

POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION
On Yacht "Governor Tawes"
March 6, 1963

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The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by Chairman Jeremiah Valliant on Yacht "Governor Tawes", Annapolis, Maryland. Commissioners Milton T. Hickman, Dr. H. C. Byrd, N. G. Hall, Lewis Jones, Jr. were present. Others: K. Thomas Everngam, George Badger, Roy Rafter. From Press: Thomas Seppy, John Frye.

Minutes of previous meeting - not available - were dispensed with.

Robert M. Norris, Jr. was installed as Executive Secretary.

Proposed licensing laws for fishing were set at following:
(Under "Notice of Hearing" Regulation I, Section 2,
sub-sections listed alphabetically as follows:

(h) Pound net license fee \$7.00

(1) Add words in quotes "stake" before words float, or drift gill net, etc....., and "season" for using said nets shall be from March 1st to May 26th inclusive each and every year. License to be \$6.00; each additional 150 ft. or fraction thereof add an additional \$2.50.

(1) Item #2. Each permanent location shall be designated and a tag with license number shall be attached to stand.

(1) Item #3. License to be issued on a first come, first served basis and thereafter to same individuals if applied for by certain date with preference clause for previous year's licensee, if possible. Commission authorized Legal Officer to use his discretion in wording when preparing regulations for legal ads.

(j) For each haul seine for catching fish, a license fee of \$25.00. No haul seine shall be used in the Potomac River of a length over 600 yards. The license of a haul seine rig must be present whenever haul seine equipment is aboard a boat or being fished.

(k) For each fyke net or hoop net, weir or similar fishing device for catching fish a license fee of \$5.00. Decided that such nets are to be considered fixed devices and left to the discretion of Legal Officer to word.

(l) For each person using a fish trot line, license fee of \$5.00.

(m) For each person using fish or eel pots, a license fee of \$10.00.

(n) Dip nets, no license fee recommended, as they are not generally used in the Potomac River.

The Commission assured Mr. Wilson and Mr. Bray, of U. S. Department of the Interior, who were heard at this point, of the Commission's cooperation in reporting catches of fish in the Potomac River for interim January 1, 1963 to July 1, 1963.

Mr. Everngam (a) authorized to word Regulations establishing distances between fixed fishing devices, and (b) to word Regulation regarding removal of abandoned poles or stakes and the removal of same to issuing new license to owners of said abandoned stakes or poles.

Section #4 of Proposed Regulations re suspension or revocation of licenses was approved.

Discussion of license for taking soft shell clams was suspended until next meeting.

Procedure for licensing: this given to Mr. Everngam and Mr. Lewis.

Public hearings on Proposed Regulations: legal notices to be published in proper papers and posted in stated places in time

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to hold said hearings on Monday April 22, 1963, in Courthouse in La Plata, Maryland at 10:00 A.M., and in Town Hall, Colonial Beach, Virginia at 3:00 P.M. Motion to adopt said Proposed Regulations for public hearings was offered by N. G. Ball, seconded by Lewis Jones, Jr. and approved. Secretary was instructed by chair to arrange for rooms for public hearings in above places.

Motion offered by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Dr. Byrd, that N. G. Ball and R. M. Norris, Jr. be authorized to spend up to \$4,000 on office renovation and for furniture and necessary office machines. Approved.

Executive Secretary was requested to have letterheads and envelopes printed as soon as possible.

Dr. Byrd offered motion, seconded and approved that Executive Secretary be given \$100 petty cash fund in cash, to be kept in office.

It was requested that information on cost of Class "A" safes be reported at next meeting. Also that availability of, and average salary paid to, secretarial help be reported next meeting.

Dr. Byrd offered motion, seconded and unanimously approved that the salary of the Legal Officer begin as of February 1, 1963, and the salary of the Executive Secretary begin as of March 1, 1963, and that said salaries be paid once each month on the last day of the month. Other personnel to be paid on 15th and last day of each month.

Mr. Valliant advised that he has applied for employer's identification number for the Commission.

Commission instructed Executive Secretary to arrange conference with Maryland and Virginia State Auditors, at an early date, to suggest accounting and license systems and to advise amount of fidelity bond coverage on employees. The Commission requested costs of bond to be available for consideration at next meeting.

Next meeting to be held Monday, April 1, 1963 at 1:00 P. M., in offices at Colonial Beach, Virginia.

Chairman announced that immediately following adjournment, all Commissioners would meet by pre-arrangement with the Maryland Senate Chesapeake Bay and Tributaries Committee, as guests of the Senate Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 P. M.


CHAIRMAN


SECRETARY