

**AGENDA FOR
MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 16, 1965**

1. Approval of minutes of October 25-26, 1965 meeting. (2)
2. Acceptances of the following contracts on Boat Launching Ramps
 - ✓ Contract No. 5386, Boat Launching ramp at Donaldsonville
Jano Constructors Inc., Contractors. (2)
 - ✓ Contract No. 5609, Boat Launching ramp parking area on
Bayou Falcon at Sicily Island - Sicily
Island Gravel Company, Contractors. (3)
- ✓ 3. Ratification of request of Justiss-Mears Co. for drilling in
Saline Wildlife Management Area. (4)
- ✓ 4. Consideration of dates for trapping season in Wild Life Refuges
~~and percentages to be changed.~~ (6)
5. Other business
 - ✓ Teal experimental season-Reply from U.S.Fish & W.L.Ser. (7)
 - ✓ Duck Situation. Report on, by Clark Hoffpauer (8)
 - ✓ Ducks Unlimited. Resolution to pay balance due (10)
 - ✓ Catfish Farming, Report on (11)

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS
OF THE
LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 15 and 16, 1965

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The regular monthly meetings of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission were held in New Orleans on Monday and Tuesday, November 15 and 16, 1965.

Monday's meeting consisted of conferences with Division Chiefs, meeting with Mr. Edgar Coco and his group relative to the Spring Bayou Area and with Mr. Butley Mahler of Houma, and the preparation of the Agenda for the Tuesday meeting.

The Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 16, 1965, at 10:00 A.M., in Room 226, Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission Building, New Orleans, La.

Members present at both meetings were:

- Jimmie Thompson, Chairman
- H. B. Fairchild, Vice-Chairman
- A. J. Buquet
- John Paul Crein
- John Edwin Kyle Jr.
- Hobson Morris
- H. Clay Wright

Absent:

None

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M., and stated the first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the previous meetings.

On motion of Mr. Suquet, seconded by Mr. Fairchild, and unanimously adopted, the reading of the minutes of the regular meetings, held on October 25 and 26, 1965, was dispensed with and the minutes were approved as submitted to the Commission Members.

Mr. Herring was called to the floor relative to the next item on the Agenda.

Mr. Herring stated that the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works had certified that the work performed under Contracts No. 5586 and 5609 was completed and he requested acceptance of the above contracts.

On motion of Mr. Suquet, seconded by Mr. Norris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works, State of Louisiana, has certified to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the Contractor has completed Contract No. 5586, between the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and Jane Constructors Inc. for the construction of a boat launching ramp on the Mississippi River at Donaldsonville, in Ascension Parish, and has recommended that same be accepted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the work done by Jano Constructors Inc., Contractor, under Contract No. 5586, with said Commission, dated April 5, 1965, be and the same is hereby accepted and extension of time granted to the date of this acceptance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution in the mortgage records of the Parish of Ascension, Louisiana.

On motion of Mr. Duquet, seconded by Mr. Norris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works, State of Louisiana, has certified to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the Contractor has completed Contract No. 5609, between the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and Sicily Island Gravel Co. Inc. for the construction of a boat launching ramp parking area on Bayou Falcon, at Sicily Island, in Catahoula Parish, and has recommended that same be accepted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the work done by Sicily Island Gravel Co. Inc., Contractor, under Contract No.

5609, with said Commission, dated June 10, 1965, be and the same is hereby accepted and extension of time granted to the date of this acceptance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution in the mortgage records of the Parish of Catahoula, Louisiana."

Mr. Herring was called to the floor relative to Justiss-Mears Co. request for drilling in Saline Wildlife Management Area.

Mr. Herring stated that Justiss-Mears et al requested using abandoned well F-2 for disposal of salt water from Wells F-1 and F-3. He stated that he would like to go ahead with this as it will help with our pollution problems; however, he would recommend a few stipulations be included and he then listed his recommendations.

After discussion, on motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Fairchild, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the request of Justiss-Mears, et al, for using abandoned well F-2 for disposal of salt water from wells F-1 and F-3, be granted, subject to the following provisos:

- 1) Justiss-Mears will bury disposal line a minimum

of 2 feet and backfill to ground level.

- 2) Lines from well F-3 will connect with F-1/at site of F-1 well and continue to F-2 well.
- 3) Justiss-Mears will be responsible for any line breakage and damage caused to timber, timber reproduction, or wildlife population.
- 4) Justiss-Mears will pay for loss of any trees cut when putting line in or trees that may be cut after line is installed to carry out operation.
- 5) Justiss-Mears will mark the line area so that Commission personnel will know location at all times.
- 6) Justiss-Mears will agree to lower or move the proposed line at its own expense should the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission ever desire to cross the area with construction projects which would require deeper clearance.
- 7) Employees of Justiss-Mears or Contractors working for Justiss-Mears, shall not hunt, fish, trap or carry firearms on the premises
- 8) Justiss-Mears shall hold the Commission harmless of any loss or liability on account of injuries to persons or damage to property as a result of the installation and use of this line. Workmen's compensation or appropriate insurance to cover personnel will be carried by Justiss-Mears.
- 9) Justiss-Mears, its agents, assignees, contractors or employees, shall, before entering the Wildlife Management Area to install, maintain, or repair said pipeline, notify the area supervisor.
- 10) Justiss-Mears will secure permission from all mineral lessees and existing pipeline permittees insofar as their rights may be affected
- 11) A plat showing construction procedures will be submitted to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for its Director's approval prior to any construction.
- 12) During the construction period Justiss-Mears will take the necessary precaution to prevent drainage

from the impoundment areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Ensminger was called to the floor relative to trapping dates in the Coastal Refuge Areas.

Mr. Ensminger stated that we usually trap in the coastal marsh refuges, and that trapping on the Rockefeller Refuge should run concurrent with the outside areas in Cameron and Vermilion Parishes, which opens on November 20th. On State Wildlife and Marsh Island, it was recommended that the Commission hold off until December 15th in order to get the animals to prime up. It was further recommended that on Pass-a-Loutre, the opening be delayed until January 10, 1965, the day after the duck season closes, - - the reason being to cut down on the interference to the public shooting program by trappers.

On motion of Mr. Crain, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the trapping season in the Coastal Refuge Areas be as follows:

Rockefeller Refuge - - November 20, 1965 through Feb.28, 1966

Marsh Island Refuge - December 15, 1965 through Feb.28, 1966

State Wildlife Refuge - December 15, 1965 through Feb.28,1966

Pass-a-Loutre Refuge - January 10, 1966 through Feb.28, 1966

Mr. Edgar Monnin of Boothville, Louisiana, asked for the floor and stated he would like to know about the open season for trapping on private lands in Plaquemines Parish. He said the season was closed on the East bank of the Mississippi River at Pointe-a-la-Hache, but that the people were asking him about the east bank from Pointe-a-la-Hache to the Federal Wildlife Refuge and on the West side.

Mr. Ensminger told Mr. Monnin that as far as he knew the season was not closed; that he had not heard anything from the parish officials in regard to trapping; that the dates for trapping in the areas in Plaquemines Parish lying south of the Empire Ship Channel and locks were from December 1, 1965 through February 28, 1966.

Chairman Thompson stated that since Mr. Ted O'Neil, Chief, Fur Division, was not present, due to the fact that he had to attend another meeting, Mr. Ensminger would show Mr. Monnin the maps after the meeting and give him copy of the trapping seasons which were set by the Commission at its meeting on August 24, 1965.

Mr. Yancey took the floor and stated that at the last meeting of the Commission, a resolution was adopted declaring the experimental teal hunting season a success

and requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to continue this experimental teal season for another two years. He said the resolution was sent to Washington and the following reply was received, dated November 9, 1965:

"Thank you for your October 26 letter which enclosed a copy of an excerpt from the October 26, 1965 Commission meeting recommending continuation of the experimental teal seasons.

"We appreciate your recommendations on the teal season. While we have some way to go before all of the records are available and analyzed, at this point we feel the season was generally successful. By this, we mean that it afforded additional hunting recreation and at this point we have nothing to indicate that it jeopardized either the teal or other species, and that generally the hunters themselves behaved. Most of the people who took to the marshes and ponds during the teal season were making a conscientious effort to be sportsmen, and to heed the regulations.

"It is too early to discuss next year since the necessary data to properly evaluate the experimental season will not be available and analyzed before mid-January. We are hopeful that another step has been taken in developing a concept of game management in which harvest opportunity is balanced against the population of individual species.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Thomas D. Rice
Acting Commissioner"

Mr. Hoffpauer was called to the floor relative to report on the duck situation.

Mr. Hoffpauer stated that flights of waterfowl into Louisiana thus far have been excellent. We now have 2,059,000 ducks in the State. This is the time of the

year when the waterfowl numbers really start to climb in Louisiana. There is an approximate 130% increase in ducks over October 11 - 15 inventory. All ducks showed an increase, except Bluewinged teal which normally decline at this time as they migrate on southward to Central and South America.

Mr. Hoffpauer said one of the most spectacular gathering of ducks is in an area in the Gulf of Mexico about 40 square miles which has approximately 600,000 Lesser Scaup on it. This area is located offshore from the center of Marsh Island west to Chenier au Tigre Island.

One concern to the Louisiana hunter, he said, was the large reduction of the pintail in the bag. At this time, the number of pintail in Louisiana does not substantiate this reduction as they are present in good numbers as compared to previous inventories. The mallard migration is just starting to Louisiana and should build up much higher after some colder weather up north. The Louisiana marshes are slightly on the dry side, but rains last week helped the situation greatly. There is no problem as far as the food or water supply as there are many millions of acres which are now considered prime waterfowl habitat.

Chairman Thompson asked for a report on the status of

the contributions to Ducks Unlimited, and if funds were available, at this time, to forward to them for waterfowl work in Canada.

Mr. Yancey stated, in the past, the Commission contributed to Ducks Unlimited for work in managing and restoring breeding grounds in Canada; that this was authorized by a special Act of the Legislature, and 25¢ out of each hunting license sold is dedicated to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission to be used for the development and preservation of breeding grounds for migratory water fowl and these dedicated funds are to be expended through Ducks Unlimited Inc; that \$50,000 was sent to Ducks Unlimited Inc., in April, for the 1964-65 season, and we now have a balance on hand.

Mr. Yancey called upon Larry Cook, Chief Accountant, and advised that we are now in a position to make the final payment to Ducks Unlimited Inc., as the information was compiled this week, and the amount still due for the 1964-65 season is approximately \$10,000.00 .

On motion of Mr. Fairchild, seconded by Mr. Crain, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Director to forward check for the balance due Ducks Unlimited Inc., on the sale of hunting

licenses during the 1964-65 season.

Chairman Thompson stated that some of the Commission members and the Director made a trip last week to Monroe to tour catfish farming operations. He stated that they had travelled extensively, at their own expense, looking at the catfish farms in Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama, and when they returned to Louisiana, they realized that our State was leading in catfish farming and research development. He said Governor McKeithen was so interested in bringing new industries to our State and this was a new industry which would bring profit to the State, particularly, to the farmers.

Chairman Thompson stated they had toured the Monroe Fish Hatchery, the Collinston Fish Farm, the Delhi Fish Farm, Union Lake and S-C Farms, and it was fascinating to see their operations. He said catfish farming will be a very profitable business in the future.

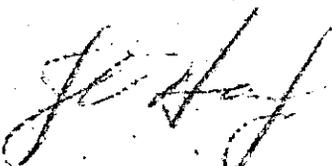
Chairman Thompson stated that Jim Davis, Biologist, as well as other Commission biologists in various state offices, were well qualified to help any person requesting help in setting up this industry, and he called upon Mr. Wright and Mr. Norris for comments on the trip.

Mr. Wright stated the operations were fabulous and that we could look for unlimited business in catfish farm-

ing in the future.

Mr. Norris stated that Mr. Armstrong, a fish farmer, had done more than any other individual in our State in catfish farming, and he was a good man to go to; that his Delhi Fish Farm was the most modern visited and his technical knowledge was unlimited. He said Mr. Armstrong takes pleasure in informing people about going into the business and gives much credit for his success to the biologists of the Commission in assisting him with technical knowledge.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Buquet, the meeting adjourned.



J. D. Hair Jr., Director and Secretary.

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