CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

State Capitol Auditorium

Montgomery, Alabama

May 3, 2014

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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Proceedings taken before Tracey
Sadler Blackwell, Certified Court Reporter, ACCR
No. 294, and Commissioner for the State of Alabama
at Large, at the State Capitol Auditorium,
Montgomery, Alabama, on Saturday, May 3, 2014,
commencing at approximately 9:01 a.m.

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Dan L. Moultrie, Chairman
Mr. N. Gunter Guy, Jr., Commissioner
Mr. John McMillan
Mr. Bill Hatley
Dr. Bob Shipp
Mr. Raymond Jones, Jr.
Mr. Grady Hartzog
Dr. Gary Lemme
Mr. Joseph Dobbs, Jr.
Mr. T.J. Bunn, Jr.

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CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: I'd like to call the
May 3rd, 2014, meeting of the
Conservation Advisory Board to order.
I'd like to welcome everyone to
Montgomery, Alabama. The board is glad
that you are able to be here today. The
invocation today will be given by Joey
Dobbs.

          Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: Thank you. Bow your heads.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for
this day. Be with our friends and
family as they move through this life.
Bless this group that's here today and
see to their safe travels home.
Especially, please look after the
families whose lives have been affected
by the storms in the north and the
floods in the south. Bestow your
blessings and grace upon them. Thank
you for your bounty. In Christ's name
we pray, Amen.

(Crowd responds.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Dobbs.

The next order of business is the
introduction of the board members.

First I want to introduce our
Commissioner of Conservation,
Commissioner Guy.

Next I would introduce our Deputy
Commissioner, Curtis Jones.

Next I'd like to introduce Alabama's
Agriculture Commissioner, John
McMillan.

Our other ex-officio member here
today is Dr. Gary Lemme from the Alabama Extension Service. Dr. Lemme.

Next I would like to let the district members of the board give their name and what district they represent starting at the far end of the table.

MR. BUNN: T.J. Bunn, Congressional District 7.

DR. SHIPP: Bob Shipp, District 1.

MR. JONES: Raymond Jones, Congressional District 5.

MR. HATLEY: Bill Hatley, District 1.

MR. HARTZOG: Grady Hartzog, District 2.

MR. DOBBS: Joey Dobbs, District 6.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Dan Moultrie, Chairman, District 6 also.

Okay. The next order of business is the Advisory Board minutes. We need to approve the minutes. There's two meetings this time -- we had a special meeting -- the March 1st meeting, 2014, and the March 31st, 2014, special meeting. Are there any changes to the
minutes?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: If not, the minutes
approved -- stand approved as read.

The next order of business is the
Commissioner's comments. I'd like to
call on Commissioner Guy. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Dan. I don't
think I need that.

Just one item of business that I
would like to bring before the board.
And, that is, we're going to be losing a
long-time valued employee on June 1.

David Dean --

David, would you stand up.

-- our legal counsel, has been with
us for 33 years, and he has given us
great legal advice and has been a friend
for, you know, ever. And so I would
like everybody to recognize David Dean.

(Crowd responds.)

COMMISSIONER GUY: We'll definitely miss

David. We are going to try to see if we
can bring him back a little part-time, but I'm worried that he's going to find other adventures that he would rather do.

But, David, thank you very much for all you've done for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

MR. DEAN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Mr. Moultrie.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Commissioner.

Okay. The next order of business is the public hearing. When your name is called, please go to the microphone and give your name and subject you wish to speak on.

(Brief interruption.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. We're going to -- before we do the public hearing, I'm going to call on Director Sykes to do his PowerPoint. And if the board would move to these seats down here in front, on the front right.

MR. SYKES: All right. Thank you for allowing
us to do this again. I think the
PowerPoints have expedited the
question-and-answer portion of this.
I'm going to kind of run through this
pretty quick. We haven't got a whole
lot of changes.

At the last meeting we proposed the
extension of the deer season into
February. We shot the Chattahoochee
Valley pretty hard last year. We also
worked on it in March and April. The
areas that we were looking were Houston
and Henry County, the top part of
Barbour and Russell County to see if we
could fine-tune those lines a little bit
more. And our guys, as usual, have done
an outstanding job getting out and
getting the work done.

21 deer were sampled in that Henry
County site. Approximately 95 percent
of them were bred before or on January
the 31st. Out of the four sites, six
deer at site one, the average conception
date was January the 8th. Site two was
December the 31st. Site three was
January the 11th. And site four was
January the 11th.

So we have made some corrections to
the map. Barbour County and Russell
County stayed the same. We shot those
areas. It's going to stay as proposed.
But there was a little tweaking done
down in Henry County that I'll go back
to.

You can see this one little portion
right there was taken out and the lines
were cleared up to make enforcement and
where the hunters would know exactly
where the boundaries were a lot more
clean. That's the only changes that we
have to the February season extension.
So the statewide map will look like
that.

I want to talk briefly about
alligator season. It's been one of the
most popular things I think the
department has done in a long time. We are learning more and more about the alligator population in the state each year.

We are changing the way that the applications will be processed. Last year a person could apply as many times as they wanted to. This year one application per person per zone is all we're going to take. Those three zones are the Mobile Delta. There will be 150 tags. The west-central zone, which is centered mainly around Selma, is 50 tags. And then the southeast zone, most of the people that draw there go to Lake Eufaula.

If you'll notice the asterisk there by the southeast. We're instituting an eight-foot minimum before you can harvest an alligator over in that zone. The reason for that is we're trying to protect females. Most of the females are in that six- to eight-foot range.
The habitat quality, the nest predation is limiting recruitment over in that area. So we're going to institute that eight-foot minimum where we can try to protect those females.

The cost this year will be $20. Last year it was $5. Last year this program, the application process, produced approximately $85,000 in revenue. It cost the department about $85,000 to administer the program. If the same amount of people apply this year that did last year, it should be a wash. So we're not trying to make money off of this program. We're just trying to pay for the administrative process to administer it.

One big change this year over in the past, there have been some people that have applied five or six years that have not been drawn and are kind of upset. There are some people that draw every year. It's just the luck of the draw.
This year if you do not get drawn, next year you will have preference points. So each year that you don't draw, your preference points add up. So that way we can try to keep this as fair as we possibly can.

At the last meeting Mr. Dobbs asked us to take a look at Game Check again to see if we wanted to go mandatory or voluntary. Here are the stats from this year's Game Check.

Total deer reported was a little over 19,000. If you look below that at the hunter harvest mail survey that was done last year, it was estimated we killed over 260,000. Turkeys, this year through Game Check we reported just over 2,000. The mail survey last year indicated we killed over 40,000.

Y'all, the numbers still aren't good, but what we're going to do is we're going to ask for voluntary again this year. Hope that the hunters saw
this year that this was not government overreach. This was not us trying to get into your business. All we're doing is trying to get the best data we can to make the management decisions that we need to make for the future of hunting in Alabama. So we're going to ask for voluntary again this year. We'll evaluate the numbers, and then we'll come back to the board next year with our recommendations.

And, y'all, that's it. Told you it was going to be short and sweet. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTON: Thank you, Director Sykes.

Commissioner Guy again.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Yeah. The one thing I wanted to add to -- Chuck did an excellent job on that. The one thing I don't think he mentioned that I want to add, because it's always a question, on the alligator season -- and y'all might
remember there were claims that, you know, we were -- this was a lottery and it was illegal. There is no value for the tag. So, in other words, the $20 for the application is an administrative cost.

So we're not charging like other states do for the tag. Therefore, you are not applying -- you are not, you know, trying to get something of value. The value is zero for the tag. All we're trying to do is recoup our administrative costs with the application. And, consequently, since we are now reducing it to one per zone, our administrative costs will remain the same, and so we had to go up a little bit on the application cost.

But I just wanted to make that one clarification so if there are any questions about that. I don't want people to get confused that that $20 is the tag cost. It is the administrative
cost as all departments all across the
country have for similar situations. No
value for the tag. The tag is actually
free.

And, Chuck, you do have to have a
license to hunt alligators, which is a,
what, small game license?

So that's the only other requirement
you have to have. You have to have a
small game license. You have to pay the
application fee, but the tag costs
nothing.

Thank you, Mr. Moultrie.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Commissioner.

And, Chuck, I think as -- and I
think, Mr. Bolton, you write for this
AON.

AON's survey last year showed that
Game Check, 52.4 percent of the people
thought it should be mandatory where
40.5 percent thought it ought to be
voluntary. So the public would want it
that way, but I think it's admirable
you're keeping it that way one more year
and let's see what happens with it.
That's excellent.

Okay. The next order of business is
the public hearing. When your name is
called, please go to the microphone and
give your name and subject you wish to
speak on. I'll remind you that you only
may speak at the time you are called and
that any interference will not be
tolerated.

As always, the first speaker is
Mr. Avery Bates.

MR. BATES: Some of y'all was looking like why
am I standing up back there.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Hold on, Avery. Is that
microphone on?

There you go. Just speak up.

MR. BATES: But, anyway, a lot going on in the
commercial fishing industry. A lot of
attacks is going to be made and has been
made. But we want to keep our people
fishing and keep the property that
belongs to the people of this state and the country flowing.

And I know there's supposed to be a number of things coming up with reallocating the Magnuson-Stevens Act, taking a share of it away from the commercial fishermen and giving it to recreational fishermen. Let's keep it as it is. We brought it up in meetings. For one reason, we supply the consumer. The other reason, the 400 fishermen that they say is outrageous for them to have 51 percent. But it ain't 400 fishermen that's supplying the markets.

We had a great Seafood Summit. Chris, John, and our assistant director back there was enjoying some of the good seafood. We've had some great seafood served around the state. John can avow to that -- McMillan, our commissioner.

Also, as Mr. Moultrie's heart is in Auburn, we had a great seafood cookout
and a storm over there at Pat Dye's. I think y'all got some die-hard fans there. They were standing ankle deep in water eating seafood. But we enjoy cooking, enjoy serving it.

This year we're going to have a big question mark about our shrimping industry. Brown shrimp have trouble with freshwater, and we've had too much rain at a bad time of year. So you wonder why the price goes up.

Mr. Shipp, you know why it goes up.

When you have supply that's affected, it's going to affect your markets. So when you go in the market and see shrimp's up, there's a reason, supply and -- and also we're having a great shell-planting program this year. Chris and them has went along, and we've had people observing it on our board -- our oyster board. Lawrence Johnson has been observing it. He's quite receptive and appreciative of what's going on.
It's putting the shell and the rock in the right place. That determines -- and it's the right time of year. So we're hoping that we'll get a good spat set and some oysters will come back -- Alabama oysters will come back in Heron Bay, at Cedar Point, all these places and over in Mobile Bay.

We want y'all to keep enjoying them oysters, keep our people fishing, and keep any monies coming down going to our reefs.

Thank you, Commissioner Guy, for the funds that come down. And this fund was appropriated and acquired at the right time for the people of the state of Alabama to enjoy seafood.

I'm going to miss David Dean. Me and David -- he had brown hair the first time I met him.

And we got Heron Bay back, didn't we, David?

MR. DEAN: That's right.
MR. BATES: For the people of the state. And we want to keep harvesting oysters there.

And, David, I'm going to miss you. You're a good friend.

And besides that, y'all keep our people fishing. When gamefish status comes up for a fish --

MS. JONES: Time.

MR. BATES: -- don't let it happen because you take it out of the grocery stores. And, remember, as 9-2-80 says, all saltwater fish is considered seafood. And we want to catch it and serve it. Don't let them take it away from the public.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Bates.

MR. BATES: Thank you. Any questions?

MR. HATLEY: Yes, I've got -- Mr. Moultrie?

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley.

MR. HATLEY: Mr. Avery, at the next meeting we have here would you sit down closer to the front so you don't have to walk so far.
MR. BATES: Takes me a while. I'm getting older.

CHAIRMAN MOULTERIE: Thank you, Mr. Bates.

Mr. Hatley, was that a necessary interruption?

The next speaker will be Amy George.

MS. GEORGE: We're going to let John Morse speak on behalf of wildlife rehabilitation.

CHAIRMAN MOULTERIE: Okay. Thank you, Amy.

The next speaker will be John Morse.

MR. MORSE: Thank you, sir. I'm John Morse, Enterprise, Alabama, Coffee and Dale County, and I'm representing wildlife rehabilitators. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the board for allowing me to present the information and, also, Chuck Sykes for doing a fine job in communicating and working with the wildlife rehabilitators.

I would like, though, as the -- the Alabama Wildlife Alliance would like to request that the Wildlife and Freshwater
Fisheries consider the one RBS facility
as kind of a trial basis in that we'll
do -- we agree with you. We met with
you on this. But we'd like to make sure
that we can review this on an annual
basis to ensure that the -- Alabama's
wildlife and the citizens are getting
all the benefits of this program. We
really look forward to it. We are
looking forward to the future with a
good working relationship with all the
WFF staff.

Commissioner, we really appreciate
meeting us and working with us. And Ray
Metzler has been a fantastic point as
well to work with, and we really
appreciate it. Any questions?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you so much.

MR. MORSE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker will be
Arrion Tucker.

MR. TUCKER: Morning, Mr. Moultrie,
Commissioner, Board. My name is Arrion Tucker. I'm from Guntersville, Marshall County. And this morning I will be asking for a hook restriction for resident commercial fishing on the Tennessee River.

I'm a third-generation commercial fisherman. We would ask the board to consider a hook restriction of 1,000 hooks per boat per day on resident commercial fishermen on the Tennessee River. The limit on hooks would ensure a level playing field for all commercial trotliners and protect our resource -- not just speaking for my friends and family, but for the catfish guys, the families that supplement their income by catching fish to put in the freezer to help feed their families. And let's not forget the noodlers that love the sport. We also have rod-and-reel fishermen that have a ball catching catfish.
What we're looking for is bigger numbers of bigger fish which equals bigger fun for all of our folks and -- for sports fishermen and bigger checks for the commercial fishermen. We have a sustainable fishery that produces large numbers of catfish. Help me protect this resource for the future.

The reason we're asking for this hook limit is technology is advancing every day. Commercial fishers are not dinosaurs anymore. The learning curve has been shortened by the Internet and cell phones. The information can be shared in minutes versus years.

To my knowledge, there are no laws or regulations that prohibit factory boats on our lakes. To give you an example, fishing 5,000, 10,000 hooks per day by eight to ten fishers on any given lake is not a sustainable fishing practice on our lakes.

Do you have any questions?
MR. HARTZOG: What is the limit now on number of hooks?
CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Mr. Hartzog, if you would address the Chair, but go ahead, Mr. Hartzog.
MR. HARTZOG: Well, Mr. Chair, would you ask the --
CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Go ahead. Go ahead. We're rolling today on this meeting. So go ahead.
MR. HARTZOG: Would you ask the gentlemen downstairs what the limits are.
MR. DODD: Currently there is no restriction on residents for number of hooks on trotlines. On nonresidents it's a hundred hooks per fisherman restriction.
MR. HARTZOG: So a nonresident has a hundred and a nonresident has no limit?
MR. DODD: No. A resident has no limit.
MR. HARTZOG: That's what I meant.
MR. DODD: Yeah.
MR. HARTZOG: Okay. What is the Fisheries
position on his request?

MR. NICHOLS: Well, we would need to -- we
need to look. We do have some recent --
fairly recent research on Tennessee
River catfish fisheries, and we just
need to take a look and see. But what
we need to see is evidence of a really
high harvest in order to -- you know, to
support a restriction of that type.

CHAIRMAN MOULTYRIE: Mr. Hartzog, any more?

MR. HARTZOG: Well, we can't pass anything at
this meeting because it hasn't been
brought out.

CHAIRMAN MOULTYRIE: That's correct.

MR. HARTZOG: We can look at it for next
year. So I would ask that the Fisheries
division report back to us at the first
of next year to look at possible
restrictions or leave it as it is.

Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN MOULTYRIE: Very good. Mr. Jones, any
questions?

Commissioner Guy.
COMMISSIONER GUY: Could I ask you, sir, is there -- I appreciate your opinion. Is there a large number of other folks besides yourself who feel that way?

MR. TUCKER: There's a few. There's not a lot of us left. But, Commissioner, the problem we've got is we've got some folks that are what I would call rogue fishermen, that they move from lake to lake and they cut the population of fish down to where it's not favorable for them to stay on that lake. And they move to another lake and they beat the lake down. And we need to slow that down.

Because like I'm a local fisherman from Guntersville. I've lived there all my life, and all my family has fished there for years and years. And it's not a very good thing for me to have to go get a new job when another group of fishermen move to my lake and catch all of our fish out, which given three to
five years, our lake can come right back
to the best it's ever been. Catfish are
real resilient. And I've seen the ups
and the downs through the years. And if
we could -- we could cut the number of
hooks down to make it favorable for
everybody, then the catfish numbers
would stay up and everybody catch fish.
And that's what we're looking for.

COMMISSIONER GUY: We'll get our folks to look
at it. Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Tucker, I would ask
that you contact our district
representative, Austin Ainsworth, also,
and get with him on your concerns, if
you would. He's from your district.
Thank you very much, sir.

Okay. The next speaker will be Knox
Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, thank you, sir.

My name is Knox Williams. I'm the
president of the American Silencer
Association. We are a nonprofit trade
group which represents the firearm suppressor industry. I'm here today to voice our support of the regulatory change to allow firearm suppressors on firearms while hunting. We are currently working across country on similar efforts.

To give everyone a background, there are currently 39 states in the country which allow civilians to own suppressors. Of those 39 states, 31 allow for their use while hunting. Add to that, on July 1st Georgia will become the 32nd state in the country to allow that. We are currently working in other states like Louisiana and Ohio where we expect to get suppressor hunting laws passed this year as well.

With that, you know, I would be happy to answer any technical questions on suppressors, but --

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Does the board have any questions?
(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you very much, sir.

MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker is

Jessica Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS: Good morning. Hi, my name is

Jessica Flowers. I'm from Baldwin

County, Alabama. I'm here today to
discuss my opinion of opening up the
wildlife management to hog hunters --
hog dog hunters. I am one of those.

Regardless of the number, we can
agree that the population is growing
rapidly in the state of Alabama. We're
not asking to transport -- to relocate
wild hogs. We're only asking -- which
is against the law. We're only asking
that we can hunt, kill, and harvest our
hogs as far as putting them in our
freezer and different things like that
and feeding the needy. By opening the
wildlife management to hog dog hunters,
it will only help the efforts to control
the hog population.

As far as trapping, I trapped for the first two years before I started hog hunting. And we did catch a few. That's no lie. But with dogs it's a lot more efficient. Where you would catch only two or three a week with a trap, we can catch anywhere from three to 13 with dogs, depending on the hog population in that area.

Hog dogs -- really, there's no difference in a hog dog, a squirrel dog, a coon dog. I could bring my dog in here today, the ones that hunt, and show him to you, and you would not know the difference as far as what type of dog he is. They use hounds. They use Curs, use Rat Terriers, use Jagdterriers. Any dog can be called a hog dog if it's trained properly, just like any coon dog.

I've been to two meetings already. This is my second meeting. I haven't
been to many. But I have not seen anyone disagree with hog dogs being on wildlife management or having a problem with the hog dog people or community. So I don't see it being a problem with us as far as just giving us a chance to open up wildlife management, whether it's giving us tags or whether it's giving us a short season. I would appreciate any leniency y'all can give us as far as thinking about it and opening up the wildlife management. Any questions?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Ms. Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All right. The next speaker is Cliff Hardy.

MR. HARDY: Chairman Moultrie, Ladies and Gentlemen -- or Gentlemen of the Advisory Board, I represent Black Belt Outfitters. And we're here to oppose the change in the regulations for deer
hunting. And let me tell you why.

We -- this regulation will reduce
two hunting periods for Black Belt, ten
days in October -- or excuse me -- two
weeks in October and then two weeks in
December. The regulation is
discriminatory, gentlemen. That means
it discriminates in favor of certain
hunters and against us, and here's why.

We can't book now for the two weeks
in October. It's out. Other preserves
can. They can -- they can -- I mean,
they can give a -- a hunting -- a hunter
time right now in October, but we can
not. In December, this is our best
hunting time for our deer, which is the
northern strain deer, and that's out.
So your question is, well, Hardy, what
about the extra time at the end of
February?

The deer have shed their antlers.
They're gone. So we are put between a
rock and a hard place, so to speak.
Now, you say what are we going to do? We're in a position now that we
have some regulations that have been studied, some regulations that -- that
we want to pass. The first thing we would say is this: Table this until we
can meet with you and put in some language that is not discriminatory --
not that the whole bill is bad, but it is bad as far as our operation and other
operators below -- south of Highway 80.

The real solution is to give high-fence operators a permit -- not
designed to shoot deer within a season, but to give them a permit. They know
when their deer are ready to be harvested. You want to bring economic -- economics to the deer
hunting and to Alabama?

You do that and you'll have people --

MS. JONES: Time.

MR. HARDY: -- coming in from all over to
hunt. And it will not be just a benefit
to us but to all the other industries.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hardy, we've got a
question from the board. Mr. Hatley.
MR. HATLEY: Yes, sir. Where are you located
specifically as far as your high fences
is concerned?
MR. HARDY: Do you know where the intersection
of 5 is and 80?
MR. HATLEY: Yes, sir.
MR. HARDY: You know right where that is?
MR. HATLEY: Yeah.
MR. HARDY: Our land borders 80, right there
at the -- right there at the southwest
corner. So we're just --
MR. HATLEY: How much land you got,
Mr. Hardy?
MR. HARDY: I don't. My client does. I don't
really -- Mr. Hatley, I'm a bird
hunter.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Do you know how many acres
is involved, Mr. Hardy?
MR. HARDY: I think it's probably in excess of
four or 5,000 acres.

MR. BUNN: Under one enclosure, Mr. Hardy?

MR. HARDY: I don't think so. I don't think so. I think the enclosure is probably about a thousand acres. Now, that's just roughly speaking.

MR. BUNN: Mr. Hardy, can I --

MR. HARDY: Sure.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Bunn, go ahead.

MR. BUNN: I'm sorry.

Do y'all hunt native deer outside the enclosure? Do y'all sell hunts outside the enclosure for native deer?

MR. HARDY: Yes, sir.

MR. BUNN: So you could still sell those hunts in --

MR. HARDY: We could still sell those --

MR. BUNN: -- in February?

MR. HARDY: That -- that is exactly right. We can sell those hunts in February.

MR. BUNN: So you still have deer to sell if somebody wants to book a hunt with you --
MR. HARDY: That's right. But our major emphasis is the northern strain, and in February the northern strain have no bones.

MR. BUNN: Right.

MR. HARDY: They're gone.

MR. BUNN: And the only deer -- then I would assume the only deer in your high fence is your northern strain deer?

MR. HARDY: I don't know the answer to that.

MR. BUNN: But you do -- I'm just trying to be clear. You do have -- if somebody wanted to book a hunt with you in February to kill a buck, you still have a place for them to --

MR. HARDY: Sure. Sure. Sure. Sure. But as you can imagine, the people want to shoot a big buck deer.

MR. BUNN: We all do.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Commissioner Guy.

MR. HARDY: Well, that's you. I'd rather --

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Mr. Hardy.

MR. HARDY: I'd rather shoot a quail if --
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hardy. Commissioner Guy.

MR. HARDY: Commissioner Guy, yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Mr. Hardy, how you doing, sir?

MR. HARDY: Fine. How are you?

COMMISSIONER GUY: I don't know you. Are you an attorney?

MR. HARDY: I'm an attorney.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay. Do you have an interest in this place?

MR. HARDY: No.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay. So you're just here on behalf of your client?

MR. HARDY: That's right. That's right.

COMMISSIONER GUY: When you said northern strain, is this a deer-breeder operation?

MR. HARDY: Yes, sir, I think so.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay. And so you're releasing captive deer that you've raised into -- when you say northern strain, you're saying captive deer?
MR. HARDY: Northern genetics. Captive deer.
   That's right. That's right.
COMMISSIONER GUY: All right.
MR. HARDY: And I don't know too much more about it than that.
COMMISSIONER GUY: That's fine.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Does the board have any other questions?
   (No response.)
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Hardy.
MR. HARDY: I'd like to say one thing.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: In closing quickly, please, sir.
MR. HARDY: I'd like for the board to recognize this, that there are no regulations in Alabama against hunting while you're intoxicated.
   I think you'll agree with me on that, David.
   I was just amazed. I looked at the regulations as a lawyer. And this has nothing to do with why I'm down here.
   But I'm just appalled that we don't --
please take a look at this, and please
advise us how to get out of this enigma.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Hardy.
MR. HARDY: Thank you.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker will be
Clarence Herring.
MR. HERRING: Hi, my name is Clarence
Herring. I'm from Baldwin County. I'm
actually here to --
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Herring, if you can, I
know you're on crutches, but if you can
speak into the microphone so everybody
can hear, please, sir.
MR. HERRING: Sorry.
My name is Clarence Herring. I'm
from Baldwin County. I'm here in
reference to a permit system for Baldwin
County for dog hunting.
I am a resident of Baldwin County.
I am one of the landowners that's having
problems with the Halls Fork Hunting
Club. If this wasn't a board meeting, I
wouldn't be here, less than four weeks
of having a tumor removed from my leg. I own property next to the club, and I have dealt with them for the first year of the dogs being on my property and didn't say a word. The second year it was just -- it's just done got to that point.

Even after meeting with the dog-hunting association, nothing changes with this club. They continue with their ways, letting the dogs run at large. I do have to say I was wrong about Dwayne Allen with the association. He is looking out for all dog hunters and means -- if that means singling out the bad clubs and going and doing the right thing, that is what he does. I am not asking for the whole dog-hunting community to be punished. Just the ones that's causing the landowners to not be able to use their own property in a peaceful manner.

It has gotten to the point that I
offered the members of that club to buy my property, and their reaction was I should not have bought property next to a dog-hunting club of 30 years. Well, my problem with that is the real estate company didn't tell me this. They didn't tell me I was going to have to deal with the dog-hunting club for the rest of my 20 years before I retire.

So my question is, I would just -- hopefully y'all will consider putting them back -- if they're such a good club, then a permit system should not affect them. They should be able to survive within the community just like anybody else. I don't see any problems in the permit system.

So I would just hope y'all consider -- continue that thought about putting Baldwin County or either that section -- not all of Baldwin County. It doesn't have to be -- that's the only club that I know of that's having a
problem in reference to dog -- they're just letting the dogs run onto other people's property.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Herring, have you contacted your representative, Mr. Hatley?

MR. HERRING: I have wrote letters. I've contacted the game wardens in the area. The game wardens in the area said there's no help --

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Well, if you would contact Mr. Hatley and direct your stuff through Mr. Hatley, I think you'll find an ear that --

MR. HERRING: Okay. After 14 years of law enforcement, when a game warden tells you there's nothing you can do, there's a problem with the game wardens in south Baldwin County.

MR. DOBBS: Chairman?

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes, Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: Just two questions for edification.
How many acres of land do you have?

MR. HERRING: I own 50 acres personally and I lease 240 acres and I lease another 800 acres in Baldwin County in the same area.

MR. DOBBS: So with regard to the Halls Fork Hunting Club that you're talking about, how much land do they have that is adjacent to yours or total land that you know of, that you're aware of?

MR. HERRING: The only thing I'm aware of, they run little 80 acres, 200 acres, and they have a 600-acre plot. But they have a tendency of running small-acre pieces of property, and there's no way to keep the dogs -- the minute the dogs get on the ground, they're already on the next piece of property.

MR. DOBBS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Commissioner, did you have a comment?

COMMISSIONER GUY: No.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Herring.
MR. HERRING: Thank you, guys.

MR. HATLEY: Chairman Moultrie?

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes. Mr. Hatley.

MR. HATLEY: I will be glad to meet with him at any time.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Very good.

The next speaker will be T.J. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: I'm T.J. Thompson from Phillipsville in Bay Minette, Alabama. My concern is about the same thing as Mr. Herring's. I came to the last meeting and spoke.

A lot of people has asked me if this has been going on for so long why did I wait until now to do it. As an adult and hunting all my life, I could kind of move around. And, yeah, I've grumbled and complained with this club, and we've grumbled back and forth. But as an adult I could move.

I got a son now that hunts with me. And, you know, he just -- you can't move
a child to go climb a tree here and
there because he has to sit in a
shooting house. I just don't feel
confident putting a child in a climber.

He told me two years ago that he
didn't want to hunt anymore because all
we got to see when we went over there
was dogs coming through this plot.
I made up my mind then. That hit home
because I wanted to make memories with
my son hunting as long as everybody --
you know, as well as everybody else
does. But when he told me that, that
hit deep.

So that's why I was at the last
meeting and I'm at this one. I just
want some relief in Baldwin County so
that we can hunt in peace, you know,
just like everybody else does. Thank
you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Thompson.

The next speaker is Jack Hall.

MR. HALL: My name is Jack Hall. I'm a member
of Halls Fork Hunting Club. I'm a retired schoolteacher, 35 years of service. Just recently retired and moved back to my hometown of Bay Minette, which is located in Baldwin County. I'd like to talk to you about a couple of things. One is about heritage, and that's what I'm going to talk on first.

I'm a dog hunter because of my heritage. My dad, which is 91 years old, which is still a member of Halls Fork Hunting Club, basically got me started when I was four and five and six years old. Me and my siblings would load up in a '52 Chevrolet pickup truck with my dad. This is before seatbelts and constraint laws. We would ride all the way to Tensaw, Alabama, and hunt on a small hunting club up there by the name of Box Branch Hunting Club.

The joy that I got hunting with my dad back in those days. He would always
take me with him. He would put me up on
the dog box, and my job was to call the
dogs. And as they would come in, he
would give me a good you're a good dog
caller, thank you very much.

And my excitement with my dad
continues today. He's hard of hearing.
He has hearing aids. And we go hunting
one night a week. We hunt fox and
coyotes. And we sit there at the camp
and we listen to the dogs run and we
pick them up the next morning. And he
still goes and we enjoy spending time
together with the dogs that we have
today.

Another thing I'd like to talk about
is we've been in contact with landowners
of our hunting club. We've invited them
to come to our hunting camp and talk to
us about things that we can do to
improve, are there any problems. We've
been in contact with the landowners by
letter. One of the landowners gave us a
speech about not just being seen during hunting season, but to be seen 12 months of the year not only just hunting, but doing things for the community.

We have several things that we've worked on and improved on. One thing is we have a community fish fry coming up. Y'all all are invited. We're inviting our entire community to come and take part in. It starts about two o'clock next Saturday, and it'll run till about dark. We'll have some musical entertainment and games for the kids to play.

We also have another thing that we're going to do and that's a community cleanup day where the club is going to organize and simply clean the roads -- not on the hunting club itself, but out in the actual community. And we're actually doing other things with some of the elderly in the community as well.

MS. JONES: Time.
MR. HALL: We feel like Halls Fork, which is 40 years old -- we like to think that we'll be there another 40 years, and we're taking the steps to try to be there. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Thank you, Mr. Hall.

The next speaker will be Don Knight.

MR. KNIGHT: I'm Don Knight, state president of the Alabama Dog Hunters Association. And at the last meeting we had two problem situations, one in Colbert County and one in Baldwin County. I have been involved in both of them very extensively. The situation in both cases is pretty much personal. It's -- I hate that dog hunting is being involved in them, but there's an awful lot of personal -- and I can't even talk -- problems in both of those situations.

Both dog-hunting clubs in these situations are making corrections in their way of hunting to try to help
these problems. Both of them have
agreed to do whatever they can.

The one in Colbert County -- and
Mr. Buddy will talk on it a little bit
later -- they went to the point of
giving up a Wednesday and a Saturday not
to turn their dogs loose period, okay,
except the last Saturday and Wednesday
of the season. That is a big step.
They want to communicate with the
people.

And I'll be honest with you. When I
had that meeting between the landowners
up there and the people in Colbert
County, the dog-hunting club, the
landowner had nothing. I finally just
adjourned the meeting and stated that we
weren't getting anywhere. If you put
those clubs on a permit system, they're
going to be at a tremendous disadvantage
and especially that one in Colbert
County.

Now, another thing that I want to go
over right quick is that permit system. I got a copy of it, and it doesn't read
today like it used to read.

When we originally sat on that
board --

Mr. Hatley is the only one left that
was on that board and myself. And I was
on the board.

-- we agreed that any situation to
cause a problem, in other words, the
three complaints that you can get, they
had to be legitimate -- turning the dogs
loose on their property, something that
would get a citation, not just the dogs
running across the land. I would never
have agreed to that. And I sat on that
committee meeting and there's no way.
There had to be legitimate problems that
a citation could be written for. And I
would like for that to be checked into
and go back to Mr. Grant Lynch's -- when
he put up the permit system and
everything.
These people have no chance if it's just a dog running across the property and they're going to call it. We'll have situations where people have stopped on the side of the road -- and I'm not saying these two people will. I'm not saying these people are complaining against this. But I'm telling you we have had problems with the landowners or the complainers stopping, picking up our dogs on the side of the road, and taking them to their property. Now, three of those and they're gone.

MS. JONES: Time.

MR. KNIGHT: That's just a little bit too much. And I want y'all to consider looking at that situation. I'll meet with any committee, anything we can do on the permit system. So I ask you to take a look at that.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Bunn.

MR. BUNN: Mr. Knight, I do want to commend
you. And we all -- I think I can speak for the board. We all appreciate your involvement in trying to help us with these problems.

But one thing I do have an issue with -- and I appreciate Halls Fork in -- y'all getting involved in the community. That's great. But it's my opinion -- and I don't know if it's anybody else's opinion -- but it shouldn't be Mr. Herring's or any other private landowner's responsibility to keep somebody else's dogs, you know, off their property. You know, that's -- he's a private landowner, and that's infringing on -- you know, onto his property and infringing on the way he likes to hunt.

And it gets to a point where -- and I think he seemed like a reasonable fellow. If it gets to a point where they cannot control their dogs, then it really leaves us no choice but to, you
know, put clubs like that on permits. Because, you know, as a private landowner, you shouldn't be responsible for your neighbor's dogs. That should be their responsibility.

MR. KNIGHT: I agree. I agree wholeheartedly. And that's what our clubs are setting up to try to do now is do more things to keep those dogs off that property in the one in Colbert County and also the one in Baldwin County. Both of them -- Halls Fork, they're agreeing to cut down on their dogs to try to -- where people can keep them off the land --

MR. BUNN: How big of an area are they releasing the dogs on, Mr. Knight?

MR. KNIGHT: In Halls Fork, I think -- what have y'all got -- 3,000 acres?

(Crowd responds.)

MR. KNIGHT: 35, 3600. I've got a map of their area.

MR. BUNN: One contiguous lot or is it --
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We got a highway dividing one half of it, and then we got a -- probably about a 20-acre block that actually -- all of our land would actually join if you actually look at a map.

MR. KNIGHT: And I had them send me a map where I had it in front of me to look at that, because I don't want people running a hundred acres there or 200 acres there. I mean, that's going to cause problems. If they don't have a big enough set of acres, I'm going to tell them you don't need to run dogs there.

CHAIRMAN M OULTRIE: Any other questions from the board?

Mr. Hartzog.

MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman, Don has made the statement that there have been some changes in the way the original -- when Grant did the original permit system and the way it's worded now. You know, I
would like for the department to send all the members of the board a copy of the way it's written now and the way it was written back when Grant presented it so that we can review what Don has said.

The second comment, Don, right at the first of your comments you said that -- I've forgotten exactly how you worded it -- but said that it would be a hardship --

MR. DOBBS: Disadvantage.

MR. HARTZOG: Huh?

MR. DOBBS: Disadvantage.

MR. KNIGHT: Disadvantage, yeah.

MR. HARTZOG: Okay. That was the word you used.

But as long as the club -- you know, from the area that we had a problem with that you helped me with two years ago around Titus, you know, from what I understand now -- you know, I actually got calls -- a "thank you" because
everything was running good. So why is it a disadvantage when now it's working so good in Titus with why -- explain to me the disadvantage that the gentlemen in Colbert County would have where it seems to be working well in other permit areas.

MR. KNIGHT: Well, I don't like to do this, but I will. It's the people. It's the people, whether they want to try to get along, they want to try to keep people hunting.

A dog running across the property, as long as the people are working with them and they're trying to keep off of them and they know that, then they should be willing to help a little bit. And a dog every now and then should not be that big a problem. A dog every day, a dog every time you go out in the woods, yes, sir, that's a problem. And that's what our clubs are meeting on now trying to resolve.
But it depends on the people. Those people down there were very willing to work with the dog clubs and make it happen. In these two situations, I have met with these people -- and I don't like to be ugly about the people. I like the people. I want them all hunting. But they're not willing to -- in one case we got the man fussing about the dogs running on the other property. He's fussing about the dogs -- not only the dogs, but the four-wheelers. How you going to make --

CHAIRMAN MOULTON: Does the board have any other questions for Mr. Knight?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTON: Thank you, Mr. Knight.

MR. BUNN: Thank you, Don.

CHAIRMAN MOULTON: The next speaker will be Susan Morrow.

MS. MORROW: Good morning, Chairman, Members of the Board. I'm Susan Morrow from Mobile County. I think y'all all know
me. You should by now.

Anyway, I would like to -- I hope that y'all are voting today to give us back our ten days where y'all did the season shift, the ten days in December. That would be a big plus for us. And I think Mr. Sykes recommended it. And we thank you for that.

And I would also like to ask y'all to look into hog hunting with dogs on management areas. We're not asking for a whole lot. It is a big sport and it is done entirely different than deer hunting. And it is very controllable. And I think that with 37 management areas in this state that we ought to be able to let the hog hunters come on at least one or two, three or four. I mean, we have four that we can dog hunt with deer on, and there's 37. And so the other 37 you can basically stalk hunt on. So I would like for y'all to please look at that and let's see if we
couldn't get something for our hog
hunters.

And if you have any questions about
it, you can go hog hunting with these
guys at any time. They would be more
than happy to take you to show you how
it's done. It's very organized. It's
not like -- well, I'm not saying that
deer hunting with dogs is not
organized. It could be better organized
on the Upper Delta. But it's
entirely -- it's a different thing.
It's like coon hunting. Coon hunting is
different. So don't mistake me there,
now. But I would like for y'all to look
at that.

And also I would like for the board
to look at -- I know that the state does
a lot of shooting to do studies of the
deer. Well, we have Alabama Hunger
Relief Program in this state, and they
do pay processors to process the deer
meat to give to charities and things.
And from what I understand from
Mr. Sykes, that the deer is no good.

If we knew, we could coordinate. We
could get people there that would go out
and get the deer and skin the deer and
take it to food processors. We have
people with refrigerated trucks. And it
would be paid for. So the deer would
not go to waste. And there is people in
this state that don't even get to kill a
deer during the season and they hunt.
But they would be more than happy to be
there to clean the deer, go get the
deer -- wouldn't have to do any of
that -- for the deer meat so it wouldn't
be threwed away. And I would appreciate
it if y'all would look into this.

MS. JONES: Time.

MS. MORROW: I thank y'all for all that you
do. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Ms. Morrow.

The next speaker is John Pfeffer.

MR. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman?
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes, sir.

MR. HARTZOG: I have one question.

What is the policy on WMAs as to hog hunting? Is there no regulations, Chuck?

MR. SYKES: As far as dogs, no.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Director Sykes.

MR. HARTZOG: Excuse me?

MR. SYKES: As far as running with dogs, no.

MR. HARTZOG: No. But say, for instance, if I wanted to go still hunting on Barbour WMA --

MR. SYKES: There are numerous hog-hunting opportunities throughout the WMA system.

MR. HARTZOG: It's what, now?

MR. SYKES: There are numerous hunting opportunities for hogs throughout the WMA system. It's in all the packets. Each WMA that has hogs has -- some have special seasons. Some have where you can harvest hogs during any season. If you're squirrel hunting and you see a hog, you can harvest one. So we're --
there's opportunities to hog hunt on the WMAs.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker is John Pfeffer.

MR. PFEFFER: My name is John Pfeffer. This is my second time having to come to one of these meetings.

I'm with Halls Fork Hunting Club, a dog hunter. Been a dog hunter for years. I've been -- my grandaddy took me on a club not far from where I grew up. And where I'm at now is basically my hometown, born and raised there, in Perdido, which is there in Halls Fork -- you know, right next to the Halls Fork community.

I've been hunting there for about six years now. Well, this will be my sixth year actually as a club member, and everything has been going great. Been having a real good time with family. I hunt there with two of my children, two boys, and my wife. My
wife don't always go, but it's mostly
just my two boys and I. We chose this
club because of the people that's
actually in this club. They care a lot
about the children and stuff that
actually hunts with us. That's their
main goal. I mean, a lot of the older
generation don't even carry a gun. They
just want, you know, the younger kids to
have a gun. They got their gun with
them, but 90 percent of the time it's
not even out in their hands. They got
little kids with their Red Rider BB guns
ready to shoot.

But we've had some issues, you know,
last hunting season that we've, you
know, been trying to address since last
hunting -- or this past hunting season.
And we've been talking about different
things, and we've actually -- it's like,
you know, Mr. Jack Hall was speaking
about awhile ago. He said that, you
know, you only want to hunt during the
hunting season. Then, you know, like the community said, hey, you need to make it where it's something where it's kind of like 12 months, you know, instead of just making it deer-hunting season. That's what we're kind of doing. And it's actually brought our club even closer together than what it was as far as, you know, how we're doing things. It's just like they said, the community cleanup. We always had an annual fish fry, but we've actually went out this time and actually got -- went a little bit bigger scale with our annual fish fry on getting people to come out to this.

The dog issue that we've had, 90 percent of our dogs now have tracking units on them. I would say 50 percent of them is GPS tracking units. It's better to locate your dogs, you know, with the GPS units. You can pinpoint exactly where they're at, get ahead of
them, cut them off, bring them back to you.

Used to you could use -- years ago you could turn a Running Walker loose and just let him run and just listen to him run. These days you can't. Property is being swapped hands from property owner to property owner to property owner to where it eventually gets to where somebody's got it that don't like dogs or, you know, vice versa.

Well, we've talked to a few still-stalk hunters that actually is around in our area. They're willing to work with us. We're willing to work with them on it. We've actually asked them a few things about some changes that could be made around there. And, you know, one of the things was brought up about how many days we do hunt. Well, we're -- that's in the making -- of us cutting back on our hunting
schedule and hunting days as far as how many days we hunt.

The next thing is, is when we turn loose, we try to keep -- you know, be respectful to the stalk hunters. Because I'm a stalk hunter myself. But -- and my boys are. But as a stalk hunter, you got to look at what time you turn your dogs loose.

MS. JONES: Time.

MR. PFEFFER: A stalk hunter usually gets in there about eight, 8:30, maybe nine o'clock. They'll come down at nine o'clock when it ain't rut. And we don't normally turn our dogs loose till about nine o'clock. And that's something we pretty much stay to is that. And we don't hunt the areas close to the stalk hunters and try to give them time to actually get out. And then midday that's the side we'll hunt, and then we'll leave that side, so --

CHAIRMAN MOULTREY: Mr. Pfeffer, have you
contacted and worked with Mr. Hatley?

MR. PFEFFER: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Okay. Very good. Just wanted to make sure you knew who your district representative was.

MR. PFEFFER: Yes, sir. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Thank you very much, Mr. Pfeffer.

The next speaker is Chase Waddle.

MR. WADDLE: Good morning. How y'all doing?

I'm here on behalf of Halls Fork Hunting Club today. I'd like to thank you for having us. I'd like to start by telling you a little bit about myself.

I've been a part of this club for about eight years, going on nine this year. The last two years I've had the opportunity to spend with my five-year-old son and on occasions sometimes my wife will go with me. For me, it's not all about hunting. It's about spending time with my family, teaching my son to hunt the same way I
was taught. My dad took me dog hunting when I was four years old. Instantly I was hooked and not much has changed a generation later. My son probably loves to go more than I do. For him it's just not going hunting. He enjoys playing with other boys and girls who come with their parents and grandparents.

Most of the club members in our club have been a part of the Halls Fork community all their lives. For me, being a part of the club makes me feel like being a part of the community. As the hunting club as a whole, we're always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone and everyone. Like Mr. Pfeffer was saying, we try to schedule our hunts on the weekend after 9 a.m. out of just pure respect to the still hunters around us.

We also have the fish fry every year, and we invite everyone in the community to come. The fish fry and the
work day that we're going to plan this year is just not a great way to give back to our community; it's also great morals being taught to our children to come out and help and give back to their community and help anyone who needs any kind of help in their community.

I'm sure everyone in this room hunts or has hunted before. That being said, it takes a little effort from everyone, both parties, to keep our hunting tradition alive. Whether you hunt deer, turkey, squirrel, coon, it doesn't matter. We're all blessed to hunt and share the same tradition our forefathers did before us. Over the years in this club I've met some great friends and great people, and I hope our traditional way of hunting with dogs continues for generations to come. I'd personally like to thank you for having our hunting club today. I hope you have a great day. Any questions?
(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you very much, Mr. Waddle.

The next speaker is Buddy Willis.

MR. WILLIS: Commissioner, Dan, Board, my name is Buddy Willis. I'm from Cherokee, Alabama. That's located in Colbert County. I've been hunting in that county for 60 years.

We was here two months ago.

Mr. Worsham and Mr. Thompson made some complaints on our dogs running across their property. Well, I'd say five years ago Mr. Worsham and his daddy was a member of our club, and they had no problems at all with our dogs. Our dogs run deer over them. The two gentlemen sitting back there has killed deer in front of our dogs. And when we asked them to pay their part of planting the green fields, et cetera, et cetera, they didn't want to do it no more. They would pull their land out and hunt like
they wanted to.

So we was here last -- two months ago, and we come up with this idea to have a meeting with these people. And Mr. Jones, we thought he was going to be there, but he wasn't able to make it. And Don was there. Four officers was there from the wardens, and they heard what was said. And we got minutes of it. And we offered them 14 days -- which there's 55 days of running dogs in Colbert County. We offered them 14 days of that back just so we could run our dogs.

The majority of those people that's in this club is 55 or older. Some of us have double-knee replacements. Four of us has got prostate cancer, can't move, this, that, and the other. And we have no other way to get around in those hills up there other -- to make a deer move other than put a little dog after it. I've got some dogs that's -- one of
them's 14, one of them's 12, and the
other one's about ten. And I know for a
fact that they run deer over to
Mr. Worsham and his daddy. And now this
is a personal thing, the only thing I
can see.

I'm asking you to consider them
making a counteroffer to what we made to
them. I mean, we hadn't broke any
laws. I don't know what to say about
it. I mean, what can you say if you
hadn't broke any laws and paid any
fines? But we were willing to turn our
dogs loose way beyond them or whatever.

Another issue was we was accused of
running our dogs on the management area,
which we figured the Saturdays and
Wednesdays north of the Natchez Trace,
that's the day that Forever Wild has
their hunt.

MS. JONES: Time.

MR. WILLIS: We figured that would help that.

So I don't know what else I can say.
Gentlemen, I thank you for your time. And, then again, 15 seconds. I'm going to give you 14 of it back like it was last time you wasn't here.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Willis. And I wasn't going to say anything about that.

The next speaker is Paul Jeffreys.

MR. JEFFREYS: Chairman, Members of the Board, I'm from Lamar County. My name is Paul Jeffreys. I've been coming to these meetings for several years.

And I just want to take this opportunity to thank you for the season and bag limits that you set in Lamar County in our area of the state. They worked out very well. We just ask that y'all continue to keep them the same as they are. Don't want to make any changes.

This past deer season we had some problems in Marion County on a piece of property of my family with night
hunters. I would like to, while I've
got the mic up here, just commend
Captain Johnson and his officers in that
district. They worked diligently. And
I believe there was one arrest made. So
they did a wonderful job.

And, Chief, I would like to commend
your officers in that part of the
state. They really worked on it.

But long story short, I'd just like
to ask you to keep our seasons the way
they are -- seasons and bag limits, not
make any changes in that part. Thank
you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Jeffreys.

The next speaker is Randy Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes,
I'm Randy Thompson from Cherokee,
Alabama, and that's in west Colbert
County.

And we're here today mainly to say I
think we're moving in the right
direction maybe to help our problem.
But we have had a problem for years with
the dog hunting -- not necessarily with
the dog hunting, but the dog hunting
running on our property.

And, again, I just want to say I
think we've made a step in the right
direction. I understand there's a
motion on the table. And we put up with
this for a long time. And in 2013 I
believe we were here for the meeting and
kind of brought this to the attention of
the board and then again this past
meeting.

And we -- to bring you up to speed a
little bit, they've already mentioned
the meeting that we had. We did get a
call that the Blanton Hill Club wanted
to meet with us, and we agreed to meet
with them. We were told there would be
five or six of their members of the club
and then we knew it would be four or
two landowners and we agreed to that.
And I'll have to say, when we got there,
it looked more like a town meeting or a football game.

There was -- about all the club members were there. There was a Colbert County Commissioner there. There was two ladies there that addressed themselves as attorneys. And I'll have to say, after they found out we didn't really like that, they -- including Mr. Willis, he offered to leave. And he and his sons, I think, did leave. We didn't have any problem really with anybody being there, but the problem was there were people there making comments that didn't know anything about the problem.

Mr. Knight -- I wasn't going to say anything about him being there, but he was there. If you can picture this: We've got a meeting between a club that's supposed to be five members and five landowners and we've got the president of the Alabama Dog Hunters
Club presiding over the meeting. Now, there's something wrong with that situation.

So a lot of the people that were there that witnessed -- because of the comments that he made, it made it look like we were the culprits. And trust me, people, we're not bothering anybody.

It's just like somebody said earlier. I don't have a problem with the dogs running. I don't have a problem hearing dogs in the distance. But we've got documentation. Mr. Jones has got documentation we sent him. We've got pictures of dogs under our shooting houses, on our green fields over and over.

So we're not being -- we're not being unreasonable here. All we're asking is that we be able to hunt the way we want to hunt. And I wish they could hunt the way they want to hunt,
but obviously they don't have enough
property to do that. Because it seems
no matter where they turn the dogs loose
they end up on top of us. And that's
the only problem we got. I don't have
anything personal with anybody, but I
would like for me and my family --

MS. JONES: Time.

MR. THOMPSON: -- to be able to hunt.

And if I could just say one more
thing.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Go ahead, please, sir.

MR. THOMPSON: The one proposal that they made
for those two days they wanted to give
up, what they're telling us is -- in
short, if you look at it like this,
they're telling us you can hunt two days
out of the week the way you want to hunt
and we'll hunt five days out of the week
the way we want to hunt. Now, I don't
think that's -- I don't think that's
reasonable.

But thank you for your
consideration. And, again, I think we're headed in the right direction. I appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN MOULTREE: Thank you, Mr. Thompson.

The next speaker is Mike Worsham.

MR. WORSHAM: My name is Mike Worsham. My place is in north Colbert County north of Cherokee, and I'm the problem that Mr. Knight referred to in his comments. And anytime the facts don't support a group's position on an issue, they resort to personal attacks, and that's what the Blanton Hill Hunting Club is doing right here.

They're talking about their willingness to meet with us and talk about the issues. We tried to talk with them numerous years before 2013 when we appeared before the board. Buddy Willis' last statement to my dad was, Gene, you might as well go on; we're going to do what we want to do. And that's what led us to appear before the
board in 2013. Came back and they didn't -- didn't try to get with us in 2013. Nothing changed in this last year.

So they -- they did want to meet with us after they talked. The board was going to consider putting Colbert County on the permit system. We had the meeting. And Randy talked about the meeting. We didn't understand there were going to be five or six members. They said they would bring five or six members so it would just be a discussion between the two groups.

The issue is dogs running on our properties. It's not an occasional dog. It's not hearing a dog. We have pictures. I have a video of one running under a stand. We have dogs on our property every day that we hunt just about -- I mean, not every day -- practically every day that we hunt.

We don't -- you know, they agreed to
the days that they would not turn their
dogs loose. Well, that in itself
implies that they can't keep the dogs
off of our property when they turn them
loose. So they're giving up 14 days.
Well, you know, you don't hunt very many
Wednesdays, or I don't. So that means
seven days out of a 55-day season that
they're giving us back -- giving us --
to hunt. And, you know, what good does
that do if the dogs have been all over
your property the other six days of the
week.

So they talk about putting standers
on the property line to catch the dogs
as they cross. Very hilly terrain, pine
thicket. I just don't think that'll
work. They've asked us to call them
when the dogs are on our property. We
will do that, but your hunt is already
ruined when the dogs are on the
property.

So we'd like to ask that you put
them on the permit system if these remedies are going to work. It won't have any effect on them. They -- they have shown an unwillingness to abide by voluntary restrictions, and this will just be a reminder that if they don't make a concerted effort to keep the dogs on the property that they lease and off of our properties, then there will be repercussions.

You know, this is not just an occasional thing. The dogs are on our property every time we hunt. So I'd like to ask y'all to consider putting this on the -- the area of Colbert County on the permit system.

And, for the record, I've never been a member of Blanton Hill Hunting Club, ever.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Worsham.

That concludes our speakers. For the next order of business, before we get into old business, I want to call on
Commissioner Guy. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Chairman Moultrie. Two things of housekeeping that I just forgot. I apologize to the public and the members of the board.

One of them was the minutes -- where we approved the minutes, there was a request by Director Sykes at our last meeting on March 1, 2014 -- on page 16, he made a reference to a population estimate, and he said the word "5,000" and it was supposed to be "500,000." And Director Sykes would like to make that correction to the mistake in the number he said. But he wanted to -- in case it was read later, he wanted to make that correction.

So I would ask the board, if they would -- if somebody would make a motion to approve that correction to the minutes of March 1, 2014.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hartzog.

MR. HARTZOG: So made.
MR. JONES: Second.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Got a motion and a second to amend the minutes from the previous motion approving them. All of those in favor raise your right hand.

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Let the record show it's unanimous.

COMMISSIONER GUY: And just so -- the court reporter got it right. We just made the mistake. I see her staring at me.

And then, lastly, I forgot to call on Chris Blankenship. If Chris -- Director Blankenship would come up to the microphone.

There have been a lot of questions about red snapper season, and I think that we've gotten the word out that that's controlled by the federal authorities. But I think Chris would like the opportunity to address that so
that people might can get a better understanding of what is happening and what we're trying to do.

Thank you, Chris.

MR. BLANKENSHIP: Thank you, Commissioner.

We have a lot of good things going on in coastal Alabama like Mr. Bates mentioned with the planting the shells for the oyster reef and so many other things. But the one issue that causes the most consternation down there and probably in a lot of your districts as well has to do with the red snapper management.

This year it looks like on the federal season it will be somewhere between nine and 11 days for red snapper season, and that is caused by several factors that go into that. Two of the factors is the inadequate stock assessment that is done by the federal government that sets the total amount of red snapper that can be harvested, and
the other -- another thing is the poor
data collection for the landing
information that they collect. I want
to just catch you up briefly on the
things that we're doing with the Marine
Resources division to try and improve
those two particular areas.

One, on the stock assessment, we
funded research for several years --
Dr. Shipp, some of the work that he's
done at the University of South Alabama,
Dr. Powers, and then Dr. Szedlemeyer
with Auburn University and our own
staff -- on the artificial reef system
off the coast of Alabama to include more
of the information from those areas in
the stock assessment. And we are
currently participating in an exercise
to where we do our own stock assessment
off the coast of Alabama -- and we
should have that in the next month or
so -- to show -- so that our scientists
can show exactly what is off the coast
of Alabama and to work with the federal
government to improve their stock
assessment.

But most importantly today, where it
affects the board, is the collection of
the red snapper landings data. The
information system that the federal
government uses changed in 2013, and it
has not been proven to be accurate in
that year. The high landings rate that
they're using now to set the season is
the reason that red snapper season is
extremely short this year, and that will
affect the triggerfish season, amberjack
season, grouper season, you know, all of
those fisheries.

And so we have proposed at the last
meeting to implement a red snapper
reporting system here in Alabama. And
we do have good consensus on that. We
received letters of support from the
Orange Beach Fishing Association, the
Coastal Conservation Association, the
Dauphin Island Marina, many other charter captains, and then e-mails of support from people in the recreational fishing community. Because we think that if we can show what's actually being landed in Alabama and work with the federal government moving forward that we can improve this -- improve the process and the way that they set the red snapper season on one side. And as we try and move to take over the management of red snapper from the federal government, this information from this -- from red snapper landings from the red snapper reporting system that we would like to implement will be integral in being able to do that.

There was also a lawsuit recently that caused the federal government to change some of the way that they are managing the fishery -- you know, we're having to use some of this 2013 data -- and some inflexibility in the
Magnuson-Stevens Act that mandates how the Gulf Council and National Marine Fisheries Service has to manage the fishery. So those are outside issues that we are working on as well in different manners. We're working with our congressional delegations to make some changes to the Magnuson Act, as it's going to be reauthorized in the next year or two, to create some flexibility there.

And then we also passed -- worked with our state legislators to pass a bill this year that extended our state waters from three miles to nine miles. Now, that has only been passed in the state legislature and still needs some federal concurrence. But we are working with Senators Shelby and Sessions and then also our congressmen, Congressman Byrne in particular, to make some -- to make that -- include that in the Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization for all
of the upper Gulf Coast states so that we would all have our state waters be extended out to nine miles.

And Mr. Bates made some -- had some good comments about the commercial fishery. And I just want to, you know, reiterate that nothing that we're proposing with the red snapper reporting or these other issues that we're working on with the stock assessment would hurt the commercial fishery in any way. All that we're trying to do is improve the stock assessment, which would help on the -- increase the amount of pounds of red snapper that can be harvested by both sectors. And this red snapper reporting is -- would really just -- would just be for the recreational/charter sector. The commercial fishery is already under a different system that is working very well, and we're not proposing to make any changes to that.
So I tried to make an extremely complicated and a lot of moving-parts process down into about five minutes because I know we're all -- but I'll be glad to answer any questions that you have. And I would appreciate as we move forward with the red snapper reporting regulation --

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Blankenship -- and you or Dr. Shipp can answer it, but I've got a question that I want the board to know.

Is our resource of red snapper, as they decrease our limits year after year and this year to a new -- I guess it's never been this low that I remember. Is our resource growing, is it staying the same, or is it declining? What are our red snapper numbers doing?

MR. BLANKENSHIP: The resource -- you know, we feel the resource off the coast of Alabama is increasing. We have a great fishery here. And that -- we feel that
that's not being adequately reflected in
the federal stock assessment. And so
that's why we are working to do our own
stock assessment off the coast of
Alabama.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Dr. Shipp.

DR. SHIPP: Yeah. I'd like to follow up on
what Chris said and also ask the board
for, I guess, a favor.

As Chris said, right now in congress
the Magnuson Act is under revision. And
a little background, Florida and Texas
do have a nine-mile territorial sea.
Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana only
have three miles.

Our congressional delegation is
working to extend it to nine miles, and
we could have a viable fishery if we had
a nine-mile territorial sea. It also
would probably end the federal season.
Because it's down to nine days, eight
days right now. Louisiana just declared
a year-around opening. The day after
the Fishery Council decided on 11 days, Louisiana said to heck with it, we're going to open it year around.

So we're at a point where the federal season is just about closed. And so I don't know whether it's -- a resolution is appropriate or not. But I would ask this board to support our congressional delegation in attempting to get a territorial sea extension for nine miles throughout the state of Alabama.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Very good. Dr. Shipp, if you would draw that up, I'm sure we could have that by the end of the meeting if you wanted to write that up real quick.

DR. SHIPP: I will so do it.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. And, Dr. Shipp or Mr. Blankenship, what is -- so that the board knows, too, in the three-mile limit and the nine-mile limit, what is the average depth out at the nine-mile
limit and the three-mile limit, and how does it affect snapper -- the holdings of snapper?

DR. SHIPP: The nine-mile limit, my estimation is that it would probably be between 60- and 80-feet deep. It's not the best, but we have enough structure there that, you know, in the worst-case scenario we could have a viable fishery out to nine miles. The best-depth -- snapper go out to a hundred fathoms and, you know, so that's 40, 50 miles off the coast. But 40 to 60 feet is about the depth.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: In your estimation, how many days would that nine-mile limit support?

DR. SHIPP: We could have 180-day season with a two-fish bag limit. You know, there would be fewer fish than there are now, but right now what's the use of having all these big fish if you can't catch them.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Any other questions from
the board?

Mr. Bunn, did you have a question?

Go ahead.

MR. BUNN: He answered it.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Any other questions?

MR. DOBBS: Chairman?

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: I wanted to add on to that. As part of what you're talking about, Dr. Shipp, the reef structure, what majority of that -- what percentage of that is manmade?

DR. SHIPP: Off of Alabama the vast majority is manmade. We have 17,000 artificial reef structures off the Alabama coast. Actually, more than 20,000 have been put out, but with storms and so forth they get buried and then they get uncovered. But we now, using side-scan sonar, have identified 17,000. And every one of them holds anywhere from a hundred to a thousand pounds of snapper. So you do the math. We could have a viable
fishery here. This system from the federal government is insane. It's absolutely insane.

MR. DOBBS: With that being said, if the fishery continues to be limited, I suspect that people will limit the number of reefs that they put out -- municipalities and state governments or individuals -- to attract these fish, and that's not good.

MR. BLANKENSHIP: And that's already -- that already has taken place.

MR. DOBBS: And that's happening, so -- and we want to encourage that.

DR. SHIPP: We do. And I warn against the use of attract. They produce.

MR. DOBBS: Produce.

DR. SHIPP: They don't attract them from somewhere else. In fact, our research indicates that our snapper stocks off Alabama have provided snapper to the west coast of Florida. Our tagged snapper show up there. And it's a boom
to the whole Gulf, not just Alabama.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Any other questions?

  Commissioner McMillan.

COMMISSIONER McMILLAN: I want to be sure I understand this. It actually takes congressional action to extend the nine-mile --

MR. BLANKENSHP: Yes, sir.

MR. McMILLAN: And, secondly, I certainly would be in favor of a resolution to extend it out.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Absolutely. Write quickly, Dr. Shipp, before the end of the meeting.

      Very good. Anything else?

DR. SHIPP: I'm ready.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Okay. Dr. Shipp.

DR. SHIPP: Real simply, that the Conservation Advisory Board support the efforts of our congressional delegation to extend the territorial seas in the state of Alabama to nine miles.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Okay. This is not a
motion. It's a resolution?

DR. SHIPP: That's correct.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: All of those in favor of
supporting this raise your hand.

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Let the record show it's
unanimous to support the resolution.

Thank you, Mr. Blankenship.

MR. BLANKENSHIP: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Okay. The next order of
business is old business. And unless
anybody else has old business to be
brought up, I'm showing that we're clear
on that, and we'll move right into new
business with motions.

Does anyone on the board have a
motion they need to make in new business
or any other new business?

Mr. Jones.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, as this board has
known for the last two to three years,
we've had some issues in Colbert County
with dog -- concerning dog deer hunting.
And I have researched this. I've talked
to the landowners, talked to some -- the
dog hunters, talked to various members
of the government that work up there,
the county commissioners, the sheriff,
also spoken with our wildlife officers
and tried to get a better handle of the
situation that we're facing. I'd
particularly like to thank all of those
people, but especially I'd like to thank
Don Knight and the Alabama Dog Hunters
Association for doing what they've done
in trying to help resolve that
situation.

And, Mr. Knight, you do a great
service for your association. You lead
them well. Thank you for that.

Unfortunately, though, as we've
heard here today, the two user groups
are still at an impasse. So I've had
to -- would like to present to the board
this morning a motion to place a small area of extreme northwest Colbert County under the permit system.

    Best I can tell, this is only about ten percent of the county. So it is a very small isolated area. But this way it will ensure that the dog deer hunters can continue to dog hunt in the way that they see fit without giving up any days for as long as they so choose and they abide by it within the rules of the permit. It will also ensure the landowners are able to peacefully enjoy their land without the fear of intrusion, and that is the -- what I would like to do.

    Formally, the motion I would like to make is to make that section of Colbert County bounded by the Natchez Trace Parkway west to the Mississippi state line and from U.S. Highway 72 north to the Colbert County line be placed on a permit system for dog deer hunting.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Is there a second?

MR. BUNN: Second.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: I have a second.

Mr. Bunn.

Any discussion?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Being no further decision, we have a motion that it would -- that a section of Colbert County bounded by the Natchez Trace Parkway west to the Mississippi state line and from U.S. Highway 72 north to the Colbert County line be placed on a permit system for dog hunting. All of those in favor raise your hand.

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show it was unanimous.

Thank you, Mr. Jones. Anything else, Mr. Jones?

MR. JONES: Not right now.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. And if the board --
make sure that you have a map. All the
board should have a map of that area,
and if you'll carry that with you,
please.

Okay. Anybody else, new business?

Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: I have a motion I would like to
read: A motion to approve the
regulations promulgated by the
department for the implementation of the
alligator season.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay.

MR. DOBBS: I'll read it again.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes.

MR. DOBBS: Make a motion to approve the
regulations promulgated by the
department for implementation of
alligator season.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. Is there a second?

(Mr. Hatley raises hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley seconds.

Any discussion?
(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. Mr. Dobbs, if you
would read it one more time.

MR. DOBBS: I make a motion to approve the
regulations promulgated by the
department for implementation of
alligator season.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All of those in favor
raise your hand.

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show
unanimous. The motion is passed.

Mr. Dobbs, any further motions?

MR. DOBBS: I have another motion. I make a
motion that the Department of
Conservation adopt the season and bag
and creel limits and other regulations
as contained in the packet provided to
the board previously. This would, of
course, include the changes on feral
swine, management area regs, and legal
arms and ammunition and the February
deer season.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Do I have a second?

(Mr. Hatley raises hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley, a second.

Any discussion?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. With no discussion,
we have a motion that the Department of
Conservation adopt the season and bag
limit -- bag and creel limits and other
regulations as contained in the packet
provided to the board. This would, of
course, include the changes on feral
swine, management area regs, and legal
arms ammunition and February deer
season. All of those in favor?

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect
unanimous vote. Motion is passed.

Mr. Dobbs.
MR. DOBBS: I have another motion. Request the Conservation Advisory Board and the Commissioner of Department of Conservation and Natural Resources promulgate the reporting request for red snapper and other species as provided for in Marine Resource Division Proposal Number 220-3, as well to adopt the creel limit changes to vermilion snapper (requisite with federal regulations).

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Do I have a second?

(Mr. Hatley raises hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Mr. Hatley. We have a second.

Any discussion?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Okay. We have a motion that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources promulgate the reporting request for red snapper and other species as provided for in Marine Resource Division Proposal 220-3, as well to adopt the creel limits to
vermilion snapper (requisite to federal regulation). All of those in favor?

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Let the record show unanimous. Motion carries.

Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: Another motion, please. I make a motion to approve all the department rules and regulations adopted since the last approval.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Okay. This is our general housekeeping motion. Is there a second?

MR. JONES: Second.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Mr. Jones had a second.

Any discussion?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Being no discussion, we have a motion to approve all department rules and regulations adopted since the last approval. All of those in favor?

(All board members raise hand.)
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect unanimous vote. Motion passes.

Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: I have another motion -- a motion, slash, resolution or resolution, slash, motion. I'm not sure.

Mr. Dean, I'm going to read this.

But this is a motion to endorse the efforts of Marine Resources division in their process of navigating the existing federal regulations; enacting reporting requirements for reef and other species to enable the collection of data, this data to be used to implement best practice management for Alabama's resources.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: So can that be a resolution or a motion?

MR. DEAN: I think that's a resolution.

MR. DOBBS. Resolution. That will be a resolution.
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All of those in favor of
that being voted on as a resolution that
this board adopt raise your hand.

(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect
that the board adopts that resolution.

Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: One last resolution: The
Conservation Advisory Board endorses the
progressive and positive actions of the
Division of Wildlife and Freshwater
Fisheries in managing Alabama's
resources. Further, we endorse the
positive and continued collection of
data relative to making scientific and
informed management decisions for all
the resources.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: That would be a resolution
also.

All of those in favor of supporting
that resolution raise your hand.
(All board members raise hand.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: All opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: Let the record reflect the board endorses that resolution also.

Mr. Dobbs.

MR. DOBBS: That's all of the motions and resolutions.

I just want to say to Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and to Marine Resources and others as well, not to leave anyone out, thank you so much for what you've done progressive and moving forward with what -- what's happening. The change is very refreshing. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOULTTRIE: And let me echo that support. And Chris is doing an unbelievable job, and our new director is doing an unbelievable job.

I had a chance to turkey hunt not long ago with our new director, and about the only thing that I found that
we --

COMMISSIONER GUY: Turkey hunting?

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Turkey hunting. You were
out of town. And we could have been on
your property, Commissioner Guy, but we
weren't.

But it was early, about daylight,
and we were hooting. Chuck hooted and a
turkey gobbled. And right when a
gobbler -- of course, everybody always
points their finger. Well, I pointed
this way and Chuck pointed this way. We
hooted again and then we got in unison
on it. But besides that, we had a great
hunt.

It is a pleasure to have guys -- and
as long as I've been chairman of this
board, it's never been operating as
efficiently with Marine Resources and
Conservation as it has, and I applaud
this board's acceptance of that and
especially what y'all two are doing.
You're doing an absolutely fantastic
job.

Okay. Any other new business or motions?

COMMISSIONER GUY: And let me say --
CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER GUY: -- since we've taken care of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and Marine Resources, I don't want Ms. Powell to be left out over there who -- because she does such a great job in the Lands division, particularly on all the BP oil spill. And Greg Lein.

Where is Greg?

Greg over here, Parks. Y'all have been noticing a lot of work in the parks. It's the 75th anniversary of the parks. Please don't forget it's the 75th anniversary. Support our parks. They very badly need your business. And Greg is making a lot of positive changes and doing a lot of important things to increase, you know, the efforts to make those places even better to go to.
And then who -- and, oh, Steve Thompson, Marine Police. So I think -- and help me if I'm wrong -- but between -- just so everybody will know, they don't always get the publicity they need. The Marine Police, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Marine Resources, and there may have been some Lands folks, too -- I think we had 64 -- 64 rescues during the flooding down in Baldwin County, and I think we should give them all a hand.

Our guys, you know, don't get a lot of publicity and accolades. But they do a terrific job when it comes to natural disasters, life-saving, enforcement issues, and so I'm proud of them.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: We all are.

Patti, we give you a hard time about -- and everybody knows Patti is the biggest Alabama fan there's ever been, but she dates an Auburn guy. So we give her a hard time about that. But
I'm going to give equal time here --
because I know you and Grady will like
this. We're running sort of fast today
because I have to leave because my
daughter is graduating from University
of Alabama. Why that is I have no
idea. But so there's equal time for
you.

Any other business from the board?

Mr. Jones.

MR. JONES: One thing I'd like to throw out
for us to consider doing, I
wholeheartedly agree with Chuck Sykes'
recommendation about the Game Check and
the fact that we're not using it
enough. I would like for us to maybe --
the Department to look at Tennessee's
very similar Web-based system. I found
it much easier to use than ours. And I
don't know, you know, from a technology
standpoint what they do differently.
But their system that they have for
their game-check system runs much more
smoother than ours.

CHAIRMAN MOULTRE: Very good. We'll look at that.

Okay. The next order of business is the date and location of the next Advisory Board meeting. The date has not been set. The location has not been set. And it will be announced as soon as possible. It will be in the following year unless we have to call a special meeting.

Being no further business, this meeting is adjourned.

(Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:41 a.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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STATE OF ALABAMA:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY:

I, Tracye Sadler Blackwell, Certified Court Reporter and Commissioner for the State of Alabama at Large, do hereby certify that I reported
the foregoing proceedings of the Alabama Department
of Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory
Board Meeting on May 3, 2014.

The foregoing 115 computer-printed pages
contain a true and correct transcript of the
proceedings held.

I further certify that I am neither of
kin nor of counsel to the parties to said cause nor
in any manner interested in the results thereof.

This 18th day of August 2014.

______________________________
Tracye Sadler Blackwell
ACCR No. 294
Expiration date: 9-30-2014
Certified Court Reporter
and Commissioner for the State
of Alabama at Large