

POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION
 COLONIAL BEACH, VIRGINIA
 May 6, 1966

Lewis Jones, Jr., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a. m. Invocation was offered by Mr. Valliant.

Members present: Commissioners H. C. Byrd, Milton T. Hickman, J. Clifford Hutt, Lewis Jones, Jr., Jeremiah Valliant, George J. Weems.

Officers present: K. Thomas Everngam, Legal Officer and Robert M. Norris, Jr., Executive Secretary.

Visitors present: Elgin A. Dunnington, Jr., Chesapeake Biological Laboratory; Cdr. Roy W. Rafter and Lt. Paul C. Wentzell, of Maryland Marine Police; Chief J. William Ryland and Supervisor Ralph Dameron, of Commission of Fisheries of Virginia. Press representatives: Miss Isabel Gough, Messrs. Dallas Long and John Frye. Also Mr. John Baker and Mr. Ed S vera, of C. J. Langenfelder & Son, Inc.

Chairman Jones extended a welcome to Mr. J. Clifford Hutt, who has been appointed by the Governor of Virginia to serve on the Commission of Fisheries of Virginia and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, in the place of Mr. Neville G. Ball.

Motion was made by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Hutt, as follows:

"That Minutes of meeting of March 4, 1966, as previously circulated to each Commissioner, be approved with the words "up to" being deleted from motion made by Dr. Byrd; making that motion read: "That the first bar (Knott's Hollow), which committee recommended as preferable, be as fully planted as practicable with 400 bushels per acre; with 20,000 bushels to be scattered on other suggested areas, as the Chairman and Executive Secretary deem desirable". Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Dr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Hickman, as follows:

"WHEREAS, the resolution authorizing the purchase of seed oysters from Virginia, at the time offered (March 4, 1966), involved a discussion of lack of sufficient funds, it was suggested and agreed that such funds as might be needed besides funds available be borrowed; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission did agree, and now agrees to such borrowing, and that the act of the Chairman and Executive Secretary of the Commission, in thus obtaining necessary funds, be herewith approved and this resolution be made a part of the Minutes of this meeting to be included immediately under the original resolution authorizing the purchase and planting of seed oysters". Motion approved unanimously.

Chairman Jones asked for report on the 1966 seed planting program, which was presented by the Executive Secretary, as follows:

<u>No. of bushels</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Bu. per acre</u>
61,398	Knott's Hollow	142	432
5,550	King Copsico	22	250
<u>3,499</u>	Colonial Beach	46	76
70,447	TOTAL BUSHELS OF SEED		

Average count of seed per bushel averaged from 2 to 3 thousand; some boat loads counted higher, a few counted lower. The total cost was \$98,625.80. The cost per bushel was \$1.40, being \$1.00 per bushel for the seed, 10¢ per bushel repletion tax, and 30¢ per bushel freight carried from the seed areas in the Wicomico and Piankitank Rivers, in Virginia, to the planting areas in the Potomac.

Dr. Byrd asked how the freight rate was established. Chairman Jones said that prior investigation determined 30¢ per bushel overboard to be the established freight rate for this year for buying, freighting and planting seed.

At this point Commissioner Jones, on behalf of the Commission, thanked the Inspectors of the Commission of Fisheries of Virginia for their success in keeping the seed boats smoothly feeding seed to the planting areas in the Potomac, and highly commended the Maryland Marine Police for their diligence in supervising the planting of these seed in such an orderly manner, all accomplished to everyone's expressed satisfaction.

Mr. Hickman presented a quote from Radcliff Materials, Inc. of \$3.46 per cubic yard for 28,000 cubic yards of reef shells delivered overboard in the Potomac River this spring.

Mr. Baker, of C. J. Langenfelder & Son, Inc., presented a quote of \$2.65 per cubic yard for 28,000 cubic yards of reef shells delivered overboard, shells to be mined from the Potomac River.

Chairman Jones asked for recommended additions and/or modifications to present Regulations. Mr. Everngam, Legal Officer, reported suggested regulations, as prepared by Chief Ryland, Cdr. Rafter, Lt. Wentzell, Supervisor Dameron, Executive Secretary and Legal Officer.

Motion was offered by Mr. Valliant, seconded by Mr. Hickman, that oyster tonging license fee be increased from \$6.00 to \$12.50. Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Dr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Hickman, as follows:

"The following Regulations, as proposed, copy of which is attached to last page and to be considered a part of these Minutes, are recommended by this Commission, and that they be advertised to be considered at a public hearing on a date to be determined later in this meeting". Motion approved unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Hutt, seconded by Mr. Valliant, as follows:

"That the date of the next meeting be at 10:00 a.m., Daylight Saving Time, on June 24, 1966 with the hearing on Proposed Regulations to be held Thursday night at 8:00 p.m., June 23, 1966 at the Town Fire House, Colonial Beach, Virginia". Motion approved unanimously.

Conditions surrounding the decision of last fall to issue Oyster Buyer's License "free of charge" was discussed. Thereupon the Commission authorized Executive Secretary in the future to charge, according to the Regulations, \$10.00 Oyster Buyer's License fee.

Executive Secretary reported that approximately \$100.00 would be the cost of installation of a used radio in headquarters office. This radio has been offered to the Commission for \$250.00 is approximately one-half the new cost of the unit.

Motion was made by Mr. Hutt, seconded by Dr. Weems, as follows:

"THAT we purchase and install this radio in headquarters office, and that it be installed at a cost of approximately \$100.00, more or less, plus the \$250.00 cost of the unit, with the understanding that no additional employee will be needed to monitor or operate this radio unit". Motion approved unanimously.

Chairman asked for report on sub-office. Mr. Valliant requested an extension of time to further investigate available locations for sub-office. Request was approved.

Chairman Jones asked for recommendation on white perch (Roccus americana) for bait in crab pots, as requested by Mr. Allen Dent, President of the Northern Virginia Watermen's Assn., at the last meeting. Commission decided that there would be no change in the Regulations, or in recommendations, for use of this fish for the above purpose.

Disbursements, in the amount of \$2,950.35 for the month of March 1st through March 31; and \$101,969.98 from April 1st through April 30th, were itemized for the Commission. Motion was made by Dr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Valliant as follows:

"That disbursements as itemized above be approved through the stated dates". Motion approved.

Chairman Jones asked Dr. Byrd to prepare Resolutions on the service that Mr. Neville G. Ball has been to this Commission during his term of office.

Motion was made by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Valliant as follows:

"That it be unanimously moved by the Commission that such Resolutions, as proposed, be made and spread on the Minutes of this meeting, and a copy sent to Mr. Ball". Motion approved unanimously. Resolutions follow:

"WHEREAS, Mr. Neville G. Ball has completed the term of his appointment as a Virginia member of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission; and,

WHEREAS, no member of a Virginia Commission is eligible to succeed himself after serving a definite legal period of two terms; and,

WHEREAS, the time of service of Mr. Ball on the Potomac River Fisheries Commission has been pre-eminently satisfactory and pleasing to members of the Commission with whom he has worked; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Ball has proved himself not only exceptionally able in the performance of his duties, but has shown himself to be a man of such integrity, loyalty, and personality that he has become exceedingly well-liked by his fellow Commissioners;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, as a group and as individuals, congratulate Mr. Ball on a job well done and express regret that he will no longer be working as one of their members; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission extend to Mr. Ball their best wishes for success in whatever endeavors he may undertake.

/s/ Lewis Jones, Jr.

Jeremiah Valliant

ATTEST:

H. C. Byrd

Milton T. Hickman

/s/ Robert M. Norris, Jr.
Executive Secretary

George J. Weems

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Mr. Valliant suggested that a study be made of the scale of license fees in preparation for the next fiscal year. Chairman Jones asked that discussion on this be deferred until next meeting, and a Committee would be appointed for this purpose at this time.

At 12:07 p.m. the Chairman asked that the Commission go into executive session, with those present including the Commissioners, Mr. Elgin A. Dunnington, Jr., K. Thomas Everngam, Legal Officer, and Robert M. Norris, Jr., Executive Secretary.


The continuing program of shell and/or seed planting for rehabilitation purposes in the Potomac River was discussed, in light of existing funds and recommendations by Chesapeake Biological Laboratory and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, presented by Mr. Elgin Dunnington, Jr.


Motion was made by Mr. Hutt, seconded by Mr. Valliant, that further shell and/or seed planting for 1966 be deferred until additional funds are accumulated. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Elgin Dunnington, Jr., on behalf of Dr. Eugene Cronin, Director of Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, and Dr. William H. Hargis, Director of Virginia Institute of Marine Science, again presented a proposal by the two Directors, that the Potomac River Fisheries Commission consider entering into a contract with the two laboratories, by which the Potomac River Fisheries Commission would contribute Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to each laboratory annually; these funds would be matched by each laboratory, thereby allotting \$20,000.00 annually for research for the Commission alone. Drs. Cronin and Hargis feel that this would afford support of a research program for each year worked out on a detailed and continuing basis, rather than the help that is presently being given by the laboratories to this Commission. Full support of a program of research and recommendation for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission would follow; whereas, at the present time, although they always stand ready to help and advise the Commission, it is necessarily on a "crash" basis and short term basis. Also the laboratories could divide the work so that each would be participating equally.

In reply, Chairman Jones said that he would be happy to invite both Dr. Cronin and Dr. Hargis, on behalf of the Commission, to the meeting to be held on June 24th; that on the basis of Mr. Dunnington's presentation, the Commissioners are informed of the problems and proposition, at a later date would be in a position to discuss with the two Directors their proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.


CHAIRMAN


SECRETARY