

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS

Thursday, October 11, 2018
10 a.m.
1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS

MINUTES OF SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: Chairman Bill F. Cossar, Commissioners Clay Wagner, Robert Taylor, Scott Coopwood and Billy Mounger.

Among the MDWFP staff attending were: Dr. Sam Polles, Executive Director; Robert Cook, Deputy Executive Director; Michael Bolden, Deputy Administrator; Jennifer Head, Director of Parks; Curtis Thornhill, Director of Business Services; Col. Steve Adcock, Chief of Law Enforcement; Russ Walsh, Wildlife Executive Staff Officer; Larry Pugh, Director of Fisheries Bureau; Charles Knight, Museum Director; and Doug Mann, Special Assistant Attorney General. House WFP Committee Chairman Scott Bounds was also present.

Noted for the Record: Attached to these minutes are copies of the Special Teleconference Meeting Notices, which were posted one day prior to the meeting on the doors of the MDWFP office building located at 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS, and on the MDWFP website and the Mississippi Open Meetings website, as per the provisions of the Mississippi Open Meetings Act.

Having determined that a quorum was present, the Chairman opened the floor to the business on the agenda.

The Executive Director requested this Special Meeting of the Commission to update them on educational items, share comments received on two proposed wildlife rules from the September meeting, and consider changing the date of the November meeting. Votes on the other proposed rules from September will be postponed until the next Commission meeting in November.

FINAL 40 Miss. Admin. Code, Part 2, Chapter 2: White-tailed Deer

A. Rule 2.7 – Prohibition on Cervid Carcass Importation to Protect MS from CWD

Last month the Commission passed a proposal to ban the importation of certain cervid carcass parts from any state or province; not just those that are known to be CWD-positive.

ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Coopwood to make final Rule 2.7, seconded by Commissioner Mounger, and the motion carried.

B. Rule 2.4 – Supplemental Feeding

The proposed version of 40 Miss. Admin. Code, Part 2, Rule 2.4 had been adopted at the September meeting, with several significant changes. Staff and Commissioners had all received many comments. Discussion followed to clarify what needed to be deleted, accepted, or changed, in Proposed Rule 2.4. The following changes were discussed and made final.

1. 100-Yard Rule:

Previously supplemental feeding regulations stipulated that deer hunters must be at least 100 yards away from feed and active feeders. At the September meeting the Commission voted to make it lawful to hunt deer within any distance of an active feeder. Comments were received during the comment period supporting the Commission's action.

ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Mounger to make final the elimination of the 100-yard rule. The motion carried. Commissioner Coopwood was recorded as voting "No".

2. Spring Turkey Season Supplemental Feeding Ban:

At the September meeting the Commission voted in favor of banning supplemental feeding from March 1 until the end of Spring Turkey Season.

Even though turkey hunters were happy about this ruling, abundant negative comments were received during the comment period from deer hunters stating that March was the most critical time when food plots are depleted, and deer are the most stressed. Discussion followed.

ACTION: By motion of Commissioner Mounger and seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the proposed supplemental feeding ban during Spring Turkey Season was rescinded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Zone:

At the September meeting the Commission approved changing the language related to the CWD Management Zone from specific boundaries to read "MDWFP-defined CWD Management Zone." This would allow the boundaries to change without having to redraft the rule should other infected deer be found elsewhere in the state.

ACTION: Upon motion by Commissioner Mounger and seconded by Commissioner Coopwood, the proposed language change was finalized. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Next Commission Meeting

The Chairman announced that due to several conflicts arising, the currently scheduled October Commission meeting was going to be cancelled. Discussion followed regarding whether or not the November meeting, currently scheduled for November 14, 2018, needed to be re-scheduled to an earlier date.

The Commission decided to leave the November meeting, as previously set, on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, at the Jackson Office, located at 1505 Eastover Drive. The meeting will begin with an Educational Session at 8:30 a.m., followed by the Business Session at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

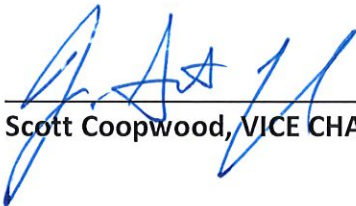
ACTION: There being no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Coopwood moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Mounger. The motion carried. Chairman Cossar gaveled the meeting into adjournment.



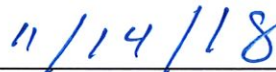
Bill F. Cossar, CHAIRMAN



Date



Scott Coopwood, VICE CHAIRMAN



Date

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Meeting of the Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

PURSUANT TO MISSISSIPPI CODE ANNOTATED §25-41-5 and §25-41-13, the Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks hereby issues this notice to the public of a special meeting to be held on **Thursday, October 11, 2018**, in Jackson, Mississippi, at **10:00 A.M.** This special meeting is an informational and business meeting for the purpose of receiving information and comments regarding proposed rules, and act upon those comments. The proposed rule regulating supplemental feeding of wild animals outside enclosures and the proposed rule regarding cervid carcass importation, will be the only rules for consideration. Finally, the Commission will consider cancelling the regularly-scheduled October meeting, and rescheduling the November meeting. The meeting is for the consideration of the two (2) proposed rules and rescheduling the November meeting only. No other items will be before the Commission for discussion.

The meeting will be held, via teleconference, in the Commission Meeting Room of the Department's offices at 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211. The meeting is open to the public and the Commissioners will be attending electronically from remote locations.

This the 10th day of **October, 2018**.



Sam Polles, Executive Director
Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
Fisheries and Parks

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Special Meeting of the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

Thursday, October 11, 2018

Time: 10 AM

Location: 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson MS 39211

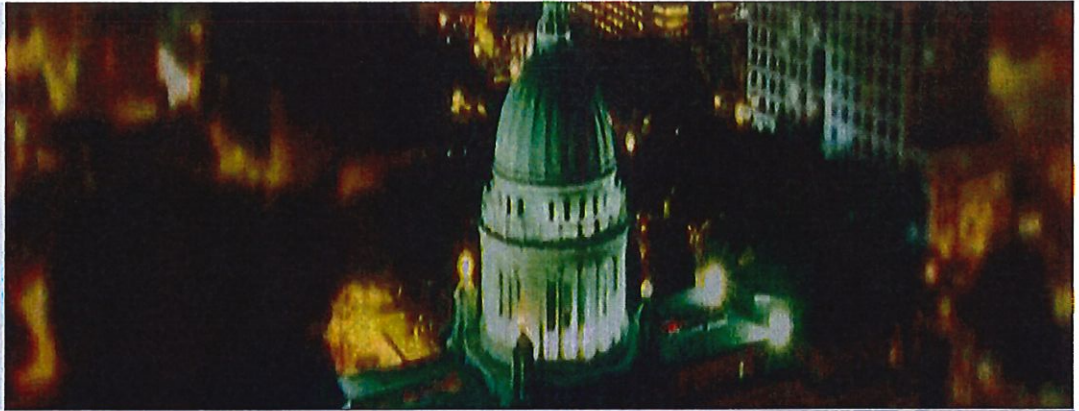
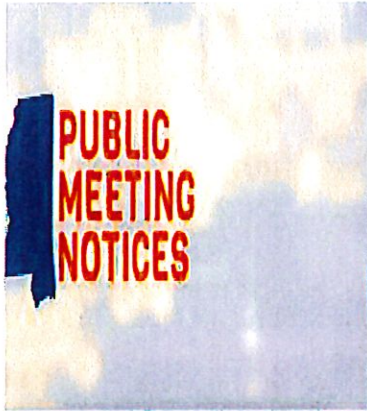
County: Hinds

For more information please contact Sharon Polzin at 6014322009 or by email at sharon.polzin@wfp.ms.gov.

This is a special informational and business meeting of the Commission for the purpose of receiving information and comments regarding two (2) proposed rules, and act upon those comments, as well as rescheduling the November meeting only. The proposed rule regulating supplemental feeding of wild animals outside enclosures and the proposed rule regarding cervid carcass importation, will be the only rules for consideration. The meeting is open to the public and the Commissioners will be attending electronically from remote locations.

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Public Meeting Notices

NOTICE DETAILS

NOTICE DETAILS

State Agency: Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks

Public Body: Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks

Title: Special Educ and Business Commission Meeting

Subject: Special MDWFP Commission Meeting

Date and Time: 10/11/2018 10:00:00 AM

Description:

The Commission will receive information and vote on two proposed rules regulating supplemental feeding of wild animals outside enclosures and cervid carcass importation.

MEETING LOCATION

1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson MS 39211

[Map this!](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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