

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS

SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Thursday, May 12, 2016

2:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Dr. Sam Polles, Executive Director; Robert Cook, Deputy Executive Director; Larry Castle, Director of Technical Programs; and Drew Malone and Doug Mann, Special Assistant Attorneys General.

VIA TELEPHONE: Chairman Charles Rigdon, Commissioners William "Billy" Deviney, Clay Wagner, Bill Cossar, and Scott Coopwood.

Noted for the Record: Attached to these minutes is a copy of the Notice posted on the doorways of the MDWFP office building at 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211, and on the Commission Conference Room door, approximately eight (8) hours prior to the meeting, as per the provisions of the Mississippi Open Meetings Act.

The Executive Director called for a quorum count. There being a quorum present, Chairman Charles Rigdon opened the meeting and deferred to Dr. Sam Polles, Executive Director, to present the matter for consideration.

PROPOSED 40 Miss. Administrative Code, Part 1, **Rule 8.4, Non-Resident Hunting & Fishing License & Fee Program**

Dr. Polles presented the proposed fee increase for four (4) categories of nonresident hunting and fishing licenses. He informed the Commission that the State of Louisiana had been informed of the pending changes by letter as per the agreement between the states from years prior, in order to avoid a license fee "war" as had happened in the past. Dr. Polles also noted that the proposed increase in nonresident fees was a pre-condition for the resident fee increase to go into effect, as required by the terms of HB 1151. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Deviney asked what percentage increase the proposed numbers represented. Staff informed him that the fees were being raised approximately 27% which is the same amount that the Legislature has raised resident license fees. It was also noted that the increase keeps Mississippi in the middle of the range of nonresident license fees among our Southeastern neighboring states.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Cossar, 40 MISS. ADMIN. CODE, Part 1, Rule 8.4 (PROPOSED) was unanimously approved as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Rigdon gaveled the special meeting into adjournment.



Charles Rigdon, CHAIRMAN



Date



Clay Wagner, VICE-CHAIRMAN

Date

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Meeting of the MS Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

PURSUANT TO MISSISSIPPI CODE ANNOTATED '25-41-5 and '25-41-13, the Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks hereby issues this notice to the public of a special meeting to be held on Thursday, May 12, 2016, in Jackson, Mississippi, at 2:30 P.M. At this special meeting, the Commission will only consider a proposed increase in Nonresident hunting and fishing license fees as required under HB 1151 of the recently ended 2016 Legislative Session. No other items will be before the Commission for action.

The meeting will be held in the Commission Meeting Room of the Department's offices at 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211. The meeting is open to the public and the Commissioners will be attending electronically from remote locations.

This the **11th** day of **May, 2016**.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Polles', is written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Sam Polles, Executive Director
Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
Fisheries and Parks