dog area is so small, only bordered by roads, where all the deer has to do is cross over the road and get in the still hunting area and there is not as much hunting in the still hunting areas as there is the dog



— hunting areas.

Now if I recall back several years ago, the Commission sent out little questionnaires for people to fill out. I got one myself, and it asked you which way you would rather hunt, with or without a dog. According to my recollection, I may be wrong about this, but I believe I am right, some of the people followed through on this and checked something like 60 to 65 percent of the people would rather hunt with a dog than they would to still hunt. Of course, it has still been going along as it has been. There is mostly still hunting. All we are asking for is a little consideration. We would like to have a few days and I don't see where we could hurt anything with that, and that would leave plenty of areas for still hunters.

In other words, we want the same shake that they are getting. We just feel like we are being left out.

— THE CHAIRMAN: Well, you know the Commission always has the policy, if we could please everybody, that's what we want to do, and we are really not in the people management business as



much as we are in the game management business. Sometimes in making our decisions, we get off the right track because we try to manage people instead of managing game. When we get down to managing game, we hire all these experts we've got, and sometimes we disagree with them and we don't do what they tell us, but you know most of the times when we do that, we find out we were wrong. They usually know what they are talking about. It is really a game management problem and not a people management problem.

There are a lot of people who want to hunt with dogs and I am sure they would like to go in our game management areas and hunt with dogs. I probably would like to see them do it, but then they tell us no, that's not the right thing to do. A lot of times we hurt people when we make a decision. We say, "You can't do this," because we are relying upon their expert advice. I want you to understand that, regardless of what decision you get out of us, that we are not trying to discriminate against you; we are trying to properly manage that herd of deer.



MR. McENNIS: I understand that, but have you ever tried to still hunt without a bird dog?

THE CHAIRMAN: I am not a deer hunter.

MR. McENNIS: You know, bird dogs are allowed in there as where a deer dog is not, and we are only speaking for our dogs, in other words.

THE CHAIRMAN: If somebody would tell me that I could kill a turkey with a dog, I believe I would be just like you. I would be going out, trying to kill the turkey. (Laughter)

MR. WRIGHT: I would like to ask the gentleman one question. Ten or twelve years ago, how many deer did you have in the western part of Vernon Parish where you are talking about wanting to open it for dog season? I am talking about what the still hunting area is right now. Twelve years ago how many deer did you have, do you think you had in that area?

MR. McENNIS: Well, twelve years ago I would say in the area that we are hunting in right now, there was quite a few deer.

MR. WRIGHT: That is the dog area?

MR. McENNIS: Right.



MR. WRIGHT: I asked about the still hunt area.

MR. McENNIS: You said the western part.

MR. WRIGHT: Excuse me. I mean the still hunting part.

MR. McENNIS: There was as many as there were on the west side. In other words, averaging all over Vernon Parish, there is enough deer for everybody. You've got three game management areas. You've got one on the east, one on the north and you got one on the south. If this entire area inside these three game management areas, if there is enough, if they are not supplying the other areas with deer, then there is something wrong, some kind of management problem or something.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Is there anyone else? Joe wants to come back.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, I might just clear up a couple of points. Mr. Clay Wright asked on the western portion of the parish there, in 1963 and '64 it was closed. There was no deer hunting in that part of the parish. The area presently known as Area 9, where the still hunting is going



on, in the center part here, it was for 16 days of still hunting only, but the western portion over here was closed. It is open now.

Saying that there is not any dog hunting area left, in this parish 35 percent of it is still open to dog hunting and 40 percent of it is still hunting, and then you have your game management areas. This red line (indicating on map) does mark the boundary of that parish. Now the still hunting area is the area that is marked out in the blue lines and goes on down, actually goes to the coast down here, and all of this area on the outside here, from the red line, inside the red line, even these white areas here, on out, this is all dog hunting. This area right in here is the still hunting, but it is all dog hunting outside of that area.

THE CHAIRMAN: He has a question for you Joe.

MR. KRAFT: How about the Peason Ridge area?

MR. HERRING: The Peason Ridge area is right here at the top. It is plotted in. Peason



Ridge takes in three parishes. Part of it is in, goes on up to Sabine and Natchitoches Parish and part of it is in Vernon Parish. Right here. It takes in three parishes. It is plotted in, along with Lutchter-Moore and Fort Polk. They are all plotted in.

MR. KRAFT: You've got Vernon Lake in there, too.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, what is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I move we accept the recommendation of the biologists. I can't do otherwise.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright that we accept the recommendations of the biologists. Is there a second to that?

MR. AUTIN: I second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

Is there any other business to come before the Commission? Anyone in the audience?



Let me ask a question. Are there any Commission employees who are here from the field or anything that aren't necessarily supposed to be here? I don't believe we have any today that aren't supposed to be here. O.K. Thank you.

Do I hear a motion we adjourn?

MR. ANGELLE: I think just as a matter of policy, we do have a number of our division chiefs here, besides those that were on the program, as a matter of the letting the left hand know what the right hand is doing. If anyone of them has anything that they want to add, give us some information about their particular division, I would be happy to hear from them. We have Mr. Bob LaFleur, Mr. Ted O'Neil, Mr. Ensminger, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Campbell, Mr. McFadden Duffy, Mr. Peter Duffy, Mr. Al Prechak. I know they have all been really involved since the last meeting, and if they have got any particular item that they want to bring up to the Commission members, as far as information is concerned, I want them to feel free to come up to the podium. I think some of them may even have a report that they want to make.



MR. HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, Mr. Director, one or two things I would like to bring up. We had a meeting last Thursday, I believe it was, with a group of people in the shrimping industry who were disturbed about the fact that the shrimp were running small. They didn't feel like at the rate they were growing that they would probably reach the legal size soon or possibly during this entire rest of the season. We met with them along with the Commission attorney and even a member of the Attorney General's office, and the general consensus of the meeting was, of course, that we have to by law hold to the 68-count.

Now there have been a lot of rumors going out and I would like, for the benefit of the press, to pick this up. There are rumors going out, first, that the Commission had closed the season in inland waters. Of course, this is not true. Secondly, rumors got around that we were not going to enforce the 68-count and that is not true. We are bound by law to enforce it. Those two things I think ought to be brought out, possibly in the news media where the public can pick it up, and set these people



straight. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Anyone else? Bob? You are issuing citations. You issued a big one to somebody, didn't you?

MR. LaFLEUR: We did have a marathon session, seven and a half hours. I don't want to talk now but if there are any questions to be asked, I will be happy to try them on for size.

MR. ANGELLE: Allen, anything? Mr. Campbell. Mr. McFadden Duffy, anything? Our attorney, Mr. Duffy? Al? Am I missing anyone? Mr. O'Neil, do you have anything you want to say? O.K., that's all.

Is there anybody else in the audience that has anything that they want to add to our meeting this morning? (No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, the meeting is adjourned.

. . . Thereupon, at 10:55 o'clock  
a.m., the meeting was adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.

