

# MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, 401 US Hwy 82, Greenwood, MS



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**PRESENT:** Chairman John C Stanley IV, Vice Chairman Bryan Jones, Commissioners William "Billy" Deviney, Charles Rigdon, and Clay Wagner.

Among the MDWFP staff attending were: Dr. Sam Polles, Executive Director; Larry Castle, Larry Pugh, Jason Thompson, Chad Dacus, Col. Steve Adcock, and Doug Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General.

## MINUTES

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Deviney and seconded by Commissioner Jones, the minutes of December 17, 2013 were unanimously approved as presented.

## TODAY'S AGENDA

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Commissioner Deviney and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, today's agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Jerry Harper:** Mr. Harper brought before the Commission a request for more law enforcement officers in the southern region. He stated that MDWFP officers are scattered too thin. Chairman Stanley advised Mr. Harper that MDWFP hopes to have a Cadet Academy with 25 new officers graduating if funded by the state legislature this year. It was suggested by Chairman Stanley for Mr. Harper to contact his legislator and have his friends contact their representatives concerning this issue.

**Roger Easley:** Mr. Easley presented some problems at Malmaison WMA and suggested having a draw for waterfowl as a possible solution. Mr. Easley stated that he would erect a building if the Commission deemed it necessary to facilitate a draw.

**Mr. Jerome Goldberg:** Mr. Goldberg stated that McIntyre Scatters, a swamp located in Leflore County, is engulfed with aquatic vegetation. He stated that a couple of land owners are willing to join in the cost to manage the plant life.

The Commission thanked these gentlemen for bringing forth these recommendations. No action was taken.

## **LICENSE SALES REPORT**

### **License Report**

Mr. Jason Thompson, License/Boat Registration Division Director, presented the License Sales Report for the month of December, 2013. He advised the Commission that two shooting range permits in the resident permit license area have generated over \$30,000 in a six month time frame. Another highlight reported was MDWFP now has over 2,800 youth as licensed hunters as a result of the MDWFP Foundation's project to purchase Youth Exempt licenses for youth 16 and under, after completion of their Hunter Education classes.

## **FISHERIES**

Mr. Larry Pugh, Fisheries Bureau Director, presented the following for Commission consideration and approval:

### **PROPOSED Rules (40 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 3 Chap. 3):**

- Rule 1.3 – Regulations Regarding Sport Fishing
- Rule 1.4 – Statewide Creel Limits
- Rule 2.1 – Regulations Regarding State Fishing Lakes

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Deviney and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, the Proposed Rules above were unanimously approved.

## **WILDLIFE**

Mr. Chad Dacus, Wildlife Bureau Director, presented the following items for Commission consideration:

### **FINAL Rule (40 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 4 Chap. 5):**

#### **Rule 5.3 - Running of Dogs During Spring Turkey Season**

No comments were received during this past month and Mr. Dacus recommended final approval.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, the FINAL rule 5.3 above was unanimously approved.

**WMA Harvest Report**

Mr. Dacus distributed a Wildlife Management Area Harvest Report for Deer, Waterfowl, and Squirrel. He informed the Commission that the harvest report was about the same as last year, which was a good report on both private and public land. He added that multiple deer would be making the Boone and Crockett record book this year. The mid-winter aerial waterfowl survey revealed over a million ducks and three hundred thousand mallards which are record numbers in Mississippi.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT****Citation, Accident, and Law Enforcement Detail Reports**

Col. Steve Adcock, Chief of Law Enforcement, distributed Citation, Accident, and Law Enforcement Detail Reports to the Commission for review. No action was taken.

**Reinstatement Request**

Col. Adcock brought before the Commission one request for reinstatement. Col. Adcock recommended reinstatement for this individual.

- **James Gully, MS**

Mr. Gully had a gun in his truck while driving around with friends. His friends decided to stop and shoot a deer. The deer was unharmed, however, a report was made by someone. His friends were camping down the road and arrested there. They told law enforcement about his involvement. He has paid all fines and completed all requirements for reinstatement

**ACTION: Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, the request to reinstate hunting privileges to Mr. Gully was unanimously approved.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was presented.

**TENTATIVE MEETING DATES**

- **February Meeting** - Monday, February 3, 2014 – 9:00 a.m. at Quail Ridge Lodge, Louisville
- **March Meeting** – Thursday, March 6, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. @ Paul B. Johnson State Park, Hattiesburg
- **April Meeting** – Wednesday, April 16 – Time TBA @ 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson
- **May Meeting** – Wednesday, May 21 – Time TBA @ J.P. Coleman State Park, Iuka
- **June Meeting** – Wednesday, June 18 – Time TBA @ 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Deviney and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, the Commission voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine the need for Executive Session. The Commission determined that Executive Session was needed for discussions regarding transactions in land and ongoing criminal investigations. Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, the Commission voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session.

Art Kennard presented the Commission with the results of appraisals of a tract of land at Tunica Cut-off that will provide public access to the waters. Mr. Kennard asked the Commission to authorize Dr. Polles to make an offer to purchase the property and negotiate the price within the statutory guidelines and the fair market value as established by the appraisals.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Deviney and seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director to make an offer and negotiate the price to purchase a tract of land at Tunica Cut-off.

Dr. Polles and Chad Dacus updated the Commission on investigations of enclosures located in South Mississippi. No action was required by the Commission.

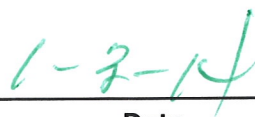
There was no other business for discussion in Executive Session.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Rigdon and seconded by Commissioner Deviney, the Commission voted unanimously to end Executive Session and open the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
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John C Stanley IV, CHAIRMAN

  
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Date

  
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Bryan Jones, VICE-CHAIRMAN

  
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Date