

# **MS COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS**

**Thursday, December 15, 2011 @ 1:00 p.m.  
Chamber of Commerce Building, Cleveland, Mississippi**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Deviney; Jones; Rigdon; Munro; and Stanley  
**MDWFP STAFF:** Among the staff attending were Dr. Sam Polles; Michael Bolden; Larry Castle; Ed Penny; Chad Dacus; Dave Godwin; Sammy Fisher; Ramie Ford; and Doug Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General.

## **WELCOME**

Commissioner Deviney welcomed everyone to the meeting and Larry Castle opened with prayer.

## **MINUTES**

There were no changes made to the Minutes of November 2011.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Minutes of November 2011 were unanimously approved as presented.

## **TODAY'S AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Jones, today's Agenda was approved as presented.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no one present from the public who wished to make comments.

## **LICENSE SALES REPORT**

Mr. Michael Bolden presented the License Sales Report for the month of November 2011:

- Overall sales are down by 1%.
- Sportsman license sales are up.
- Small game license sales are down.
- Apprentice license sales are up.
- Waterfowl license sales are down.
- Nonresident license sales are down.
- Other license sales are up by 18%.
- Saltwater overall sales are up by 5%.

Staff researched possible reasons for downward sales and it was noted that almost 3000 individuals who purchased All Game and Small Game licenses last year also bought Sportsman Licenses. This could explain the decline in those categories. Also noted was the increase in "Other" license sales was due to alligator hunting license sales.

## FISHERIES

Mr. Larry Castle presented the following Public Notices of Intent:

- Public Notice F11 3428 (Sport Fishing) (Intent)  
Changes: Legal to place approved fish attractors made of plastic in public waters with permission for MDWFP; Sport fishing license is required to fish crawfish and freshwater shrimp traps in public waters; and Officers may seize any sport fishing equipment not properly tagged.
- Public Notice F17 3424 (Creel Size/Limits/Lake Closures/Openings) (Intent)  
Changes: No Alligator Gar harvest is allowed on Bee Lake in Holmes County; and Lake Mary Crawford Largemouth bass harvest increased to 30 bass per day.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, intent versions of Public Notice F 11 3428 (Sport Fishing) and F17 3424 (Creel Size/Limits/Lake Closures/Openings) were unanimously approved as presented.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Sammy Fisher presented the citations report. He stated that staff continues to implement head lighting details, license checks, etc. in an effort to decrease the number of citations.

It was noted that individuals receiving a first citation have their license taken away for one (1) year and have to pay the required fines. A second offense takes their license away for three (3) years and with a third offense the individual loses their hunting license permanently.

### License Reinstatement Requests

The following individuals presented a request to reinstate their hunting privileges:

Cecil Winstead III; Jeremy Patterson; Eric Pitts; and Mickey Ward

After presenting their requests individually to the Commission, Chairman Deviney called for a motion.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Rigdon and seconded by Commissioner Munro, the above mentioned requests for license reinstatement were unanimously approved as presented.

## WILDLIFE

Ed Penny presented the following Public Notices:

- Public Notice W 3816 (Sale of game birds, animals)  
Commissioner Jones questioned the clarity of the wording in one section of this public notice pertaining to turkeys (page 1). It was suggested to say "unmounted" turkey in the following section:

*It is lawful for the following items to be bought and sold:*

*The skins and sinew of deer and products crafted, fashioned or made from deer bones or antlers not in velvet;*

*Any part of a wild turkey, except the meat or a ~~mounted~~ unmounted turkey; and  
Any parts of nuisance animals.*

*Mounted game animals, birds and fish may not be sold, purchased or leased.*

**ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Munro, Public Notice W3816 (Sale of Animals/Game Birds/Fish) was unanimously approved as amended.**

Dave Godwin explained changes in Public Notices W3812 (WMAs); W16 3454(a) (Mahannah WMA); and W16 3465(a) (Shipland WMA).

**ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Stanley, Public Notices of Intent W3812; W16 3454(a); and W16 3465(a) were unanimously approved as presented.**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business to discuss.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

January 17, 2012 (Tentative)

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Jones, 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, job performance of specific individuals in specific positions, and the transfer or establishment of a business or industry. Upon motion made by Commissioner Stanley and seconded by Commissioner Munro, the Commission voted unanimously to enter Executive Session.**

Dr. Polles updated the Commission on pending land transactions which required no Commission action. Additionally, several pending personnel actions were discussed, regarding vacancies and restructuring of programs. Again, no Commission action was required at this time.

Chad Dacus was asked to update the Commission on last year's legislative attempt to establish deer breeding farms in Mississippi. Staff provided the requested information for Commission consideration. Discussion followed regarding this matter; however, no Commission action was taken. Staff was directed to continue researching and analyzing this issue.

**There being no further business for executive session, upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Stanley, the Commission voted unanimously to end Executive Session, and re-open the meeting.**

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

  
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William "Billy" Deviney, CHAIRMAN

  
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Date

  
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Jerry Munro, VICE-CHAIRMAN

  
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Date