

# Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

## DRAFT OF MINUTES

**Thursday ~ November 6, 2008 ~ 6:30 p.m.**

**Nevada Department of Wildlife**

**Conference Room B**

**1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada**

## MEMBERS

Rick Smith, Chair  
Glen Copeland, Vice-chair  
Daryl Harwell, Secretary  
Rex Flowers  
Thomas Wilson

### **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE \***

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### **2. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL \***

Chair Smith called to order at 6:34 p.m. A quorum was established.

**PRESENT:** Glen Copeland, Rex Flowers, Daryl Harwell, Rick Smith and Thomas Wilson.

**ABSENT:** None.

### **3. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 7, 2008, MINUTES**

*It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Copeland, to approve the August 7, 2008, minutes, as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.*

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS \***

There were no public comments.

### **5. COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES \***

**5-1). Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements** – Chair Smith outlined recent correspondence on Wildlife Heritage Trust projects and suggested that a future agenda include a discussion and possible project recommendation for Washoe County.

Member Copeland explained that the roll call of County Game Board members at the Eureka (Nevada) meeting on August 15, 2008, did not show Member Flowers as present n the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners minutes. Mr. Copeland also submitted email correspondence (copies on file) from Chris Hampson – Game Biologist, on Bighorn recruitment and the removal of a Mountain Lion in Red Mountain Creek area. A total of six (6) Mountain Lions have been removed from Unit 011 in the past six (6) weeks. As well as correspondence on Ground Water Development Project, and petition on Large Mouth Bass that will be heard later in tonight's (November 6, 2008) agenda.

**5-2). Update on the Sheldon Wildlife Management Plan** – None.

**5-3) Overview of the August 15 and 16, 2008, meeting and September 5 and 6, 2008, meetings of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meeting** – Member Flower summarized the

\* denotes NON action item

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discussion on Commission Regulation 658. Although the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife had thought this particular item was to modify waiting periods, the Commission (Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners) only reviewed the final language for accuracy. Other action included an earlier season opening in Churchill County due to the water delivery and a later opening date for Overton Wildlife Management area in Clark County.

Member Flower commented that Commission Chair Gerald Lent had indicated appointments would be made to the Commission's Subcommittee and that all TAAHC (Tag Allocation Application Hunt Committee) work was on hold pending the Subcommittee appointments.

Chair Smith noted that the minutes of the joint California and Nevada Wildlife Commissions indicated a desire to meet every other year.

**5-4). Update and status report on the Washoe County Predator Control Project and the Wildlife Damage Management Subcommittee** – See agenda item 5-1.

**6. BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT** – *A discussion and selection of member(s) to attend the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings on: 1) November 21 and 22, 2008, meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada; and 2) February 6 and 7, 2009, meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada.*

Member Flowers will attend the November 21 and 22, 2008, meetings.

Member Wilson plans to attend the February 6 and 7, 2009, meetings.

During a brief discussion it was noted that the February 2009 meeting may be moved to Reno (Nevada).

**7. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 366 (Temporary)** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposed amendment to the regulation allowing restricted nonresident guided hunt applicants that were rejected in the restricted nonresident guided hunt deer tag draw to be eligible for the main draw for deer.*

Chair Smith provided an overview of the agenda item noting that the numerous calls from sportsmen indicated strong opposition to providing a second draw opportunity when all other have to wait a season if errors disqualified an application.

During the discussion it was noted that the disqualification of non-resident guided hunts occurs more frequently than thought with 23 disqualifications in the previous year's application process. Other discussion noted that the request would provide a second draw opportunity if the first application is rejected. It was pointed out that application should be reviewed for accuracy before submission.

\* denotes NON action item

***It was moved by Member Copeland, seconded by Member Wilson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny the amendment to Commission Regulation 366. The motion carried unanimously.***

8. **COMMISSION REGULATION 07–10 Amendment No. 1** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposed amendment to remove Lake Mead Marina from the list of closed waters in Clark County. Lake Mead Marina has been moved from its previous location due to declining lake levels. This action would allow anglers to take advantage of the fishing opportunities at this location.*

During the discussion it was emphasized that the former marina has been relocated to another part of Lake Mead due to dwindling water levels. The regulation was written to apply only to this specific marina location. Other discussion noted that there was no biological evidence to support retaining the current prohibition.

***It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Wilson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the amendment to Commissioner Regulation 07-10 Amendment No. 1 as written, The motion carried unanimously.***

9. **PETITION – Mark Carlton** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a petition from Mr. Mark Carlton to change regulations for largemouth bass to include a slot size limit of over 14-inches and under 16-inches.*

Chair Smith provided an overview of the Mark Carlton petition and asked whether there was any biological or other evidence to support the request.

Matt Maples – Nevada Department of Wildlife, explained that the petition, if approved, would apply statewide. It is Mr. Maples' belief that such regulations should be developed for specific waters to increase spawning size and increase production.

During the discussion it was suggested that the petition may be solely focused on increasing trophy fish sizes. Other discussion noted that there is no statewide need to protect certain sizes and that the proposal is not supported by biological data. As the discussion continued, it was noted that fish grow at significantly different rates based on habitat and climatic conditions. For example fish grown in the Ruby Mountains region would grow at a much slower rate than those living in Southern Nevada (Lake Mead). Discussion then noted that other fish species had a more significant effect on Large Mouth Bass than anglers in most areas.

***It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Copeland, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny the Mark Carlton petition. The motion carried unanimously.***

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- 10. 2009 MEETING SCHEDULE** – *A review, discussion and action to approve a meeting scheduled for 2009. The meeting schedule is subject to change in either meeting date, time or location based on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission’s meeting schedule.*

After a brief discussion a consensus was reached to use the 2009 meeting schedule with one modification changing the November 18, 2009, meeting to Tuesday, November 24, 2009. Additional discussion suggested that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) meet less frequently in Reno and Las Vegas and convene meetings in rural counties. Other discussion noted that the Commission is cognizant of budget expenditures and is seeking more detailed information on certain expense categories (e.g., miscellaneous). Other discussion encouraged members to attend the March 2009 Game Board workshop which is scheduled in Reno (Nevada) in 2009.

- 11. MEMBER COMMENTS \*** – *Limited to emergent items not addressed elsewhere on the agenda. While the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may not engage in discussion or take action on any item identified under this topic the matter may be placed on a future agenda for discussion and possible action or recommendation of action to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners.*

There were no member comments.

- 12. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS \*** – *Selection of additional agenda item(s) for the January 29, 2009, meeting.*

It was suggested that the January 29, 2009, meeting include an update on legislative issues.

- 13. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.