

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

Wednesday, April 18, 2012 @ 1:30 p.m.

MDWFP Main Office, 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS



## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Chairman William “Billy” Deviney, Commissioners Charles Rigdon, Bryan Jones, Jerry Munro, and John C Stanley IV

Among the MDWFP staff attending were: Dr. Sam Polles, Executive Director; Mr. Robert Cook, Deputy Director; Libby Hartfield; Ramie Ford; Larry Castle; Rickie Felder; Noel Hughes; Michael Bolden; Ed Penny; Chad Dacus; Jim Walker; Donnie Tate; Sharon Polzin; and Doug Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General.

## **WELCOME**

Chairman Deviney welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged Representative Scott Bounds, Chairman of the House Committee on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks; Representative Michael Evans; and Bobby Cleveland, former writer for a local newspaper Sports column. Deputy Director Robert Cook opened the meeting with prayer.

## **MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, the Minutes of the March 20, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

## **TODAY’S AGENDA**

No changes to the agenda as presented.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No members of the general public were present to make comments upon any agenda items.

## **LICENSE SALES REPORT**

Mr. Michael Bolden presented the License Sales Report for the month of March 2012. He reported that overall license sales were up 1% from last year. Some highlights of his report are noted below:

Resident Licenses:	Increase
Nonresident Licenses:	Slight decrease



Other:	18% increase, which represents alligator license sales
Nonresident Salt Water:	Increase
Fishing:	Increase
Sportsman License	Increase
Apprentice License	Increase
Wildlife Foundation	Donations are up

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Major Lane Ball, South Region Law Enforcement, presented the following:

- Citation Report: The February 2012 Citation report was distributed to the Commission for information and review. No comments were made.
- Reinstatement Requests – Tyler and Cody Giles, West, MS  
Major Lane Ball recommended the reinstatement of licenses for two brothers, Tyler and Cody Giles. The brothers were arrested and charged in 2011 with spotlighting and killing two deer and upon their conviction hunting privileges were revoked. During the past year the young men worked to pay their fines and completed other requirements needed for reinstatement.

Commissioner Deviney commented that it is a privilege to hunt in the State of Mississippi and the only way to continue this privilege is to abide by the law.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Munro, the request to reinstate hunting privileges to Tyler and Cody Giles was unanimously approved as presented.

## WILDLIFE

### Wildlife Public Notices of Intent

Chad Dacus, Assistant Wildlife Bureau Director, presented the following Public Notices of Intent and gave each Commission member a handout outlining the major changes in each Public Notice. Most were simple calendar changes. Other noteworthy changes are listed in italics below each Public Notice:

- Public Notice of Intent W17 3434 2012-2013 White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits  
*Renamed the Deer Management Zone to eliminate the confusion between deer and squirrel zones –a. Hill Zone; b. Delta Zone; c. Coastal Zone*
- Public Notice of Intent W6 3776 2012-2013 Wild Turkey Seasons and Bag Limit  
*Removed the closure in Leflore County due to the return of huntable turkey populations*



- Public Notice of Intent W17 3433 2012-2013 Small Game Hunting and Trapping Seasons and Bag Limits
- Public Notice of Intent WMA Regulations (MULTIPLES)
  - a. *New wording below the season date table on all subject WMAs to read: Whenever the opening date set above falls on a Sunday, the season shall begin on the preceding Saturday.*
  - b. *Standardized all dove hunting times: 2 p.m. to sunset*
  - c. *Day permit requirement added for Sky Lake Boardwalk*
  - d. *Clarification made on high water recommendations for Pascagoula River WMA. The public will be directed to the Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks website for high water closings.*
  - e. *Horse and ATV regulation wording consistent among all WMAs.*

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Stanley and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, the four (4) abovementioned Public Notices of Intent were unanimously approved as presented.

#### **Mourning Dove and Wood Duck Banding Awards**

Scott Baker, MDWFP Wildlife Biologist, recognized the following recipients of the Mourning Dove Bander Award for the past two years:

##### 2010 Dove Bander of the Year

Chad Masley, MDWFP Assistant WMA Biologist, Tupelo

##### 2011 Dove Bander of the Year

Ramon Pierce, U.S. Army Corps and Engineer Natural Resource Specialist, Sardis Lake

A plaque was presented to each by Randy Wilson, Project Leader for the Migratory Bird Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Appreciation was expressed for Chad and Ramon's work in capturing these birds and fitting them with aluminum leg bands and then releasing them. This provides vital information about migration and survival when birds are harvested and reported by hunters.

Tim Willis from Ducks Unlimited recognized the following recipient of the 2010 and 2011 Wood Duck Banding Award:

##### 2010 and 2011 Wood Duck Bander of the Year

Corporal Tyler Norman, MDWFP Conservation Officer, Newton County

Tyler banded 212 ducks in 2010 and 233 in 2011. Accepting the framed print award from Ducks Unlimited on Tyler's behalf was Lt. Dale Bell, Central Region Law Enforcement.

The Foundation of Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks also provided award recipients with a gift.



## PARKS

Ramie Ford, Director of State Parks, presented Public Notice of Intent P-001. He explained that this is simply a housekeeping change for fees so that our park fees mirror state fishing lake fees. The temporary P-001 would allow MDWFP to implement this now while the intent goes through the 60 day waiting period.

- Public Notice of Intent P-001 (Fees)
- Public Notice Temporary P-001 (Fees)

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Jones, both Public Notices listed above were unanimously approved as presented.

## OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented before the Commission.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

Tentative Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 @ 1:00 PM in the Jackson Office

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Stanley and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, 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 related issues. Upon motion made by Commissioner Stanley and seconded by Commissioner Rigdon, the Commission voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session.

Dr. Polles presented some additional information regarding the pending acquisition of land in Claiborne County. Based upon the information presented, Commissioner Munro suggested that Dr. Polles be authorized to offer and negotiate the purchase of the land within the appraised value.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission voted unanimously to authorize Dr. Polles to make an offer and/or negotiate the purchase of the land in Claiborne County.

There was no further business for Executive Session.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Munro, the Commission voted unanimously to exit Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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William "Billy" Deviney, CHAIRMAN

5/16/12  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Jerry Munro  
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Jerry Munro, VICE-CHAIRMAN

5/16/12  
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Date