

PRESENT - MEMBERS: Commissioners Milton T. Hickman, William P. Hunt, J. Clifford Hutt, Donald E. Hood.

OFFICERS: K. Thomas Everngam, Legal Officer; Robert M. Norris, Jr., Executive Secretary.

VISITORS: Dr. William J. Hargis, Jr. and Dr. Morris Brehmer, of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science; Mr. Elgin A. Dunnington, Jr., of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory; Mr. Jeremiah Valliant.

The Chairman, Mr. Hutt, called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m. and asked for consideration of the Minutes of the meeting held October 14, 1968.

Mr. Hickman offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hunt as follows:

"That the Minutes of meeting held October 14, 1968, as circulated by mail to each Commissioner prior to this meeting, be approved." Motion was unanimously approved.

The status of the Steuart Petroleum Company proposal for establishment of a Foreign Trade Zone and refinery at Piney Point, Maryland, was discussed. Mr. Hutt read an article from a local newspaper reporting that Steuart Petroleum has sent a letter to the Department of Commerce. This letter is reportedly in the nature of an informal request for said permit, specifying that if the tentative request is not in proper form that the Department of Commerce correct or modify the wording and return so that it could, if desired, be used as a guide for some future application. One of the Commissioners said that he has been advised that the Maryland Department of Economic Development has published that it will not follow through on any proposal not approved by local authorities.

The Executive Secretary reported completion by Cox Construction Company, Nanticoke, Maryland of installation of 33 jurisdictional line markers below Route #301 Bridge. The cost was originally estimated to be \$16,695.90 and the total completed cost will run to approximately \$18,061.58 including additional cost on the 34 "daymarkers" on each piling. This additional cost is in the nature of a 25% surcharge by the U. S. Coast Guard, who made the markers and originally estimated each to cost \$26.25. Thus the cost would have amounted to \$892.50, but with the surcharge, the cost is billed to the PRFC at \$1,166.09. This is an excess of \$273.59 over the quote in the first estimate above. All other added costs of the installation were ordered paid, or payment was approved (as listed hereafter) except the invoice for the markers; the Commission deferring approval of this bill until the matter of surcharge can be explored further:

Additional cost of light for Lower Machodoc marker	\$ 45.29
" " " batteries for same	22.40
Ladder and stand for light	75.00
Mr. Chapman Thompson - supervision of work by Cox Construction Co. to guarantee performance	823.40
Installation of light	98.50
Two (2) additional daymarkers (34 instead of 32)	52.50
Removing old line markers (18 instead of 19)	(25.00)
	1,092.09
Coast Guard (over original quote)	273.59
Total	\$1,365.68

A request by the U. S. Coast Guard that this Commission either remove, or repair and maintain, line markers above Route #301 Bridge was discussed. Of the 45 jurisdictional line markers in that area, approximately 20 or more are missing or lean at angle hazardous to navigation. The Commission decided to delay a decision until the next meeting.

Mr. Hutt reported that Fridays had been added to oyster tonging days, effective as of November 15th, after consulting individual Commissioners as conditions developing the previous week indicated need for additional day. Mr. Hickman offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hunt, as follows:

"That the action of the Chairman in adding Fridays to working days for tonging be approved and recorded in Minutes." Motion approved.

Upon consideration of production statistics on oysters, number of tongers working, and demand for oysters, as related to recent closing of Knott's Hollow - Posey's Bluff areas, Mr. Hunt offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hickman, as follows:

"That effective December 2, 1968 the prohibition on tonging oysters in the Knott's Hollow - Posey's Bluff oyster areas be lifted." Motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Hutt reported that, due to legal technicalities preventing the leasing of a car from the Virginia State highway Department Motor Pool by a political sub-division whose employees are not paid directly by the State, he recommended that the Commission purchase an automobile through the Virginia State Purchasing Agent, at the same cost as to the state, which he had ascertained could be done. Mr. Hood offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hunt, as follows:

"That the Chairman be authorized to arrange for the purchase of a Potomac River Fisheries Commission automobile through the Virginia State Purchasing Agent." Motion was approved.

Itemized list of disbursements for the month of October 1968 was given to each Commissioner. Disbursements totaled \$23,553.65 including a total of expenditures for line markers of \$16,090.82. Mr. Hunt offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hood, as follows:


"That the disbursements for October 1968 totaling \$23,553.65 be approved." Motion was approved.

A statement of cash in banks showing total deposits to be \$154,316.47, as of October 31, 1968, was presented. The Commission authorized transfer of funds from checking account to Certificate of Deposit in banks in each state, in line with Commission policy to equalize the division of funds by states.

The Commission was advised that some stake gill and pound net stakes are being left in the river, in apparent violation of regulations which require removal after thirty (30) days of non-use. After discussion concerning the merit of making a distinction in time allowed before requiring removal of (1) pound and (2) stake gill stakes and poles as related to the expense of removing each type, the Executive Secretary was requested to bring recommendations concerning this problem to the next meeting, after consultation with the law enforcement chiefs and the legal officer.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in Colonial Beach, Virginia, January 24, 1969 at 10:00 a.m., and the Chairman asked each Commissioner to be present the evening before for dinner.

Mr. Hunt offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hood, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion approved, and Mr. Hutt declared adjournment.



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY