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STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Pelham Civic Complex
Pelham, Alabama
March 26, 2016

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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Proceedings taken before Tracye
Sadler Blackwell, Certified Court Reporter, ACCR
No. 294, and Commissioner for the State of Alabama
at Large, at the Pelham Civic Complex, Pelham,
Alabama, on Saturday, March 26, 2016, commencing at
approximately 9:00 a.m.

* * * * *

1 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

2

3 Mr. Warren Strickland, Chairman
4 Commissioner N. Gunter Guy, Jr.
5 Commissioner John McMillan

6 Dr. Gary Lemme

7 Mr. Austin Ainsworth

8 Mr. Jeff Martin

9 Mr. Raymond Jones, Jr.

10 Mr. Grady Hartzog

11 Mr. Joseph Dobbs, Jr.

12 Mr. Patrick Cagle

13 Mr. Ben C. Stimpson, Jr.

14 Mr. Gary Wolfe

15

16

CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The March 26, 2016,

17

18 Conservation Advisory Board meeting will
19 now come to order. I hope every one of
20 you are enjoying this great spring
21 weather. Turkeys are gobbling.

22

23 The entire board would like to
welcome all of you to Pelham Civic
Complex. Great complex. And we
certainly appreciate the administrators
of the complex for allowing us the
opportunity to use it this Saturday
morning.

24

At this point please discontinue any
cell phone service.

25

1 The first item of business is the
2 invocation. Mr. Ray Jones.

3 MR. JONES: If you will, bow with me, please.

4 Our Heavenly Father, we want to
5 thank you for this beautiful spring
6 morning, this time that we can come
7 together and look outside and truly
8 marvel at how great thou art. We ask
9 your blessings on this meeting today,
10 the men and women that have traveled
11 here to make decisions based on the
12 natural resources in this great state
13 that you have so greatly blessed us
14 with. Be with us. Help us to judge
15 wisely and to make good decisions.
16 Also ask that you be with all the people
17 here as they travel home. In Jesus'
18 name we pray. Amen.

19 (Audience responds.)

20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Jones.

21 The next order of business is the
22 introduction of the ex-officio members
23 of the Conservation Advisory Board:

1 Commissioner Gunter Guy, Commissioner of
2 the Department of Conservation and
3 Natural Resources; Mr. John McMillan,
4 Commissioner of the Department of
5 Agriculture and Industries; Mr. Gary
6 Lemme, Director of the Alabama
7 Cooperative Extension System; Curtis
8 Jones, Deputy Commissioner.

9 Thank you, gentlemen. We appreciate
10 you-all's service to the Conservation
11 Advisory Board.

12 Next we will have the introduction
13 of the board members as well as the
14 congressional district that they
15 represent. And we can start on the far
16 end of the table. Please speak into the
17 mic. Give your name and congressional
18 district.

19 MR. AINSWORTH: Austin Ainsworth,
20 Congressional District 4.

21 MR. CAGLE: Patrick Cagle, District 2.

22 MR. WOLFE: Gary Wolfe, District 1.

23 MR. MARTIN: Jeff Martin, District 3.

1 MR. STIMPSON: Ben Stimpson, District 1.

2 MR. JONES: Raymond Jones, District 5.

3 MR. HARTZOG: Grady Hartzog, District 2.

4 MR. DOBBS: Joey Dobbs, District 6.

5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, gentlemen. I
6 think that's all of the introductions of
7 the board members.

8 The next order of business is the
9 approval of the minutes. The final
10 draft is not available from the
11 February 20th, 2016, Advisory Board
12 meeting. As soon as that final draft is
13 available, it will be online, and we
14 will approve those minutes with a motion
15 on our next meeting when that's held.

16 Commissioner, you have some
17 comments.

18 COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Dr. Strickland,
19 Mr. Chairman.

20 Mr. Chairman, the only thing that I
21 wanted to mention today, there are a lot
22 of people here. Appreciate everybody
23 being here today. A lot of people that

1 I know and know are big advocates of our
2 game here in the state of Alabama and
3 we're glad to have you here.

4 There's a couple of things after the
5 first meeting that I wanted to mention
6 just in case you're here to speak about
7 it. One was we had a lot of discussion
8 at the last meeting about turkeys and
9 seasons and bag limits in the state, and
10 some of that information ran wild, like
11 it tends to do. But the discussion was
12 very good. It was an informative
13 discussion. And that's what it was
14 meant to be.

15 But what I wanted everybody to know
16 that's here today, in case they were
17 here to maybe address that, is that the
18 department, of course, has no plans at
19 the present time to change any season or
20 bag limits as it involves turkeys here
21 in the state. We will continue to do
22 the -- what I think is the good work the
23 department has started, and we want to

1 continue to collect the necessary data
2 to make sure that we have a great and
3 viable turkey population for the public
4 to hunt. And that's the -- that's the
5 emphasis that we want to make today
6 there.

7 But, of course, you're welcome to
8 come up and talk about that, but I did
9 want to let you know that there are no
10 plans, as I understand it today, for any
11 motions based on turkey seasons or bag
12 limits.

13 Also, I think there was some
14 information -- we have been working
15 diligently with the dog deer hunters
16 here in the state and their association.
17 And as social media tends to do, it gets
18 out information that is incorrect. And
19 so there is no department position on a
20 statewide -- we're not advocating or
21 expecting a change for any kind of
22 statewide dog deer permit. That's not
23 anything we are here to recommend today

1 or talk about. There are some other
2 issues related to dog deer hunting.
3 Hopefully y'all have been properly
4 informed about that. But there is no
5 recommendation for a statewide dog deer
6 permit.

7 So I was just letting -- I wanted
8 y'all to know that in advance. Of
9 course, the board may have some
10 discussion on various things today, but
11 I wanted to try to allay some of those
12 possible miscommunications that may be
13 out there on social media.

14 And hopefully I have done that
15 appropriately, Mr. Chairman. Other than
16 that, just thank you very much for
17 allowing me the time.

18 And, also, I wanted to thank the
19 civic -- administrators here at the
20 Pelham Civic Center for allowing us to
21 get this on some pretty short notice,
22 and we really thank them, Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Commissioner.

1 And, once again, we all realize how
2 passionate we are about turkey
3 hunters -- turkey hunting. We know most
4 of the board members up here are pretty
5 passionate turkey hunters as well. So
6 we really are dependant on the Wildlife
7 department to give us the data that we
8 need. And hopefully there are no issues
9 and we can continue with the same bag
10 limits as well as the same seasons that
11 we have in place. That's what we're all
12 hoping for.

13 But, you know, we have to do our due
14 diligence. We have to make sure that we
15 protect our resource and make sure that
16 there is not a problem. And I'm sure
17 every one of you-all will agree with
18 that, that that's the right thing to do.

19 Commissioner, thank you, once again.

20 The next order of business is the
21 public hearing. We have a few rules for
22 public hearing.

23 For those who will be participating

1 in the public hearing, when your name is
2 called, please come to the microphone.
3 You are limited to only three minutes,
4 and we're fairly strict with that. Once
5 the buzzer goes off, we expect for you
6 to terminate your presentation. State
7 your name, again, and the subject you
8 plan to talk on. And there will be
9 absolutely no interference from the
10 audience. In addition, all board
11 members are asked to please address the
12 Chair before taking the floor.

13 Okay. So the first person we will
14 have up is Stan Graves, and Avery Bates
15 is on deck.

16 MR. GRAVES: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, and
17 members of the board, first, I was here
18 last month talking on the two subjects
19 that I'm going to mention this time.

20 I had an issue with the Alabama Open
21 Records and requesting information.
22 This week I finally got information
23 stating that I'm going to receive --

1 start receiving some next week. That's
2 after \$1400 in legal fees that should
3 not have occurred if the -- if I had
4 gotten any information back in July of
5 last year.

6 So I just want to put that on the
7 record that I had to go to legal advice
8 to get help to get information under the
9 law. And I have -- all I want to do is
10 be assured that I'm going to get that
11 information next week and that it's in
12 full. And if Patti wants, I'll be happy
13 to share that letter again.

14 The second item that I want to talk
15 about is HB 236. That's a proposed bill
16 that's in the house right now. There's
17 a public hearing. And this bill deals
18 with dredging sand in our navigational
19 channels. There are three outlets:
20 Perdido Pass, Little Lagoon, and Mobile.
21 And this bill deals with putting sand --
22 dredged sands on the adjacent shores.

23 This is extremely important. Alabama is

1 the only state that does not have a law
2 on the Gulf Coast that addresses
3 dredging and placement of sand.

4 The purpose of the bill is modeled
5 after Florida. And we have gone out and
6 secured a petition of 1400 people as of
7 last night that signed the petition in
8 support of the bill. Since the
9 Department of Natural -- Conservation
10 and Natural Resources is very much
11 involved in that bill, I would like to
12 ask that the board support the bill and
13 the Department of Natural Resources
14 support the bill, because it's vital and
15 important as a first line of defense for
16 Dauphin Island, for all of the
17 coastline, for Mobile County, and even
18 helping the barrier islands in
19 Mississippi. So this bill is extremely
20 important.

21 And I want to introduce this as part
22 of the record, as well as my request for
23 the information on the Open Records

1 bill.

2 I don't know what else to say other
3 than the fact that for the first time we
4 have a bill in place in the legislature
5 that will do something very important
6 for our coastline -- all of Alabama, not
7 just Dauphin Island. But it affects all
8 of the coast. And I hope that y'all
9 will maybe have some influence.

10 And let me back up one second. If
11 you had any influence in me getting any
12 of the information that I requested, I
13 thank you, because I know there were
14 some questions last year -- last month.

15 Thank you very much and I appreciate
16 the time.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you,
18 Mr. Graves.

19 MR. GRAVES: I didn't speak in the mic well
20 enough. I'm sorry.

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Mr. Hartzog, you have
22 the floor.

23 MR. HARTZOG: Sir?

1 MR. GRAVES: Yes.

2 MR. HARTZOG: Do you mind just giving us a
3 short synopsis of what Senate Bill 236
4 says?

5 MR. GRAVES: Yes, sir. The bill addresses
6 like if the Corps dredges the ship
7 channel, that sand has to be placed on
8 the adjacent shores to help with
9 prevention of erosion. It's for the
10 future. It doesn't address our
11 immediate erosion problems that we have.

12 I can give you an example. I have
13 property on Dauphin Island. I'm sorry.
14 I live in Mountain Brook and have
15 property on Dauphin Island. I've lost
16 150 feet of shoreline. It's
17 four-and-a-half feet of elevation I've
18 lost. So what this will do is help when
19 they dredge into the -- the widening and
20 deepening bill that's up there -- that
21 they're working on now, that's going to
22 be a lot of sand dredged out of that.
23 And they put it in the SIBA, which is

1 the Sand Island Beneficial Area. It
2 doesn't get to us. And prior to that
3 they used to dump the sand out in the
4 Gulf.

5 MR. HARTZOG: Okay.

6 MR. GRAVES: There's 20-million cubic yards of
7 sand lost between 1974 and 2004. If you
8 go back further, there's about 48
9 million cubic yards of sand. That's
10 never been addressed. In part of the
11 widening and deepening public scoping
12 process, we are asking that they go back
13 and address that issue because it was
14 never addressed in the 1980 EIS,
15 environmental impact statement.

16 So with -- unless that's addressed,
17 you're going to have the same problem,
18 and all you're going to have is what
19 exists today. But the bill will help
20 for the future because then they'll have
21 to put that sand on the shorelines.

22 MR. HARTZOG: Okay. All right.

23 MR. GRAVES: Does that help?

1 MR. HARTZOG: Yeah, that did. Yes, sir.

2 MR. GRAVES: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any further questions
4 from the board?

5 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman?

6 Ms. Patti, is the department in
7 support of this bill?

8 MS. POWELL: I wouldn't speak on behalf of the
9 department as to their support of the
10 bill. I would ask the Commissioner to.

11 I will say that the reference to the
12 department being involved in the bill, I
13 think what Mr. Graves meant is the bill
14 references the department as the state
15 entity that would be in charge of
16 enforcing the provisions of the bill if
17 it is enacted.

18 A couple of potential differences
19 that you might see between Alabama and
20 Florida -- Florida does have a bill.
21 Florida dedicated funding both for a
22 baseline study to begin before work
23 began and then funding to thereafter

1 provide what's referred to as the --

2 We call it the Delta difference.

3 I'm not sure that's the technical term.

4 -- but the difference to the Corps
5 from where their regulations require
6 them to put the sand -- they will put it
7 somewhere else for you. They are
8 willing to do that. But you have to pay
9 the difference, the State does.

10 So the bill that Florida enacted
11 established both enough funding to do
12 baseline studies to know where the
13 sediments are, to know if you take from
14 one place, where they're going and how
15 to fill them back. It also provided
16 dedicated funding that the Corps would
17 then need to put the sand somewhere
18 else.

19 The bill really doesn't set forth
20 how Alabama would fund that similar type
21 of work that formed the basis of the
22 Florida work. And there is some -- some
23 question, I would say, as to how much a

1 state agency can require a federal
2 agency, frankly, to do anything.

3 As an example, you know, you deal a
4 lot with Wildlife and Freshwater
5 Fisheries. They have regulations and
6 statutes that relate to their authority
7 to regulate certain resources just as
8 some of my statutes do, but that doesn't
9 give Chuck the ability to just tell Fish
10 and Wildlife what we want them to do and
11 make them do what we want them to do.
12 So there may be some question as to
13 enforceability.

14 But that's really our involvement.
15 It would be -- the Port Authority is --
16 handles and relates to the dredging in
17 the port itself. The bill identifies,
18 however, the Department of Conservation
19 as the enforcing agency to, I guess,
20 have to sue the Corps or whatever. I
21 don't know. There is some question
22 about how there would be any enforcement
23 of the provisions.

1 MR. GRAVES: May I add -- may I comment on
2 that, Mr. Chairman?

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Why don't we hold that
4 comment until then and you can meet
5 directly with Patti.

6 MR. GRAVES: Well, I think they need to hear
7 what I've got to say.

8 The actual issue is related to the
9 Port Authority, not the Corps of
10 Engineers. Port Authority is a
11 nonfederal partner, and they would
12 technically be responsible if there was
13 an incremental cost associated with that
14 displacement of sand on the shoreline.
15 So Patti is not a hundred-percent
16 correct.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Graves.

18 MR. HARTZOG: That's fine.

19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Mr. Bates. And Caroline
20 Graves will follow Mr. Bates.

21 MR. BATES: My name is Avery Bates,
22 vice-president of Organized Seafood
23 Association. Covering some of the stuff

1 that was just mentioned is spoil areas.
2 Can be catastrophic to the
3 commercial-fishing industry and the
4 bottoms of Upper Mobile Bay just for the
5 silting of the oyster reefs in the areas
6 on the west side with the silt coming
7 down.

8 There was another group my
9 grandfather and them had to fight for
10 the shell dredge. They dredged all
11 these big holes up the bay that was
12 mentioned in the last meeting about
13 covering up holes. It killed oysters
14 then. It killed oysters a very short
15 time ago.

16 You've got to watch the Corps of
17 Engineers and their projects. We
18 managed a number of years ago, dealing
19 with Susan Reeves with the Corps,
20 dredging of Coden Bayou. They wanted to
21 put it in Portersville Bay where we just
22 planted thousands of barrels of oyster
23 shells and we got millions of dollars.

1 She said we want to go the short route.
2 Guess what the state docks wants to do?
3 Go the short route.

4 All the crabs. You got to eat some
5 of them crab claws at the Seafood Bash.
6 If you lose crabbers and crab bottom and
7 shrimp bottom and fishing bottoms, the
8 people of the state of Alabama -- does
9 the state of Alabama like to eat
10 seafood?

11 I hope y'all do. But if you lose
12 all the farming fields that belongs to
13 these people by letting the Corps
14 dictate where they're going to put this
15 dirt, you're going to lose bottom and
16 you're going to lose seafood and you're
17 going to lose commercial fishermen.

18 You've got to have water to navigate
19 in. We don't care about the channel,
20 but we care about where the channel
21 chooses to put their dirt. We want it
22 beneficially used, not to degradate our
23 water, our seafoods, our commercial

1 fishing industry, and our recreational
2 fishing industry. They're catching
3 speckled trout and redfish and
4 sheepshead and all these other valuable
5 resources that y'all like to eat.
6 Flounder, all these things.

7 We fed some good mullet to them
8 people the other day, and one of your
9 legislators said -- Mr. Sessions said I
10 love mullet. Why? He's from Grand Bay.
11 He eats Grand Bay mullet. Well, I want
12 to tell you, the people in Mobile Bay
13 likes to eat Mobile Bay mullet.

14 If you let the Corps of Engineers do
15 this and put that spoil on the east side
16 of the bed, the spoil will be there for
17 40 years. The island will not go away.
18 You will not be able to navigate. You
19 will not be able to fish not only in
20 this generation but many generations to
21 come.

22 You're violating the public trust
23 law, which is a common resource. You're

1 violating way back to Justinian law,
2 which is just public. This belongs to
3 you, this bottom. The seafoods in the
4 water belong to you.

5 We'd like to feed John some fish and
6 shrimp and oysters. But if you let them
7 cover it up -- it's in our backyard.

8 The State of Alabama --

9 MS. JONES: Time.

10 MR. BATES: -- should have never let --

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Bates.

12 MR. BATES: -- Radcliff tear it up. They
13 should never let the state docks tear it
14 up. Put it somewhere it'll do us some
15 good. Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you very much.

17 MR. BATES: Any questions?

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Next is Caroline Graves,
19 and Brandon Jackson will follow.

20 MS. GRAVES: My name is Caroline Graves, and I
21 would like my comments and this document
22 entered into the record of the meeting.

23 I am putting the Department of

1 Conservation on notice that the Corps
2 left out all erosional impacts to
3 Dauphin Island in the original 1980
4 environmental impact statement for the
5 Mobile Harbor; therefore, the 1980 EIS
6 does not comply with the National
7 Environmental Policy Act. The deletion
8 of these impacts have been covered up by
9 the Corps for the last 36 years.

10 I'm also putting the Department of
11 Conservation on notice that the Corps
12 intends to produce a supplement to the
13 original 1980 EIS where they would only
14 calculate the impacts from the current
15 depths of the channel, which is 47 feet,
16 to the new depths of 57 feet. By doing
17 this, the Corps would arbitrarily narrow
18 the investigation of the supplement
19 study and leave out all past impacts to
20 Dauphin Island, including the past sand
21 losses and erosional impacts to the
22 island before 2016.

23 First, how can the Corps supplement

1 a corrupted EIS that left out the
2 impacts? Second, how can the Corps
3 refuse to study all past sand losses and
4 erosional impacts before 2016?

5 According to the United States
6 District Court, an environmental impact
7 statement must consider not only the
8 direct effects of the proposed actions
9 but the cumulative impacts and indirect
10 effects of the past, present, and
11 reasonably foreseeable future actions
12 regardless of the agency that undertakes
13 it.

14 The Department of Conservation is
15 going to be the head of three studies
16 about Dauphin Island. I am putting the
17 Department of Conservation on notice
18 that they will have to make sure that
19 all the new studies managed by the Corps
20 do not include past studies that have
21 corrupted data in them and make sure
22 that there's no conflict of interest
23 involving the study.

1 I'm also putting the Department of
2 Conservation on notice that they cannot
3 just decide by passing information to
4 the POA, the town, and others that
5 they've discharged their responsibility
6 to keep all taxpayer citizens on the
7 island informed of the government
8 actions and decisions about Dauphin
9 Island.

10 I'm requesting that you make sure
11 that all of the Department of
12 Conservation's meetings and the meetings
13 that the Corps participates in --

14 MS. JONES: Time.

15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any questions from the
16 board for Ms. Graves?

17 COMMISSIONER GUY: Mr. Chairman?

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Commissioner.

19 COMMISSIONER GUY: Ms. Graves, thank you. I
20 know y'all have a lot of interest in
21 this. Y'all are making the Corps aware
22 of all these comments as well; right?

23 MS. GRAVES: Oh, yes.

1 COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay.

2 MS. GRAVES: But y'all -- I mean, you're the
3 department that oversees the Corps.

4 COMMISSIONER GUY: I don't oversee the Corps,
5 no, ma'am.

6 MS. GRAVES: No. I mean for the new -- all
7 the new studies about Dauphin Island
8 that are going to be incorporated into
9 the study -- the new EIS for the
10 deepening and widening of the channel.

11 COMMISSIONER GUY: Sure. Well, let me say
12 this: I don't think we're overseeing
13 that. We -- the Corps is doing all
14 that -- all those studies, and there
15 will be comments -- opportunities, as
16 you well know, for you to comment with
17 them. We'll, you know, do whatever we
18 are -- or we can do, but the federal --
19 you know, the Corps is a federal agency
20 we don't have any authority over.

21 MS. GRAVES: Well, y'all are managing all the
22 studies. According to your
23 documentation, you're managing the

1 studies. And I have contacted Patti
2 quite a few times.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. Patti.

4 COMMISSIONER GUY: Mr. Chairman, may I let
5 Ms. Powell respond.

6 MS. POWELL: Let me make one distinction. I'm
7 not sure -- and I'm not sure this is
8 what you're referring to.

9 There is a study of Dauphin Island
10 funded with NFWF funds that is
11 coordinated by this department -- we are
12 overseeing, let me say -- that's a
13 better word -- by this department. Any
14 study related to deepening or widening
15 the channel specifically would be the
16 Corps and, I suppose, the Port Authority
17 involved in that. We are not over a
18 study related to the deepening and
19 widening of the channel.

20 And I'm not sure that's what you're
21 saying, but there seems to be some
22 confusion. And we are not --

23 MS. GRAVES: Okay.

1 COMMISSIONER GUY: And, Ms. Graves, all I was
2 just trying to make clear is since you
3 had put us on notice of all this -- and
4 that's fine.

5 MS. GRAVES: Oh, yes.

6 COMMISSIONER GUY: We're certainly going to
7 watch everything like we always do. But
8 I just wanted to make sure you're going
9 to file your objections to --

10 MS. GRAVES: Oh, I have. I have.

11 COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay.

12 -- with the Corps. And that's what
13 I wanted to make sure --

14 MS. GRAVES: Okay. But the studies that y'all
15 are overseeing are -- according to
16 y'all's document is they are going to be
17 incorporated into the new EIS.

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Ms. Graves.

19 COMMISSIONER GUY: And, Mr. Chairman, can I --
20 I would just say, if any of the board
21 has any additional questions about that,
22 so that we don't -- you know, we can --
23 Patti and I can meet with the board

1 members if you have any questions about
2 that at a later time. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

4 Next we have Brandon Jackson.

5 Following Brandon will be Adler
6 Rothschild.

7 MR. JACKSON: Gentlemen, I appreciate the
8 opportunity today. My name is Brandon
9 Jackson. I'm here to speak on behalf of
10 imploing you to move forward with some
11 of the ideas concerning a quality zone
12 on the Sipsey Fork of the Black Warrior
13 River in order to improve the trout
14 fishery there.

15 It would be enacting certain
16 regulations to benefit the anglers who
17 seek to utilize Alabama's only trout
18 stream. It would be for the enjoyment
19 of all the anglers to be able to easily
20 access some of the easier areas to wade
21 that river in order to gain access more
22 easily, to benefit the catch rates in an
23 area proven to support numbers of fish,

1 in order to improve the quality of the
2 fish that are caught in that area, in
3 order to provide for Alabama anglers a
4 greater opportunity and a better
5 opportunity in order to fish for those
6 fish.

7 None of the proposed regulations
8 would be oppressive unless we view
9 Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and North
10 Carolina as being oppressive towards
11 their anglers by enacting the same
12 regulations that have been proposed to
13 benefit this section of the stream.

14 There's three miles of wadeable
15 access. We're looking at one -- less
16 than one mile of area for this quality
17 zone, so that if little kids, if
18 grandfathers, if people who have a
19 little more difficulty with mobility
20 want to access that area and be able to
21 have a high probability of catching
22 trout, they can do that.

23 This river has great potential. In

1 2007 Chris Scalley, who was recognized
2 by Field & Stream as a "Conservationist
3 of the Year" finalist, came to the
4 Sipsey Fork and conducted three
5 different studies. He was -- he was the
6 founder of the Chattahoochee Coldwater
7 Fishery Foundation, and they conducted
8 long-term studies of aquatic life. That
9 began in '98.

10 After about ten years of doing that
11 study, he came to the Sipsey Fork. His
12 conclusion after setting up scientific
13 studies to examine the bug life in the
14 river -- his conclusion walking away was
15 if we had that on the Chattahoochee, I'd
16 be happy. There is great potential
17 within the river. That was before any
18 of the improvements that have taken
19 place in the last several years were
20 enacted. So that was back in 2007.

21 If you want evidentiary evidence, I
22 can sit you down in front of a computer
23 and start a slide show and let you look

1 at thousands and thousands of pictures
2 of Sipsey Fork trout and see that none
3 of them display the typical evidence of
4 a malnourished or a starving fish. None
5 of them look that way. None of them
6 appear that way. None of them show any
7 tell-tale signs of starving or being
8 malnourished or being in a difficult
9 situation.

10 As an angler, being there on many
11 different occasions, I've been able to
12 witness some amazing hatches, bug life,
13 and opportunities for that fishery --

14 MS. JONES: Time.

15 MR. JACKSON: -- and we want Alabamians to be
16 able to take advantage of it.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Mr. Jackson, so your
18 issue, then, is that you want more
19 access to the river? You said it's only
20 a mile of access or --

21 MR. JACKSON: No, sir. It's three -- there's
22 three miles of wading access where
23 people can enter the river and wade in

1 order to catch fish. We -- we want
2 one -- less than one mile of that
3 section to be designated as a quality
4 zone to provide a yearlong benefit to
5 the fishery.

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So that's fly fishing
7 only, then?

8 MR. JACKSON: No, sir. It has nothing to do
9 with fly fishing.

10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay. So what is --
11 what do you mean -- what qualifies as a
12 quality zone?

13 MR. JACKSON: Okay. So we provided the board
14 previously with a list of recommended
15 regulations that would impact that area
16 of the stream. It would be single hook,
17 so jigs, spinners, crankbaits, anything
18 with single hooks. The reason for that
19 regulation would be because treble hooks
20 with trout tend to injure the fish's
21 jaw, create a lot more damage than a
22 single hook. So anybody who can fish
23 with a spinning rod or a baitcasting rod

1 will still be able to access that area
2 and continue to fish it. No --
3 artificial bait only. So no natural
4 bait so that the fish don't swallow the
5 hook too deeply.

6 For creating an area where it's all
7 catch-and-release so that those fish are
8 able to continue to live, thrive, and
9 survive in that stretch of the stream.
10 And then there's some others that go
11 along with that.

12 Creating additional stocking
13 opportunities, brown trout, brook trout,
14 as well as the rainbow only.

15 But each one of you should have a
16 packet of information that I provided
17 that has some of those regulations that
18 we would like to see.

19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

20 Damon, would you like to address
21 this issue?

22 MR. ABERNETHY: Yes, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

1 Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

2 MR. ABERNETHY: We can -- we can certainly
3 take a look at that, but this is also a
4 put-and-take fishery. We -- we put all
5 of those fish in there. We stock it --
6 I don't know -- seven to eight times a
7 year. I'm not sure of the exact number.
8 But we support that fishery. We
9 basically created it. So we can -- we
10 can take a look at that though.

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Damon.

12 MR. CAGLE: Does this proposal that
13 Mr. Jackson put forth -- is this --

14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Patrick.

15 MR. CAGLE: It looks to me, from what I know
16 about the river, it's kind of making the
17 middle ground. I mean, I think it's
18 very important for kids, you know, to be
19 able to access it if they use natural
20 bait or whatever.

21 So the way I see this, you would be
22 able to use natural bait and it would be
23 a -- you could keep it past -- from the

1 waterworks down. Does that preserve a
2 lot of the easy public access? Is this
3 the middle-ground approach?

4 MR. ABERNETHY: Well, the power company has
5 created quite a few access areas there.
6 I don't know the exact number, but
7 I'm --

8 MR. JACKSON: There's four below the pumping
9 station, three above.

10 MR. CAGLE: So -- okay. Well, will y'all
11 continue to look at this and see if you
12 can make a recommendation for next year
13 that's a middle-ground approach that
14 allows fly fishermen and, you know,
15 people using spinning rods that kind of
16 meets that middle road that ensures that
17 children, you know, and handicap have
18 access, which is that area at the
19 waterworks, but, you know, it balances
20 the competing interests there as best as
21 possible.

22 MR. ABERNETHY: Sure.

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Mr. Dobbs.

1 MR. DOBBS: Damon, there's no recruitment in
2 this fishery. These fish don't
3 reproduce. As you said, it's
4 put-and-take.

5 MR. ABERNETHY: Right.

6 MR. DOBBS: And you put in "X" number of fish
7 every three months, two months,
8 depending on the season, funded by the
9 power company in part.

10 MR. ABERNETHY: Right.

11 MR. DOBBS: And how many fish get taken out?
12 Do you measure?

13 MR. ABERNETHY: We do. I don't know those
14 exact numbers, but we do. We're in the
15 process of doing a creel survey there
16 now, and we have some preliminary
17 numbers. I don't know exactly what
18 those are. But we are looking at that
19 currently.

20 MR. DOBBS: So the way I -- maybe this is the
21 simple approach. If you looked at the
22 fish that are in the river today and if
23 you didn't touch them for a year and

1 began to stock again, how many of those
2 fish would be there given that nobody
3 had done any angling?

4 MR. ABERNETHY: Well, I'm not sure what the
5 natural mortality rate is there, but I
6 guess you would expect probably 30, 35
7 percent of them to die naturally. You
8 know, there's no reason not to take
9 them. You know, they're going to die.
10 And we can put more, so ...

11 MR. DOBBS: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Damon.

13 Any further questions from the
14 board?

15 MR. MARTIN: I've got one.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Jeff, you have the
17 floor.

18 MR. MARTIN: Do you think the reason they --
19 just like the guy said, they look so
20 healthy and everything is because we
21 don't have catch and release, that they
22 do take them out?

23 MR. ABERNETHY: Well, I think that has more to

1 do with the density of the population,
2 you know, the number of fish that we're
3 putting in there. There's so much food
4 there for them to eat, and if we begin
5 to put more and more and more fish, then
6 you're going to see their -- you know,
7 their health decline.

8 MR. MARTIN: Right. Okay.

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Mr. Hartzog, you have
10 the floor.

11 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman, I was the one
12 that -- I don't know -- several years
13 ago when this measure was brought
14 forward before about setting up a trophy
15 section of the stream and I got with
16 Matt Bowden -- he was the environmental
17 vice-president then at the power
18 company -- and got with him. And they
19 had under -- because of the requirements
20 of them to comply with some water
21 regulatories, they had put in more
22 access and all.

23 But in talking with the biologists

1 at that time and talking to some other
2 people in other states that had trophy
3 streams -- number one, generally where
4 you see trophy streams is where you've
5 got natural reproduction. From what I
6 understand, most of these fish, the
7 people follow the hatchery truck after
8 the fish is released. The majority of
9 the fish are gone afterwards. Shortly
10 thereafter the striper population takes
11 a big density on them.

12 So, you know, asking how many would
13 be left at the end, some of the power
14 company biologists felt like probably
15 very little. And so at that time it
16 was -- after much thought and
17 discussion, you know -- because I'm an
18 advocate of fly fishing, you know -- but
19 just felt like that by creating that
20 would not really help the population and
21 the density of the fish other than
22 protecting a short section for
23 supposedly a trophy section where

1 there's no natural reproduction or
2 anything.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Hartzog.

4 Any further questions from the
5 board?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The next public speaker
8 is Adler Rothschild.

9 Damon, thank you.

10 Tammi Hudson is on deck.

11 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Gentlemen, I don't know
12 whether you remember or not, but I made
13 a presentation in Montgomery at the last
14 meeting of Chief A.J.'S Sling Bow. I
15 was told --

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Please don't load that.

17 MR. ROTHSCHILD: I was told that y'all had
18 been threatened with a spear, and I
19 promised that I wouldn't threaten you
20 with this.

21 Anyway, it's just been approved now
22 in Texas. So that makes ten total
23 states for big game. I believe it's

1 already approved in Alabama for small
2 game. It has the same power as a
3 40-pound bow.

4 I hope -- many of you have been on
5 "Chiefaj.com," his site. He's got a lot
6 of videos and pictures of game that have
7 been shot with it. So I'm here today to
8 ask you to -- somebody to make a motion
9 and vote on this so we'll know where to
10 go.

11 We want to move the advertising
12 to -- you should have black-and-white of
13 this, and I also mailed each one of you
14 a copy of this this week.

15 We would like to move some
16 manufacturing to Gaylesville, Alabama,
17 which is in Cherokee County. And I'm
18 not going to take up any more of your
19 time, but if anybody would make a motion
20 and vote on it, we would certainly
21 appreciate it.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you,

23 Mr. Rothschild.

1 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Are there any questions?

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any questions from the
3 board?

4 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Can anybody suggest to me
5 what we can do to move this along?

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Chuck, do you have any
7 suggestions for Mr. Rothschild?

8 I think you've had the opportunity
9 to really look into this.

10 MR. SYKES: I did and I -- honestly, I would
11 defer to Mr. Martin. He was there when
12 we saw the demonstration and ...

13 MR. MARTIN: I would like to make a motion to
14 keep it for small game. I don't think
15 it's for big game at all. Based on
16 Chief A.J.'s demonstration that Chuck
17 and I witnessed at the ATA show, it is
18 not for big game.

19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you. Jeff, we
20 appreciate that response.

21 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Thank you, gentlemen.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Tammi Hudson.

23 Following Tammi will be Guy Moore.

1 MS. HUDSON: Good morning, Chairman,
2 Commissioner, board. My name is Tammi
3 Hudson. I'm from Clarke County. And
4 I'm fighting a hoarse voice. I'm sorry.

5 I come to talk to you again about
6 the disabled hunting area trail. I
7 really appreciate that. I've asked
8 several times about having turkey
9 hunting on that, and it's been explained
10 to me that that's just not the way
11 turkey hunting works. And I -- I do
12 understand that, but I believe that some
13 of us with mobility issues should have
14 the ability to try this in the disabled
15 hunting areas.

16 We already have the area. We
17 already have the prerequisite for who's
18 able to hunt there, and everything is
19 already set up. When I'm there in the
20 fall and during deer season, I see
21 plenty of gobblers in most of the areas
22 that I go to.

23 And so I see that this past season

1 it was opened up at Cherokee for turkey
2 hunting. And so what I'm asking is if
3 you don't open it up to all areas, if we
4 open it up to some in a few different
5 areas of the state just as a trial to
6 see how many people make use of it and
7 then if turkeys are actually harvested
8 and do a little bit of like a trial run
9 and see if that would be a viable thing
10 to try.

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Chuck, can you address
12 that?

13 MR. SYKES: Yes, sir.

14 There are a couple of areas that we
15 could possibly do a test on. A lot of
16 these PDHAs are small pieces of property
17 where you don't want -- when you
18 register, you go to a specific spot and
19 that's where you hunt. So some of it is
20 not going to yield itself to turkey
21 hunting. But Chief Gauldin and I will
22 look at some of the areas, and we'll try
23 to get with Ms. Hudson and do a couple

1 of test places.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Chuck.

3 Ms. Hudson.

4 MS. HUDSON: Well, I'm not really wanting to
5 get out and move all around like
6 I understand normal turkey hunting is,
7 because, like I'm saying, most -- most
8 of us who are hunting these disabled
9 hunting areas do not have the mobility
10 to do that. I'm saying let us stay in
11 that shooting house and see what
12 happens; okay?

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Ms. Hudson.

14 We'll address that.

15 MS. HUDSON: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Mr. Sykes will make
17 contact with you. Thank you.

18 Guy Moore. Following Mr. Moore will
19 be Calvin Crowder.

20 MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, board members, thank
21 you for the opportunity today. My name
22 is Guy Moore. I'm from Jefferson
23 County. I hunt at Sipsev Wildnerness

1 Hunting Club in Winston County. I'm
2 also a member of Wiley Creek Hunting
3 Club in Marion County and Pine Creek
4 Hunting Club in Jefferson County.

5 I also manage my own properties in
6 Jefferson County and Shelby County, and
7 I also help a friend in Lamar County.

8 My concern today is that I would
9 like to see the deer season extended
10 into February statewide for bucks only.
11 And I would like to see trophy bucks
12 myself personally on -- for bucks only,
13 though, especially. With a three-buck
14 limit, I mean, what difference does it
15 make? You're only going to kill three
16 anyway.

17 And so I think the 10th of February
18 is probably appropriate. In Winston
19 County where I hunt, the rut starts at
20 Thanksgiving and it's over. At
21 Christmastime there ain't no need in
22 trying to -- I mean, you're not hunting
23 deer in the rut up there where I'm

1 hunting. In Marion County it's just
2 getting started around Christmastime,
3 goes all the way after -- into February.
4 Lamar County, it cuts off towards the
5 end in there. In Jefferson County, I've
6 still got bucks right now with horns
7 that I got this week. In Jefferson
8 County I got fresh rut and scrapes.

9 And I hunted in Shelby County this
10 morning. By the way, the turkeys are
11 gobbling in Shelby County. And if it
12 hadn't been -- that would have been the
13 first thing I would have spoke to if it
14 hadn't been my turkey cooperated this
15 morning, so I got here on time.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Moore.

17 MR. MOORE: But, anyway, I hunt five counties
18 with regularity. And so there's no way
19 to -- I just think it needs to be
20 statewide.

21 And, plus, I think we're entirely
22 overharvesting does in our state. We
23 got plenty of predators. The coyotes

1 are doing a good job. With the
2 exception maybe of guys that are
3 privileged and get to hunt areas where
4 you're seeing a lot of big -- a lot of
5 does on big fields and stuff, for the
6 common hunter in Jefferson -- in --
7 anywhere in the state, we just don't
8 have the does. I've got one area of all
9 five counties that I'm hunting on with
10 regularity that you could kill does off
11 of. The rest of them you don't need to
12 kill any. So I would appreciate if the
13 board would think about these matters
14 and figure out a way we could do these
15 things.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Moore.

17 And your question is being looked -- we
18 will probably address that today.

19 MR. MOORE: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Calvin Crowder.

21 MR. CROWDER: I'm going to have to pick this
22 up. I don't want to bend over so much.

23 Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, and

1 board members, my name is Calvin
2 Crowder. I'm from Talladega in
3 Talladega County. I'm here to address
4 the ongoing problem we've had in my area
5 with the dog hunters. I'm not sure
6 about the Commissioner's comments just a
7 minute ago. I'd like to bring that up.

8 But, you know, as we get away from
9 the season, it seems like we -- fewer
10 and fewer people show up to speak about
11 the problem we have. But at the last
12 meeting that I spoke at that we
13 attended, we had a lot of people that
14 spoke with you. And I appreciate
15 y'all's time in listening to us moan and
16 complain about the problems we have.
17 But it's a real issue, and I was
18 thankful that y'all addressed it by
19 making a motion to vote on a statewide
20 permit. And I believe that was
21 seconded.

22 So, first of all, Commissioner, if
23 you could address the issue of whether

1 we're going to take a vote today or not.

2 COMMISSIONER GUY: Mr. Chairman?

3 So I don't know what the board is
4 going to do today, but I can tell you
5 that the department is not recommending
6 a statewide dog deer permit. That's
7 all -- we are working with the dog
8 hunters association on some things that
9 we think will be helpful to everybody
10 that people like yourself have been
11 concerned about and others that have
12 come before us. And we're trying our
13 best to work with them, and they have
14 been working with us. And we're
15 starting to make some positive, you
16 know, progress on that.

17 And so all I was saying is that
18 there was some information out on social
19 media that the department -- I'm not
20 talking about Conservation Advisory
21 Board and the Game and Fish Division --
22 were going to make a recommendation for
23 that, and I was saying that we were not

1 recommending that.

2 MR. CROWDER: Okay. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER GUY: I'm not sure what the board
4 will do today. They obviously, you
5 know, have a decision to make on those
6 kind of things, but we were not
7 recommending it.

8 MR. CROWDER: Okay. Thank you. I understand.

9 COMMISSIONER GUY: That's fine. I appreciate
10 you asking the question.

11 MR. CROWDER: Okay. So I still -- as I said
12 before, the last meeting, as private
13 landowners, we have no recourse in a
14 situation where -- everything that I
15 know and everything I understand,
16 everybody I've spoken with says if a dog
17 comes on your property and if you're
18 able and lucky enough to catch that dog,
19 you're supposed to call the owner of
20 that dog and bring it back to them. So
21 it puts the burden on us.

22 And I have done that in the past,
23 and it's tough to go catch a dog,

1 especially on my property. It's very
2 hilly. And if I take the time to go
3 find a dog and catch it and call the
4 owner and he comes and gets the dog and
5 you ask him not to come back and they
6 keep coming back, there's no point to
7 that. So I wish you would --

8 MS. JONES: Time.

9 MR. CROWDER: I wish you would vote for a
10 statewide permit. Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Chuck, would you like to
12 address some of the great work you've
13 done with the Alabama Dog Hunters
14 Association over the last several
15 months.

16 MR. SYKES: We've met with the new leadership
17 at the dog hunters association on
18 numerous times through actually face to
19 face and conference calls to address the
20 constituents that Mr. Martin had around
21 Talladega National Forest. We met with
22 Carl Petrick, who is over all the forest
23 system, and rather than eliminating it

1 totally, what Carl and our department
2 decided to do this year was just reduce
3 the number of days that can be hunted in
4 the national forests -- I think it went
5 from 58 to 36 -- and to stop running
6 dogs in the afternoons. We felt like
7 that was where the majority of the
8 conflicts were arising with people
9 sitting on food plots in the afternoons.

10 So you can hunt from -- you know, up
11 until 12 noon, then get your dogs out.
12 And that would be a first step to help
13 mitigate some of the problems that
14 Mr. Martin's constituents are having.

15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Chuck.

16 Any questions from the board?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: David Clapp. Joey

19 Flowers will follow.

20 MR. CLAPP: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, thanks
21 for the opportunity to speak. My name
22 is David Clapp. I own property in Clay
23 County, Alabama. It's just a direct

1 follow-up issue to what you guys were
2 just talking about that we were
3 discussing.

4 So my property runs on Horns Valley
5 Road. County Road -- or Forest Road
6 662, which comes into the national
7 forest, comes directly parallel to the
8 western border on my property. My
9 property is bordered on three sides by
10 the national forest. So it's -- we've
11 had constant problems ever since we
12 bought this property eight years ago
13 with dog hunting.

14 I think it's virtually impossible
15 for people to run dogs from that section
16 of the forest, that County Road 662,
17 without them coming across our property.
18 So, literally, I have never experienced
19 dogs being released up there where they
20 don't just come across my property and
21 then they're picked up on the public
22 road out there. So it happens again and
23 again and again and again and again. It

1 ruins tons of hunts.

2 You know, I totally respect the
3 place where I think the dog hunting
4 association is coming from too. You
5 know, I hate that there's conflict over
6 this. It's just as a private landowner
7 investing thousands and thousands of
8 dollars in my property -- I've taken my
9 family out there to manage the property
10 in a QDMA-type fashion -- and then to
11 literally -- I didn't see one deer last
12 year, not one. And that has happened a
13 couple of years since we bought it. So
14 I don't know. I think my price per
15 pound is about a hundred thousand bucks
16 per deer right now on the property.

17 So I'd love for you guys to do
18 something. I don't know if you can
19 manage it from a micro level, just on
20 that county road, but I just don't see
21 how it can even work there. And so I'm
22 very sensitive to the issue statewide.
23 I think it's a tough one. I respect the

1 position of the dog hunters. I'm a big
2 freedom guy. I just want to hunt my
3 land and hunt it without having dogs
4 across it again and again and again and
5 again.

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Chuck, do you think you
7 will be able to get with Mr. Clapp and
8 maybe --

9 MR. SYKES: We spoke earlier. And I will get
10 with Carl, and we will look at that Road
11 662 and see if there is maybe a buffer
12 zone or something that we can put right
13 there if it's an area like that where
14 there's no reasonable way to put a dog
15 and then catch it before it crosses that
16 property. So we'll get with Carl on
17 that.

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: And, David, one other
19 question. Is it private land that
20 surrounds you, or is that --

21 MR. CLAPP: It's national forest.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: It's national forest.

23 MR. CLAPP: The property that's south of me is

1 national forest, you go a couple of
2 hundred yards further south and it's the
3 WMA, and then directly to the west and
4 then half of my north. So I am
5 three-fourths national forest boundary.
6 That's why we bought the property.

7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yeah. That's the
8 problem.

9 One other question. How many acres
10 do you have?

11 MR. CLAPP: I have 200 acres.

12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: 200 acres. Okay. Thank
13 you.

14 MR. CLAPP: Thanks.

15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Next, Joey Flowers. And
16 following Joey will be Wynnton Melton.

17 MR. FLOWERS: Morning, board members. My name
18 is Joey Flowers. I'm the president of
19 the Alabama Hog Dog Hunters Association.
20 I'm here today to speak on behalf of our
21 association, our members, about a few
22 issues that we have hopefully we can get
23 fixed. And one of them is being able to

1 hog hunt at nighttime.

2 Since feral swine is considered a
3 game animal, it's illegal without a
4 depredation permit to hunt them at
5 nighttime. And before, a few years
6 back, I guess, there was a misprint in
7 the Digest, and they had them classified
8 in the same category as a coon and
9 opossum allowing us to. And then it
10 changed. They found the mistake and cut
11 it off.

12 We would like to go back to trying
13 to classify them back into that category
14 so we can -- we can hunt more at night
15 without having the problems of trying to
16 go through the hassle of getting a
17 depredation permit. And don't get me
18 wrong. The department has done great
19 trying to work with us, but sometimes
20 when you get a landowner that calls you
21 at the last minute and wants you to go,
22 it might be a week or a few days down
23 the road before you can even get a

1 permit to do that.

2 So we would really be grateful if
3 you guys would look into that and try to
4 help us out with that. I know I've
5 talked to Chuck, and he's trying to work
6 with us on that also.

7 This year on our wildlife management
8 area hunt we got flooded out on the
9 Lower Delta. I'm sure y'all saw some of
10 that. We didn't have as many hunters
11 down there just because of the flooded
12 water. So we want to try to spread out
13 our days hopefully next year if we're
14 able to do this again so in case we do
15 have a day that's flooded out, we don't
16 get a whole entire eight days that's
17 flooded out for us.

18 But I appreciate what the department
19 is doing, working with us. We're very
20 grateful, and hopefully we can continue
21 to work with everybody and keep making
22 our efforts better on controlling the
23 hog population in Alabama. Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Joey.

2 Wynnton Melton. Following Wynnton
3 will be Susan Morrow.

4 MR. MELTON: If I bend over to this, I won't
5 ever straighten back up.

6 But I think this is my 46th
7 consecutive year of coming to at least
8 one of these board meetings. And a good
9 point -- let's see. The good points are
10 that I've learned a lot, had a lot of
11 good opportunities. The bad is I miss
12 seeing so many folks that aren't here
13 anymore. We've lost a lot of good
14 dedicated people in the last 46 years,
15 and we appreciate what you do.

16 And I understand you -- you don't
17 have a hard job. You have an impossible
18 job. When you try to balance all the
19 needs, all the wants between all the
20 user groups, you just ain't going to do
21 it without getting some of us mad one
22 way or another.

23 And my challenge to you is to let's

1 look at everything very thoroughly, not
2 make hasty decisions. Research them
3 well and let's be sure that whatever we
4 do is as fair, equitable, and in the
5 best interest for the most people for
6 the longest period of time.

7 About 40 years ago we sat down in
8 south Alabama and we formed the South
9 Alabama Dog Hunters Association. We
10 expanded it out statewide to the Alabama
11 Dog Hunters Association. And I was the
12 field director. I was younger then.
13 And I traveled the state of Alabama
14 many, many times, from Lauderdale County
15 to Mobile County, from Geneva County to
16 Calhoun County and all in between. We
17 had meetings.

18 Our focus was 80 percent, at least,
19 on good quality, legal, ethical hunting.
20 Be a good citizen. Keep everything
21 clean. Don't throw your deer on the dog
22 box and run to Hardee's at lunch. Know
23 your people. Know the neighbors. Get

1 along with them. Shake hands not just
2 during deer season. Go by and talk to
3 them at other times. We did everything
4 we could to try to focus on the good.
5 And I can tell you that about 80 percent
6 of the people that I met and I worked
7 with are good people. About 20 percent
8 of them, their mamas wouldn't be proud
9 of them.

10 So you had to work with all of that.
11 I've heard the story, oh, if my dog's
12 running a deer and he runs right across
13 somebody's drive, I'll shoot him. It's
14 my dog. Oh, bologna. You know better
15 than that. And I made a lot of enemies
16 by standing up to that kind of nonsense.
17 But you hear some of it.

18 But, hey, folks, that's just a
19 handful. Out in these woods, your quiet
20 folks, they're out there hunting and
21 having a good time, bringing their
22 families. There's so much good. I
23 promise you that no animal harvested in

1 the state of Alabama brings more
2 enjoyment to more people than a deer
3 killed on a well-organized, ethical dog
4 deer hunt. One deer can make 20 people
5 happy. It sure can, all the joking that
6 goes on, you know.

7 MS. JONES: Time.

8 MR. MELTON: It's just a good --

9 Thank you.

10 It's just a good activity.

11 Now, I'm proud of these young folks
12 getting back with the dog hunters
13 association.

14 One closing thing. I mentioned coon
15 hunting before. We have a lot of coon
16 hunters, a lot of fox hunters. When I
17 was here, I said two of us old dudes are
18 doing a lot of coon hunting. We
19 treed -- we went to about 60 trees. We
20 saw 51 coons. We knocked out about 40
21 of them. Think of how many turkeys we
22 saved out there. And ten or 12 trees we
23 went to, pretty leafy, we couldn't find

1 a coon, but I know he was there because
2 two of our dogs are running for public
3 office and they don't lie.

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you very much,
5 Mr. Melton. Now you all have words from
6 an experienced and a very wise man.
7 We're going to give him two slots next
8 meeting.

9 Susan Morrow.

10 Excuse me, Grady. Do you have --

11 MR. MELTON: Did I have a question?

12 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman, I was glad to see
13 Mr. Wynnton here. In fact, when he
14 showed up today, I said where were you
15 last meeting. Because one thing about
16 Mr. Wynnton, he's always positive and
17 he's always helped and he's always
18 enjoyable.

19 So thank you, Mr. Wynnton, for doing
20 all you've done over the years.

21 MR. MELTON: Well, thank you.

22 MR. HARTZOG: And I will tell this one story.
23 You're talking about trying to do what's

1 right and all this kind of stuff, and
2 maybe I can make this crew laugh, not as
3 good as you just did.

4 But, anyway, a biologist one time
5 told me, he says, Grady, when you took
6 this job, he says you've got to realize
7 you've got to try to do what's right and
8 hear all the sides and everything. He
9 said but you just got to realize, he
10 says, if there was a deer behind every
11 tree in Alabama, somebody would come
12 fuss there weren't enough trees.

13 MR. MELTON: I promise you -- I know I'm out
14 of time. But I promise you we have
15 people that tried to get rid of all the
16 hunting 30 years ago that's in our
17 hunting club now. Like I say, it -- you
18 just can't ever tell what the next
19 generation is going to want to do, so --

20 MR. HARTZOG: Thanks, Mr. Wynnton.

21 MR. MELTON: When you kill something, it's
22 dead though.

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Susan.

1 MS. MORROW: Good morning. My name is Susan
2 Morrow. I'm from Mobile County, but I
3 hunt all over the state.

4 A few years ago -- well, I asked the
5 board to give us more dog days on our
6 management area, and y'all graciously
7 did. But then we lost them, so --
8 because we was killing too many deer
9 with the dogs was my understanding.
10 Now, I could be wrong on that.
11 But we did lose a management area,
12 Boykin, that we got to run dogs on.

13 And so we have 34 in the state. We
14 need to look at -- or we -- I would
15 appreciate if y'all would look at
16 opening up another one for dog hunting
17 and maybe adding a couple of days. The
18 most -- in the Delta, we don't hardly
19 ever get to go in it because of the
20 flood. The water's up; the gates are
21 locked. And you've got to have so much
22 land that is not under water to be able
23 to legally hunt deer there.

1 So I gave every one of y'all one of
2 our magazines. Look at these pictures.
3 Read the story on page 10 about the
4 young man that harvested his first deer.
5 Look at page 14 and 15. Look at these
6 kids' faces. These are kids that the
7 only place that they get to hunt -- a
8 lot of them -- is in management areas.
9 Look at the smiles on their faces.

10 That's what it's about. It's not
11 about harvesting the deer. It's about
12 working, the fellowship with the dogs,
13 and the kids getting together and
14 they're making memories that will last a
15 lifetime. And I ask y'all to please
16 look at giving us some more days for us
17 common people. Because we can't afford
18 to go to these pay-per-day places,
19 especially if you have two or three
20 kids. Everybody can't go as a family
21 because it's going to cost you too much
22 and you're only going one time. So if
23 y'all could look at this, you can make

1 me a happy women.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Susan.

3 Chuck.

4 MR. SYKES: I may actually make Susan happy.

5 I want this on the record.

6 We just purchased over the past
7 couple of years pretty sizable holdings
8 around the Geneva National Forest. And
9 Keith and the biologists there are
10 looking -- they're exploring some ideas
11 where we can do some limited dog hunts
12 down there to make up for it.

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Chuck.

14 Susan, thank you.

15 MR. HARTZOG: She smiled, Chuck. Did she?

16 MS. MORROW: I smiled, Chuck.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Rick Baxter.

18 MR. BAXTER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, board
19 members, thank you for the opportunity
20 to speak today. I'm Rick Baxter. I'm
21 from Washington County. I'm
22 vice-president of the Alabama Dog
23 Hunters Association, recently elected.

1 And my wife will wish that would have
2 never happened many times.

3 But, Mr. Melton, thank you for your
4 support in the years that you've been
5 involved.

6 We need more people -- and I can
7 only hope that one day that I will be in
8 that situation to where I've grown and
9 I've represented our organization and
10 our user group as well as this gentleman
11 has.

12 It's been an honor to meet you and a
13 pleasure, so thank you.

14 First off, with retrospect to what's
15 been going on with the statewide -- with
16 the rumors going around with that and
17 the social media, we want to thank
18 Director Sykes, Chief Dodd, and the
19 other individuals, Gunter Guy --
20 Commissioner Guy, that has worked with
21 us, talked with us, and tried to come up
22 with some answers and ways to make
23 everybody happy. And that's not going

1 to happen, but we are trying. And we
2 appreciate that. We want to continue
3 those efforts.

4 I ask you today as an advisory board
5 to make your decisions based on facts,
6 information given to you by our game
7 wardens, our officials that are out
8 there gathering the information, not
9 just by a phone call, please. We have
10 made some recommendations on things that
11 we think would work better by
12 communicating with the game wardens, the
13 game officers in those counties/areas
14 that there are some problems. We made
15 some recommendations that -- made harsh
16 recommendations and restrictions on some
17 things. But we ask that you use the
18 information that's there in some
19 counties that we hear are being
20 considered, particularly Baldwin County.
21 We don't think it's justifiable by the
22 information that we're getting that that
23 whole county goes on a permit system.

1 Please be patient with us. Give us
2 time. We're working with every club.
3 We've made trips all over the state. We
4 are trying our best to make every
5 individual accountable for his or her
6 own actions, accountable for his or her
7 own dog. We don't want our dogs --

8 The gentleman from Talladega, we
9 want the same thing. I don't want my
10 dog on your land.

11 And we're making efforts. They're
12 systems out there. We're introducing
13 people to whistle breaking a dog to
14 where you can stop that dog on a dime.
15 It's working. I never thought it would,
16 not with my dogs. They're crazy
17 sometimes.

18 But I've learned. I've had to
19 learn. I hunt in Choctaw County. Our
20 neighbors there are good neighbors. We
21 get along with each other. But we have
22 learned and we're getting better. We
23 are stopping our dogs. Most people will

1 if they -- given the opportunity to make
2 a change, we will make that change, and
3 we're pushing it hard. So I ask that
4 you please --

5 MS. JONES: Time.

6 MR. BAXTER: -- please consider the
7 information that we're being given and
8 make it to where you're making your
9 decisions on facts and not just a phone
10 call, please. Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Rick. And,
12 Rick, the Conservation Department as
13 well as the board really appreciate the
14 effort that the Alabama Dog Hunters
15 Association has made over the last
16 several months in working together in
17 trying to solve some of these issues.
18 And, you know, we can't do it fighting.

19 MR. BAXTER: Right. Right. I agree a hundred
20 percent. And we've got to --

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: We have to work
22 together.

23 MR. BAXTER: -- keep the doors open, you know,

1 to where we can communicate.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So if we can just
3 continue to, you know, work together.
4 It's going to be some give and take, but
5 things are really moving along well. I
6 appreciate you-all's efforts.

7 MR. BAXTER: As long as she will allow me, I
8 will continue to. She's the boss.

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

10 Lonnie Miller.

11 MR. MILLER: Good morning, Commissioner,
12 Mr. Strickland. I want to just -- I'm
13 not going to get up here and bore you
14 with the same things that Rick just
15 said.

16 Everything that he said I'm in
17 agreeance with. And the decisions that
18 we've made as a group, working with
19 Chuck, the Commissioner, and Chief Dodd,
20 we all know that we have to make some
21 changes. And as the president of the
22 dog hunters association, we've been
23 through countless phone calls, meetings,

1 and what we want to do as a whole is
2 pretty much get the word out that we
3 need to be responsible for our dogs.
4 And that's ultimately what this is
5 about. It's about my dogs being on
6 somebody else's property. And if we
7 didn't have that issue, we wouldn't be
8 here today fussing about it. We're
9 taking that message through the state,
10 and the folks -- 90 percent of the
11 people we talk to are receptive to that.

12 Like I told Mr. Hartzog earlier,
13 when we go to these meetings, the people
14 at this meeting are the people that care
15 about dog hunting. They're the ones
16 that want us -- they want to keep doing
17 it. Probably a few people at the
18 meeting that we attend, they don't want
19 to keep up with their dogs like Rick is
20 talking about. They may say, well, I
21 want it the way it is, I want -- I don't
22 want the permit system, I don't want
23 this or that.

1 But the point is -- we tell them
2 like it is -- you're going to make a
3 change. We have to make a change if you
4 want to dog hunt. Do you want to kill
5 deer or do you want to dog hunt?

6 I want to run my dogs. I want to be
7 able to. And whatever I need to do to
8 conform, that's what I'm going to do.
9 And that's the message that we're going
10 to put forth to the people.

11 Now, you know, the bottom line is we
12 must keep up with our dogs. And like
13 Rick said, I can tell you, just because
14 somebody makes a phone call, that don't
15 mean it's a fact, and for me, I would
16 much rather let's go by the facts.

17 Chief Dodd gave us a report back, I
18 guess, before the February 20th meeting.
19 That report is so inaccurate only
20 because of the -- there's 198 clubs on
21 that report. Out of the 198 clubs,
22 there was 1.22 complaints per club. And
23 really that's not that bad. But I know

1 like -- I believe it was Colbert County
2 had 19 supposed complaints.

3 But to me a phone call -- if I kick
4 a member out of my club and he calls
5 you, all of a sudden he's the anti-dog
6 hunter, it's not fair. Or if you have a
7 crazy homeowner like a landowner that we
8 have in Covington County, it's not fair
9 for him to have David Craft arrested,
10 the guy that -- in February in
11 Montgomery -- David Craft got arrested.
12 It cost him 3500 -- excuse me -- \$1500
13 to go to court to get it thrown out by a
14 judge. This is a retired Air Force
15 veteran. It's going to cost another
16 3500 to get it expunged from his record.
17 It's not fair for those people.

18 But, now, then, these folks in
19 Talladega, I understand. I agree with
20 you.

21 MS. JONES: Time.

22 MR. MILLER: We need to make sure that we keep
23 our dogs off their property. But only

1 when it's a legitimate -- when he gets
2 the dogs in his hand, that guy needs to
3 be held accountable. That dog needs to
4 be an extension of me. A lot of people
5 may not agree with that, but the
6 majority of us do. I need to be
7 responsible for my dog, and if my dog --
8 if I can't keep it off this man's
9 property, hold me responsible.

10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Lonnie.

11 Patrick, you have the floor.

12 MR. CAGLE: Thank you, Lonnie, for your
13 leadership.

14 I wanted to say to the public that's
15 here, this board and this department is
16 committed to trying to minimize the
17 issues that come up. There's been a lot
18 of work. Director Sykes has done a lot
19 of work, other members. Chief Dodd has
20 done a lot of work in trying to come up
21 with innovative ways to try to minimize
22 the conflict that happens.

23 As we go through this, you know,

1 we're going to be working, you know,
2 doing things now and working over the
3 next year, to come up with solutions.
4 Every one has got to realize that no one
5 is going to get exactly what they want.
6 Everyone is going to have to give a
7 little bit.

8 I encourage everyone to stand
9 behind, you know, to support us on this.
10 The goal is to allow -- to continue for
11 dog hunting to be allowed and to
12 minimize the conflicts where it's going
13 on private property because ultimately
14 that's where we've got to get. But just
15 give us some time and work with us and
16 just know everyone is not going to get
17 exactly what we -- what they want. But
18 our goals are the same in coming up with
19 that solution. Thank you.

20 MR. MILLER: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Patrick.

22 I think this concludes our public
23 hearing.

1 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman?

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes.

3 MR. JONES: As a point of order prior to
4 moving into old business, I did want
5 to -- I was negligent in my prayer
6 offering a little while ago with the
7 invocation to recognize Mr. Charles
8 Kelley. He was the director for Game
9 and Fish for 42 years.

10 But Mr. Charles, I'm sure some of
11 you know him. He, unfortunately, is
12 terminally ill with cancer, and he's in
13 his last days. But I did want to
14 recognize that and apologize for that.
15 But y'all keep Charles Kelley in your
16 thoughts and prayers.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Jones.

18 Any further comments from the board,
19 the department?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: This concludes the
22 public hearing. The next item of
23 business is old business.

1 We have quite a bit of house
2 cleaning. There will be a lot of
3 motions that we will have to vote on. I
4 would like to take it -- we'll take it
5 in order. And what I will do is call
6 the name of the board member that
7 basically represents that particular
8 motion. Please use a microphone. If
9 you could read the motion twice, make
10 sure the court reporter clearly can get
11 the wording down properly, and then we
12 will go ahead and vote on it.

13 Commissioner, any questions?

14 COMMISSIONER GUY: No. Thank you,
15 Mr. Chairman.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. The first
17 motion will be for Game Check, and the
18 sponsor is Raymond Jones.

19 Raymond, if you would read that
20 motion for us.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Currently our harvest information
23 program, Game Check, is voluntary and it

1 is reportable via electronically or by
2 telephone to call to report the harvest
3 of a deer or turkey. This motion is to
4 make Game Check and harvest reporting
5 mandatory beginning with the 2016-2017
6 season.

7 Making Game Check mandatory, we
8 will -- as a state will have much more
9 information with which to make decisions
10 about our deer and turkey hunting
11 resources.

12 You need me to read that again?

13 COMMISSIONER GUY: Mr. Chairman, I will say
14 that we will provide our court reporter,
15 too, with a copy of the motions. That
16 will help her.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

18 Motion for approval?

19 MR. HARTZOG: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

23 (All board members present respond

1 "aye.")

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

5 Thank you, Mr. Jones.

6 MR. JONES: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The next motion will be
8 for the CPI increase, and Mr. Joey Dobbs
9 is the sponsor of that motion. Joey.

10 MR. DOBBS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 This is a motion for an increased
12 fee and license cost based on a formula
13 pursuant to the Consumer Pricing Index,
14 or CPI, that has been recommended by the
15 Department of Conservation and Natural
16 Resources. This motions asks for a vote
17 in favor of the license and fee
18 increases and recommends its approval to
19 the Legislative Council.

20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion for approval.

21 MR. AINSWORTH: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Have a second, Austin.

23 Any discussion?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

3 (All board members present respond
4 "aye.")

5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

8 Thank you, Mr. Dobbs.

9 The next motion is for Delta
10 waterfowl regs, and Mr. Ben Stimpson is
11 the sponsor.

12 MR. STIMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 I'd first like to compliment Keith
14 Gauldin and Chuck on communicating and
15 having several meetings with the duck
16 hunters in south Alabama. They did a
17 great job of getting feedback. And
18 because of all that, I would like to
19 make a motion, and I'll go through it.

20 One, to establish the Apalachee
21 Refuge Area located between
22 Interstate 10 and the Mobile Causeway,
23 east of their intersection and west of

1 the west fork of the terminus of the
2 Apalachee River. There's a map that
3 goes along with this to indicate the
4 area.

5 Second, to establish Big Bateau Bay
6 as a zone that prohibits the use of any
7 gasoline-powered motors from the second
8 Saturday in November through the second
9 Saturday in February. There's also a
10 map that goes with this to identify it.

11 And, third, to modify the shooting
12 days and times within the Mobile-Tensaw
13 Delta Waterfowl Management Zone defined
14 as the area north of Battleship Parkway,
15 west of Alabama Highway 225, south of
16 the CSX Railroad tracks, and east of the
17 west bank at the Mobile River. The
18 recommended shooting days and times are
19 Monday and Tuesday, closed; Wednesday to
20 Sunday, 30 minutes before sunrise to
21 1 p.m.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can we get a second?

23 MR. HARTZOG: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

4 MR. JONES: Hold up.

5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Excuse me. Patrick.

6 MR. CAGLE: I just want to thank Ben Stimpson
7 and Gary Wolfe and the department for
8 the work they've put in on this, meeting
9 with the public, trying to make sure
10 that they've, you know, made the public
11 aware that they've gotten buy-in. And
12 thank you for all the effort you've put
13 into this.

14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any further discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

17 (All board members present respond
18 "aye.")

19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

22 Thank you, Mr. Stimpson.

23 The next motion, we have two motions

1 for dog deer permits. The sponsor is
2 Grady Hartzog. Grady.

3 MR. HARTZOG: Actually, I have three motions,
4 Commissioner -- Mr. Chairman.

5 The first motion is this motion is
6 to enact new standards for the dog
7 permit system as detailed in the
8 attached prepared by Chief -- by Kevin
9 Dodd for clubs added only after
10 March 26, '16, this date, the
11 substantial changes in standards and
12 procedures including the increase of a
13 minimum prerequisite acreage to 500
14 contiguous acres and increased attention
15 to recordkeeping as it relates to
16 dog-related comments.

17 I think this will address some of
18 the issues that some of the dog hunters
19 have brought up about, well, a phone
20 call. This gives us a better means of
21 documenting complaints.

22 But that is the first motion. You
23 want me to read it again, Doc?

1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I think we have it.

2 MR. DOBBS: Clarification. Motion to read the
3 document again slowly. You missed one
4 item at the end, please.

5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Grady.

6 MR. HARTZOG: This motion is to enact new
7 standards for dog permit system as
8 detailed in the attached prepared by
9 Chief Enforcement Officer Kevin Dodd for
10 clubs added after April (sic) the 26th,
11 2016, the substantive changes in
12 standards and procedures including the
13 increase in a minimum prerequisite
14 acreage to 500 contiguous acres and
15 increased attention to recordkeeping as
16 it relates to dog-related complaints.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Discussion?

18 Commissioner.

19 COMMISSIONER GUY: I just want to make a
20 clarification.

21 Grady, you said April, I think,
22 unintentionally. Do you mean
23 March 26th?

1 MR. HARTZOG: March 26th. I'm sorry.

2 COMMISSIONER GUY: So we can make that
3 correction to the motion. Is that okay?

4 MR. HARTZOG: Yes, sir.

5 COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 MR. HARTZOG: I keep hoping for April the 16th
7 to pass.

8 COMMISSIONER GUY: I understand.

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can we get a second?

10 MR. JONES: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any further discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

14 (All board members present respond
15 "aye.")

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

19 Grady, next motion.

20 MR. HARTZOG: Next motion: This is a motion
21 to recommend revisions to the Regulation
22 220-2-.112 as provided in the draft,
23 which is attached, which would prohibit

1 a hunter after being warned from
2 allowing his dogs to encroach on lands
3 of another without permission.

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Does anyone need this
5 motion repeated?

6 If not, may I get a second.

7 MR. CAGLE: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

11 (All board members present respond
12 "aye.")

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

16 MR. HARTZOG: The last motion.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Grady, your third and
18 final motion.

19 MR. HARTZOG: Final motion: This is a motion
20 to place both Baldwin and Marengo
21 Counties under the dog permit system
22 starting with the 2016-2017 season.

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Second?

1 MR. STIMPSON: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor.

5 (All board members present respond
6 "aye.")

7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

10 Thank you, Grady.

11 The next item that we have is a
12 motion for deer season and zones. And
13 Mr. Ainsworth.

14 MR. AINSWORTH: This motion is a request for a
15 vote to allow an extension of the deer
16 season, stalk hunting only, of ten days
17 for the north zone or Option 2 as
18 discussed February 20th, 2016.

19 Archery season: Zone A, October
20 15th to February 10th; Zone B, October
21 15th to October 24th is buck only; and
22 then October 25th to February 10th is
23 either sex.

1 Firearm: Zone A, November 19th to
2 February 10th; Zone B, November 19th to
3 February 10th.

4 Dog statewide, November 19th to
5 January 15th.

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can I get a second,
7 please?

8 MR. MARTIN: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

12 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman?

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Mr. Jones.

14 MR. JONES: Thank you.

15 I really think the biology does not
16 back this decision up. And I do want to
17 point that out and go on record as
18 saying the biology that we have worked
19 and our biologists have worked so hard
20 to do.

21 I've yet to receive one phone call,
22 one e-mail, one bit of knowledge stating
23 that this was wanted or needed in the

1 northern Alabama region. On the
2 contrary, I've received several people
3 saying it needs to stay and be left as
4 it is.

5 So I do want us as a board to think
6 about that. Only 14 percent of the deer
7 in this entire zone were bred after the
8 season goes out. And this board has a
9 history of basing decisions based on
10 biology, and in this case in my opinion
11 it does not support that.

12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Jones.

13 Well stated.

14 Mr. Dobbs.

15 MR. DOBBS: Discussion. And thank you for
16 that.

17 Understand, too, that the north zone
18 is an area that begins somewhere south
19 of Montgomery, actually along
20 Highway 80. So there are a number of
21 people who are very close to what we're
22 calling the south zone who would like to
23 have the same opportunities to hunt the

1 extra ten days.

2 A gentleman spoke earlier -- and I
3 hate to use this term. But I live in a
4 state and a world where people obey the
5 rules. You're allowed to kill three
6 buck deer in the state of Alabama. So
7 whether you kill those deer at the
8 beginning, the middle, or the end of the
9 season is up to you, and the fact
10 whether you continue to hunt through the
11 final days of January or the early days
12 of February is up to you as a private
13 landowner, a leaseholder, or someone
14 with an interest in a piece of land.

15 So that being said, this is -- we're
16 not talking about just Limestone,
17 Madison, Cleburne, Clay Counties. There
18 are a number of counties beginning with
19 Marion and Perry and across the eastern
20 part of the state that we're voting on.
21 This is not just a few northern
22 counties. Is that clear?

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Dobbs.

1 MR. DOBBS: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Grady, you have the
3 floor.

4 MR. HARTZOG: Well, if y'all remember, when we
5 first enacted the extended season in
6 southwest Alabama -- and Chuck can tell
7 you that when we went to a certain fish
8 camp, it was a little difficult because
9 everybody wanted it and what difference
10 does it make. And we told them -- we
11 said, well, when we get the biology, you
12 know, you'll get the season.

13 And I think the -- I'd love to know
14 the number of deer -- because Barbour,
15 my county, is actually split right up
16 Highway 49. So the data they got
17 determined where that split was on
18 Highway 49. And I understand from
19 talking to the biologists, you know,
20 what we told Barbour County at that
21 time -- you know, Henry, Dale, Houston,
22 all those counties that didn't get the
23 first extension, I mean, they were

1 jumping on us, well, we got to have it,
2 what difference does it make, it's
3 February the 10th.

4 But I think this board needs to rely
5 on science more than just hunting
6 pressure. And so -- and I think the
7 number of deer that have been taken in
8 north Alabama to do the statistical
9 sample has been far less than the number
10 of deer that's been taken in the south.

11 Is that correct, Chuck?

12 MR. SYKES: Right now Chris Cook, who's
13 sitting over there, is our deer project
14 leader. He's the one that's in charge
15 of the fetal study and analyzing all the
16 data. If I'm not badly mistaken, it was
17 14 percent above the line that were bred
18 after February the 1st.

19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So, Chuck, what you're
20 saying, then, is that the biology does
21 not support moving the season --

22 MR. SYKES: If you look at specific biology,
23 no, sir. But, unfortunately, I've

1 learned that biology doesn't always
2 dictate what we do. And with y'all
3 passing mandatory Game Check, that makes
4 me feel better that we can get data.

5 So whether the board chooses to
6 extend it or not, the department will
7 support it. We're going to continue to
8 gather data. We're not going to stop
9 getting the biology that we have, but,
10 unfortunately, we don't live in a world
11 where biology dictates everything.

12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Chuck, do you feel
13 pretty good about your biology?

14 MR. SYKES: Absolutely. Absolutely. The
15 numbers -- the numbers are there.

16 DR. LEMME: Mr. Chairman?

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Mr. Lemme --
18 Dr. Lemme.

19 DR. LEMME: If the Game Check is mandatory,
20 we'll be getting more data next year.
21 And since the biology is marginal to
22 support the rut after -- into February,
23 maybe we should be thinking about not

1 doing it this year but waiting for more
2 data.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Dr. Lemme.

4 Mr. Dobbs.

5 MR. DOBBS: I'd like to make a motion for an
6 amendment to the motion on the floor.

7 And may I read my motion?

8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Mr. Dobbs.

9 MR. DOBBS: A motion that would declare an
10 amendment to be added to the proposed
11 motion which allows a Sunshine provision
12 or mandatory review and vote on the
13 continuation of this rule at the
14 beginning of the 2018-2019 season.

15 So let me read that again.

16 It would be an amendment that would
17 be added to this proposed motion which
18 allows a Sunshine provision or mandatory
19 review by the Conservation Advisory
20 Board and vote on a continuation of this
21 rule at the beginning of the 2018-2019
22 season.

23 Discussion.

1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So we need a second.

2 DR. LEMME: I'll second so we can discuss.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Discussion?

4 We have a second. Dr. Lemme
5 seconded that amendment to Austin's
6 motion.

7 We have that?

8 (Court reporter responds.)

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any further discussion?

10 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I just --

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Mr. Jones.

12 MR. JONES: Are you -- is Mr. Dobbs -- are you
13 suggesting that we go ahead and enact
14 that and then review later? Is that
15 what I'm understanding?

16 MR. DOBBS: Since we have Game Checks -- will
17 have Game Checks and we will have
18 more -- more thorough information, more
19 scientific data, then, yes, that's what
20 I'm suggesting. That's what I'm saying.

21 MR. JONES: Okay. I guess a point of order
22 that I would like to discuss on that is
23 it seems like that's working in reverse.

1 It seems like you would want the
2 information before you made a change,
3 particularly a change that's as sweeping
4 and covers such a wide area as we
5 discussed.

6 Furthermore, it just -- it seems
7 like you would want that. You know, the
8 north Alabama region, we're already
9 talking about limiting the antlerless
10 days. We're already talking about a lot
11 of things, and we're -- February is the
12 leanest month of the year as far -- if
13 you're a deer. There's -- the food is
14 gone. You don't have anything to eat.
15 And you're going to be pressured for ten
16 more days while you're out there. And
17 they have to evade hunters. You can
18 say, well, just don't hunt. Well,
19 that's not reality. I think all of us
20 will be out there hunting when we can.

21 So it makes it -- in an area where
22 we're already struggling with numbers,
23 we're already struggling with data, and

1 yet we're going to just add more days to
2 that again. I want to point that out as
3 a point of order to that discussion.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

6 Mr. Hartzog, you have the floor.

7 MR. HARTZOG: Just the one point. So, Joey,
8 your Sunshine would be a two-year
9 Sunshine, not a one-year Sunshine is the
10 way you've read it; right?

11 MR. DOBBS: That's correct.

12 MR. HARTZOG: Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Joey, you have the
14 floor.

15 MR. DOBBS: Again, I live in a world where
16 there are rules and regulations. And
17 you can only kill three deer. The ten
18 extra days are not going to impact --
19 under those circumstances the ten extra
20 days will not impact the resource or the
21 herd, not the way I see it. And we can
22 ask Chuck, but I'm -- if it's going to
23 make a difference.

1 MR. SYKES: I mean, I wish I could tell you
2 definitively. We have not seen a
3 negative impact so far in the south.
4 Three bucks is three bucks whether you
5 kill them in June or January. So,
6 again, that's going to be up to the
7 board. We'll support it whichever way
8 it goes, whether it goes statewide or
9 stops.

10 MR. DOBBS: Thank you.

11 So if I still have the floor, one
12 thing back for Raymond and Grady. Would
13 it be more palatable if this were a
14 bucks only period of time?

15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Probably the bucks would
16 have the most stress.

17 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, just to say that,
18 you know, we have no way of knowing what
19 that would do. The post-rut mortality,
20 if they have to evade hunters for ten
21 more days in the month of February, will
22 increase. I do know that. Now, at what
23 percentage it will increase, I don't

1 know, but it will increase.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Mr. Ainsworth, you have
3 the floor.

4 MR. AINSWORTH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 I just want to reiterate. It's not
6 a mandate to hunt the ten days in
7 February. This puts the power in the
8 landowners' hands, and no -- nobody
9 knows the land better than the
10 landowner. If the landowner -- the rut
11 is in the middle of January, generally
12 the deer are going to be lazy and you're
13 not going to see a buck in February.
14 They've already been through the rut.
15 They're going to be laid up getting
16 their body weight back.

17 And so if you -- the rut has already
18 been, don't hunt. It just gives tools
19 to people like Mr. Guy Moore who has
20 property that has different ruts in
21 Alabama. He's a perfect example. And
22 he's really close together. Some deer
23 are rutting in Thanksgiving, some late

1 January. It's -- it puts the power in
2 the landowners' hands. That's why I'm
3 supporting it.

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you,
5 Mr. Ainsworth.

6 Mr. Dobbs.

7 MR. DOBBS: Call the question and vote.

8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

9 No further discussion?

10 MR. WOLFE: We're voting on the amendment?

11 MS. WEBER: Right. Yes.

12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yeah. So we have to
13 vote on the amendment. Okay.

14 So we have a second for the
15 amendment?

16 MR. WOLFE: I second.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

18 (Board members McMillan, Lemme,
19 Ainsworth, Martin, Dobbs, Cagle,
20 and Wolfe respond by raising their
21 hands.)

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can we get a count?

23 What do you have?

1 COMMISSIONER GUY: Raise your hands again.

2 Seven.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: That's seven for.

4 Okay. Opposed?

5 (Board members Hartzog, Jones, and
6 Stimpson respond by raising their
7 hands.)

8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

9 So it looks like it -- okay. So the
10 amendment has passed.

11 MR. CAGLE: Mr. Chairman?

12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Now we have to vote on
13 the main motion.

14 MR. DOBBS: Call the question.

15 MR. CAGLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to
16 offer an additional amendment to the
17 main motion.

18 Since Game Check is a contingent
19 part of it, I move that we add this is
20 contingent on Game Check. We've passed
21 Game Check. It still has an
22 administrative process it has to go
23 through. So to add to this motion that

1 as long as Game Check is in place and
2 mandatory, if this passes, that would be
3 the season; otherwise, we would revert
4 to the 2015-2016 season.

5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

6 MR. CAGLE: Do we have a second?

7 MR. McMILLAN: I'm not sure I understand the
8 motion.

9 MR. DOBBS: I don't understand the motion.

10 MR. CAGLE: I'll repeat it.

11 That the passage of this season
12 would -- is contingent on Game Check
13 being mandatory.

14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: How do we need to handle
15 that? Do we need to vote on that or --

16 MR. CAGLE: It would be an amendment.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can we get a second?

18 MR. HARTZOG: I'll second that.

19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

20 MR. HARTZOG: Could I just --

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Sure.

22 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman, I think what
23 Patrick is trying to get done, if you

1 remember, we tried to do Game Check
2 before, several years ago, and several
3 legislators from north Alabama more or
4 less -- because anything we do still has
5 to go before legislative review -- more
6 or less put the quietus on the Game
7 Check. So I think Patrick's bill, just
8 to kind of explain it, is just to make
9 sure that the legislative review doesn't
10 knock down our Game Check provisions
11 that's going to give us the data of
12 whether we're right or wrong.

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.

14 Now, are we ready to vote on the
15 original motion?

16 COMMISSIONER GUY: No. We have to vote on the
17 amendment first.

18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay. Vote on the
19 amendment, then.

20 Can we get a second?

21 MR. WOLFE: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

23 (All Board members present respond

1 by raising their hands.)

2 COMMISSIONER GUY: I can't -- y'all raise your
3 hands again.

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can we get a number
5 count?

6 COMMISSIONER GUY: Unanimous.

7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So Patrick's amendment
10 has been passed. Now we can vote on the
11 original motion that Mr. Ainsworth put
12 on the floor.

13 MS. WEBER: Mr. Ainsworth, did you oppose the
14 second amendment?

15 MR. AINSWORTH: Oh, no.

16 COMMISSIONER GUY: The vote was unanimous.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor for the
18 original motion that Mr. Ainsworth put
19 on the floor and that's Option B
20 approval -- Option 2 approval?

21 Any further discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

1 (Board members McMillan, Lemme,
2 Ainsworth, Martin, Dobbs, Cagle,
3 and Wolfe respond by raising their
4 hands.)

5 COMMISSIONER GUY: Seven.

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay. Seven.

7 Opposed?

8 (Board members Hartzog, Jones, and
9 Stimpson respond by raising their
10 hands.)

11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Two against? Three
12 against?

13 COMMISSIONER GUY: Three.

14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Three opposed.

15 So it looks like that the motion has
16 passed to extend the deer season
17 throughout the Zone A and Zone B into
18 February.

19 Do we have those dates yet?

20 MR. SYKES: We got it all.

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So that will remove the
22 blackout period as well, right, the
23 December blackout period?

1 MR. SYKES: Correct.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Very good. Thank you.

3 Joey, it looks like you have the
4 floor again, and that's a motion for
5 seasons, bag and creel limits.

6 MR. DOBBS: I have two motions, Mr. Chairman.
7 Thank you.

8 One, a motion for Conservation
9 Advisory Board: A motion that the
10 Department of Conservation adopt the
11 seasons and bag and creel limits and
12 other regulations as contained in the
13 packets provided to the board at the
14 February 20, 2016, Conservation Advisory
15 Board meeting with the understanding
16 that there could be some additional
17 minor revisions during the
18 administrative procedural process.

19 Would you like it again?

20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: One more time.

21 COMMISSIONER GUY: She said she's good.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Can we get a second?

23 MR. AINSWORTH: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

4 (All board members present respond
5 by raising their hands.)

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

9 Thank you, Mr. Dobbs. You have one
10 more motion.

11 MR. DOBBS: I do. And thank you again for the
12 floor.

13 This is a motion for Conservation
14 Advisory Board: A motion to approve all
15 the department rules and regulations
16 adopted since the last approval.

17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Do we need it read
18 again?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Get a second?

21 MR. AINSWORTH: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All in favor?

23 (All board members present respond

1 by raising their hands.)

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Motion carries.

5 And I think that concludes all the
6 motions --

7 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman?

8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes.

9 MR. JONES: I have a -- in the old business we
10 had -- I had considered bringing a youth
11 waterfowl season motion. I want to just
12 let the record note I've tabled that for
13 now. We're going to collect -- I'm
14 working with Chief Gauldin and Director
15 Sykes. We're going to try to gather
16 more pertinent information with that.

17 So for the sake of this meeting,
18 that motion will be tabled. Going
19 forward, that motion would -- you know,
20 I would like to keep that open for
21 discussion in upcoming future meetings.

22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Is this an actionable
23 item? Do we need to vote on that

1 motion?

2 MR. JONES: I don't think so.

3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: So we'll discuss it in
4 old business at our next meeting.

5 MR. JONES: That's correct.

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Very good.

7 Grady.

8 MR. HARTZOG: In regards to that, Chuck and I
9 talked this morning, and because of the
10 data that they got from the Mobile
11 hunters versus in other areas, what we
12 have talked about and want to challenge
13 Chuck and Keith and them to get done is
14 to look at the possibility of setting
15 the two different zones as allowed by
16 the Feds so that we can still
17 accommodate Mobile and give them their
18 early days and then give north Alabama
19 the second -- the days that they would
20 like. You know, and Raymond has
21 graciously tabled that so that -- you
22 know, but next year when the -- when
23 they go to the board meeting set -- each

1 state has two regulatory members that
2 attend the waterfowl with the Feds to
3 set the seasons and zones and bag
4 limits -- that we push to try to
5 establish that zone.

6 Chuck and I have talked about where
7 that zone line might be. So I just want
8 to challenge the department to get that
9 done before next year.

10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Grady, for
11 the clarification.

12 This concludes old business. Is
13 there any new business?

14 Yes, Mr. Jones.

15 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I would like to
16 bring up for discussion in our next
17 meeting the CPI increases -- that's
18 assuming we don't have another meeting
19 this year -- but for the CPI increases
20 for the 2017-2018 season.

21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mr. Jones.

22 Mr. Dobbs.

23 MR. DOBBS: A discussion for -- that we had in

1 our previous meeting but some
2 discussions that we'll have going
3 forward on the issuance of depredation
4 permits, something we would like some
5 clarification on going forward.

6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay, Mr. Dobbs. How do
7 we need to address this?

8 Chuck, do you want to address that?

9 MR. SYKES: Yes, sir. We are currently -- I'm
10 working with Chief Dodd and Chief
11 Gauldin to come up with a more
12 standardized system of issuing
13 depredation permits, and we will have
14 all of that ready for the board at the
15 next board meeting.

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Chuck.

17 Mr. Commissioner.

18 COMMISSIONER GUY: I just was -- and
19 particularly with regard to hogs; right?
20 I mean, that's one thing we're looking
21 at particularly, aren't we?

22 MR. SYKES: Well, that and -- I mean, there
23 are deer depredation permits as well.

1 So it's all -- all-encompassing there.

2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Chuck.

3 Any further new business that needs
4 to be brought before the board?

5 Patrick.

6 MR. CAGLE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask that
7 over the next year before the 2017
8 Conservation Advisory Board meeting -- I
9 would like to ask Chief Dodd, Chief
10 Gauldin, and Director Sykes to work with
11 the board on reviewing some methods to
12 enforce the provision which we passed
13 which will make it unlawful for a
14 deer-hunting dog to be unlawfully on the
15 property of another.

16 I would like us to look at other
17 states, particularly Florida, on an
18 online registration process for dogs and
19 just to review what's out there over the
20 next year.

21 And then I ask that the department
22 make recommendations on how to best
23 enforce this provision and, also, to

1 look at a system of penalties to where
2 there is a penalty if your dog is on the
3 land of another unlawfully and at some
4 point that a number of those violations
5 would prevent you from being able to
6 have your own deer-hunting dogs.

7 So if we'll just look at that and
8 then make some recommendations to the
9 board in 2017.

10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Chuck, will you be able
11 to work on that project?

12 MR. SYKES: Yes, sir.

13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any further new
14 business from the board?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Finally, if there's no
17 further new business, next we have
18 selection of date and location of the
19 next advisory board meeting.

20 Presently we do not have a third
21 meeting scheduled. If a special
22 situation arises, we will post that
23 meeting date. Until then, I think this

1 concludes today's meeting. If there's
2 no further business, we're adjourned.
3 Thank you.

4
5 (Meeting adjourned at
6 approximately 10:44 a.m.)

7
8 * * * * *

9 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

10 * * * * *

11 STATE OF ALABAMA:

12 MONTGOMERY COUNTY:

13
14 I, Tracye Sadler Blackwell, Certified
15 Court Reporter and Commissioner for the State of
16 Alabama at Large, do hereby certify that I reported
17 the foregoing proceedings of the Alabama Department
18 of Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory
19 Board Meeting on March 26, 2016.

20 The foregoing 118 computer-printed pages
21 contain a true and correct transcript of the
22 proceedings held.

23 I further certify that I am neither of

1 kin nor of counsel to the parties to said cause nor
2 in any manner interested in the results thereof.

3 This 15th day of September 2016.

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Tracye Sadler Blackwell
ACCR No. 294
Expiration date: 9-30-2016
Certified Court Reporter
and Commissioner for the State
of Alabama at Large