MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS Thursday, July 22, 2010 - 2:00 p.m. Jackson, MS MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Present:

Commissioners Bryan Jones; Charles Rigdon; William "Billy" Deviney; Jerry Munro; John C Stanley IV. Among MDWFP staff attending were Dr. Sam Polles; Robert Cook; Don Brazil; Ramie Ford; Libby Hartfield; Sally Sutherland;

Paul Collins; and Doug Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General.

Welcome and Recognition of Guests

Chairman Rigdon recognized Mr. William Falls, representative of the Shikar Safari International.

Mr. Don Brazil asked for a moment of silence to remember George County Sheriff Garry Welford, who was killed yesterday while in the line of duty. He was a thirty-year veteran with MDWFP, prior to becoming Sheriff.

Oath of Office

The Oath of Office to Commissioner Bryan Jones for his reappointed term of July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2015 was administered by Sally Sutherland, Notary Public.

Minutes for Approval

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Stanley, the Minutes of June 22, 2010 were unanimously approved as presented.

Today's Agenda

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Stanley, the agenda for July 22, 2010 was unanimously approved as presented.

Parks

Mr. Ramie Ford presented the following awards to various park managers:

- John W. Kyle State Park (Kay Nix, Manager)
 Top 25 Amazing Spots; Top 25 Bird Watching Spots; Top 50 Fishing Spots; Top 25 Romantic Spots; Top 50 Scenic Views; Top 25 Water Recreation Parks.
- J. P. Coleman State Park (Ruth Watson, Manager)
 Top 25 Amazing Spots; Top 25 Bird Watching Spots; Top 50 Fishing Spots; Top 25 Kid
 Friendly Parks; Top 25 Romantic Spots; Top 50 Scenic Views; Top 25 Unique Cabins; Top
 25 Water Recreation Parks
- 3. <u>Lake Lincoln State Park (Gary Winborne, Manager)</u>
 Top 25 Bird Watching Spots; Top 50 Fishing Spots; Top 25 Kid Friendly Parks; Top 25 Park Beaches; Top 25 Picnic Areas; Top 25 Water Recreation Parks

- 4. <u>Trace State Park (Donald Campbell, Manager)</u> Top 50 Fishing Spots;
- LeFleur's Bluff (Randy Dearman, Manager)
 Top 25 Amazing Spots; Top 25 Educational/Historical Facilities; Top 50 Fishing Spots;
 Top 50 Hiking Trails; Top 25 Picnic Areas; Top 50 Scenic Views
- 6. Roosevelt State Park (Andre Hollis, Manager)
 Top 25 Educational/Historical Facilities; Top 50 Fishing Spots; Top 50 Hiking Trails; Top
 25 Kid Friendly Parks; Top 25 Picnic Areas; Top 50 Scenic Views; Top 25 Unique Cabins;
 Top 25 Water Recreation Parks.
- 7. <u>Tishomingo State Park (Bill Brekeen, Manager)</u>
 Top 25 Amazing Spots; Top 25 Bird Watching Spots; Top 25 Canoeing Spots; Top 25
 Educational/Historical Facilities; Top 50 Fishing Spots; Top 50 Hiking Trails; Top 25 Kid Friendly Parks; Top 25 Picnic Areas; Top 25 Romantic Spots; Top 50 Scenic Views; Top 25 Tours/Events; Top 25 Unique Cabins.

Shikar Safari Officer of the Year Award

Mr. William Falls, Representative for Shakar Safari International presented the 2009 Shikar Safari Officer of the Year to Whit Reed.

License Sales Award

Michael Bolden stated that overall resident license sales are down by 4% and the non resident sales are down by 2%. We are continuing to look for better ways of marketing our license sales.

Fisheries

Chief Ron Garavelli presented the following public notice:

—Public Notice F3-3798 (Paddlefish) (Intent). This notice contains the new season date changes.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Stanley, Public Notice of Intent F3-3798 (Paddlefish) was unanimously approved as presented.

Law Enforcement

Chief Steve Adcock presented the following update on boating accidents/incidents: The boating season runs January 1 to December 31 and to date there have been a total of 80 incidents. There have been forty (40) drownings and fifteen (15) BUI's so far this year.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items

- 1. Mark Livingston, MS Bow Hunter's Association: Mr. Livingston, on behalf of the MS Bow Hunter's Association, opposes changes to Public Notice WL6-2280 (Primitive Weapons). He wants to see bow season grow and to keep the special season for bow hunting only.
- 2. Mr. Bill Leamond: Mr. Leamond is owner of Bill's Archery Shop. The proposed primitive weapon notice will have a negative effect on all small business owners. The two-week period will create temptation for hunters to break the law if this notice is passed.
- 3. Tony Monk: Prefers November 1 as the start of the season for primitive weapons. He opposes Mississippi Hunters being allowed to use a .35 Whelen, which is a gun used to hunt grizzly bears in Alaska; and his opinion is that guns and bow hunting at the same time will not reduce the opportunity for bow hunters.

Wildlife

1. Chief Larry Castle presented the following final public notices: WMA PUBLIC NOTICES: W16-3451 (Leaf River); W16 3453 (Little Biloxi); W10 3685 (Mason Creek); W16 3459 (Old River); W16 3460 (Pascagoula River); W16 3462; (Red Creek); W16 3472 (Wolf River); W15 3434 (White-tailed Deer); W4 3788 (Howard Miller); WL6-2280 (Primitive Weapons).

Chief Castle presented the abovementioned public notices and stated that thirty days from June 25, 2010 must pass before a vote can be made. They are presented for review only at this time.

ACTION: None at this time.

2. Early Migratory Bird Season Recommendations: Chief Castle presented calendars with proposed early migratory bird season recommendations.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Munro, the proposed calendar dates for early migratory bird season were unanimously approved.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

Next Meeting Dates

August 17, 2010 @ 2:30 p.m. MDWFP Main Office, Jackson, MS September 21, 2010 @ 2:30 p.m.

Location: TBA

Executive Session

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Deviney, the Commission voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine the need for an Executive Session. It was determined that discussions were needed regarding transactions in land; and budget line items that could affect the continued employment of specific individuals. Upon motion made by Commissioner Deviney and seconded by Commissioner Stanley, the Commission voted unanimously to enter Executive Session.

Mr. Rickie Felder presented a Power Point budget report for information only.

Mr. Art Kennard discussed the possible purchase of catfish ponds located north of Indianola. It was decided a site visit is necessary before any decisions are made regarding purchasing.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Stanley and seconded by Commissioner Munro, authority was given to the Executive Director to make a counter offer to purchase the catfish pond property based on the results of the site visit.

A site visit to the catfish ponds was scheduled for Monday, August 2, 2010 @ 1:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Monday, August 2, 2010 @ 3:00 p.m. to discuss approval of the Wildlife WMA Public Notices.

ACTION: There being no further business for Executive Session, Commissioner Munro made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Deviney, to come out of Executive Session and re-open the meeting. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was re-opened.

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

CHARLES RIGDON, CHAIRMAN

JERRY MUNRO, VICE-CHAIRMAN

8/17/10 Date

Date