

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

DRAFT OF MINUTES

Tuesday ~ November 24, 2009 ~ 6:30 p.m.
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Conference Room B
1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada

MEMBERS

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *

Chair Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL *

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was established.

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

ABSENT: Thomas Wilson.

3. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2009, MINUTES

It was moved by Member Copeland, seconded by Member Harwell, to approve the September 17, 2009, minutes, as submitted. The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS *

Judi Caron commented that she had attended the Predator Management Committee meeting earlier today (November 24, 2009). Ms. Caron expressed her concern about the Committee only acting public comment before the agenda items were heard thereby leaving the public unaware of the pros and cons of any proposal that might be heard. Ms. Caron explained that, in her opinion, public comment should be heard after each agenda item thus allowing the public to make comments based on information presented at the meeting.

5. COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES *

5-1). Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements – There was no correspondence or announcements.

5-2). Update on the Sheldon Wildlife Management Plan – There was no update.

5-3) Overview of the September 25 and 26, 2009, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meeting – Member Flower commented that all items were passed by unanimous vote of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners except for the Moapa Valley Turkey hunt and some modifications to language for the Duck hunt in Overton. Those two items appears later in tonight's (November 24, 2009) meeting agenda.

* denotes NON action item

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife – DRAFT Minutes

November 24, 2009

Page 2 of 7

5-4). Update and status report on the Washoe County Predator Control Project and the Wildlife Damage Management Subcommittee – Chair Smith commented that while he did not have a specific update, he had been informed by individuals hunting in the Fox Mountain area that there while a number of young bucks were sighted no mature bucks were reported.

- 6. BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT** – *A discussion and selection of member(s) to attend the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings on: 1) December 4 and 5, 2009, meetings in Reno, Nevada; and 2) February 5 and 6, 2010, meetings in Reno, Nevada.*

Member Wilson will attend the December 4, 2009, meeting.

Member Copeland will attend the December 5, 2009, meeting.

- 7. DEER RESTORATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT** – *A review and discussion of a recommendation by the Subcommittee to the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife and ultimately the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a Muledeer and Riparian Habitat restoration project(s) developed by the Deer Restoration Subcommittee.*

Rex Flowers – Chair Deer Restoration Subcommittee, explained that a number of ideas had been discussed at the recent meeting including the prevention of encroachment by Pinion Pines. The Subcommittee determined that the best course of action would be to continue to support NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) projects in Washoe County as the come forward for consideration.

- 8. CENTRAL NEVADA ELK PLAN COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT TEAM** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposal to appoint Lander County Commissioner Ray H. Williams to replace Midge Carver on the Coordination Oversight Team (COT). As directed by the Central Nevada Elk Plan, the Commission will be asked to officially appoint Mr. Williams as an official member of the COT.*

Chair Smith summarized the agenda item.

Member Flowers commented that he had contacted a friend in Smokey Valley but had not yet heard back. Without additional background information, specifically, Mr. Williams' stand on Elk issues, he would be reluctant to make any recommendation either in favor of, or in opposition to Mr. Williams appointment.

It was moved by Member Flowers, seconded by Member Harwell, to make no specific recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners on the appointment of Ran H. Williams to the Coordination Oversight Committee (COT). The motion

carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

9. **COMMISSION REGULATION 07-07, AMENDMENT No. 5** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify amendments to recommended changes to the hunt units available for the Moapa Valley limited entry fall and spring turkey hunts as well as language pertinent to the Overton Wildlife Management area defining public hunting opportunity.*

During the discussion it was explained that this particular agenda item dealt with clerical errors that were identified in the Moapa Valley hunt description(s). As the discussion continued, it was pointed out that Overton has its own set of rules that are not related to the hunt. The proposal clarifies the intent.

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Flowers, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the amendment to Commission Regulation 07-07, Amendment No. 5, as written. The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

10. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 370, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) FILE NO. R082-09** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation authorizing a person to take Bullfrogs or Crayfish without obtaining a license or permit issued by the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) under certain circumstances.*

Chair Smith outlined the proposed modifications to Commission General Regulation 370, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau File No. R082-09). Responding to an inquiry as to what prompted the modification, Chair Smith indicated that he had not been provided any background as to why the modification is being proposed.

It was moved by Member Flowers, seconded by Member Copeland, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Commission General Regulation 370, Legislative Counsel Bureau File No. R082-09, as written. The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

11. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 372, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) FILE NO. R115-09** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify new language for defining certain Antelope, Elk, and Deer physical descriptions for hunting. This includes antlered Deer, antlered Elk, and Antelope with horns longer than ears and shorter than ears. Antler defined. Clean-up of 502.390 Section 1*

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife – DRAFT Minutes

November 24, 2009

Page 4 of 7

(validation of tag) to be consistent with other regulations. Section 2 and 3 new language for when a person must validate a tag.

Chair Smith outlined the proposed amendments defining certain Antelope, Elk and Deer physical descriptions for hunting. Hearing no discussion from either the public or the board, Chair Smith asked for a motion.

It was moved by Member Flowers, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 372, Legislative Counsel Bureau File No. R115-09, as written. The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

- 12. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 373, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) FILE NO. R110-09 –** *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to wildlife management areas; providing that only vessels without motors may be used during certain periods on the Dacey Reservoir in the Wayne E. Kirch Wildlife Management Area; revising certain other provisions governing the use of the Dacey Reservoir.*

Chair Smith read the proposed modifications into the record.

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Copeland, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 373 Legislative Counsel Bureau File No. 373, as written. The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

- 13. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 376, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) FILE NO. R137-09 –** *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to fishing, expanding the permissible radius of a cast net used in certain waters.*

Chair Smith noted that the only modification was to change a three (3) foot casting radius to four (4) feet.

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Copeland, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 376, Legislative Counsel Bureau File No. R137-09, as written.

Judi Caron commented that she was unaware of this particular regulation and questioned the meaning and need for this type of revisions.

During the discussion it was noted that this particular regulations focuses on the capture of live bait and is used mostly in Southern Nevada.

Ms. Caron suggested that no action be taken with out further explanation on what the regulation covers and why the change is needed.

The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers and Harwell assenting; Chair Smith dissenting; and Member Wilson absent.

- 14. COMMISSION POLICIES, FIRST READING** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify recommendations and/or changes from the Commission's Administrative Procedures, Regulation Committee to Commission Policy No. 50, Duck Stamp Procedure; Commission Policy No. 51, Wayne E. Kirch Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award; and Commission Policy No. 22, Introduction, Transplanting and Exportation of Wildlife.*

Chair Smith provided an overview of the agenda item.

Members Copeland, Flowers and Harwell questioned what the changes were and why the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) is having the First Reading at the Friday, December 4, 2009, meeting and a final second reading of the policies the following day, Saturday, December 5, 2009. Of particular concern is that the changes are being processed without any input from the County Game Boards.

Judi Caron noted that the subcommittee had met earlier today (November 24, 2009) and that the draft of meeting minutes would not be available before the Commission meeting in early December. Ms. Caron noted that there had not been any information on the matter on the NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) website. Ms. Carson suggested that the board recommend that the Commission delay any action on the changes until the County Game Boards have an opportunity to review the proposed modifications.

It was moved by Member Flowers, seconded by Member Copeland, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners take no action on Commission Policies 22, 50 and 51, until the State's County Game Boards have an opportunity to review the proposed modifications. The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

- 15. 2010 MEETING CALENDAR** – *A review, discussion and possible action to set meeting dates for 2010.* Chair Smith

Chair Smith outlined the proposed 2010 meeting dates for the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife: Thursday - January 28; Thursday - March 11; Monday – May 10;

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife – DRAFT Minutes

November 24, 2009

Page 6 of 7

Thursday – June 17; Thursday – August 0' Monday September 16; and Tuesday – November 23, 2010. Mr. Smith noted that all meeting dates, times and locations are tentative and subject to change, with notice.

It was moved by Member Copeland, seconded by Member Harwell, to set the 2010 meeting schedule for the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife as follows: Thursday - January 28; Thursday - March 11; Monday – May 10; Thursday – June 17; Monday – August 9; Thursday - September 16; and Monday – November 29, 2010.

Member Flowers will contact NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to schedule meeting space.

The motion carried: Members Copeland, Flowers, Harwell and Chair Smith assenting; and Member Wilson absent.

16. 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.*

Member Flowers stated that he would not be able to attend the January 28, 2010, meeting.

Member Harwell reiterated his previous concern and question about NDOT's (Nevada Department of Transportation) requirement to keep water in Washoe Lake. Mr. Harwell wondered to what extent NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) jurisdiction and/or input would be to maintain the wetlands as required as part of the agreement to build the U. S. Highway 395 freeway.

Member Flowers commented that he believes the issue was addressed by the Commission (Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners) during the meeting in Lovelock (Nevada) earlier this year (2009). Member Flowers suggested that a review of the minutes and presentation made at that meeting may resolve Member Harwell's questions.

There was discussion about why Washoe County was not listed as a location for the harvesting of Swans. It was noted that while there are a number of Swans in the Stead area, it is a congested residential area in which hunting would not be appropriate. Other discussion noted that a permit for Swans allows hunting in all three (3) areas.

Chair Smith drew attention to correspondence dated September 11, 2009, seeking input from Game Board members. The due date for responses is Wednesday, November 25, 2009.

* denotes NON action item

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife – DRAFT Minutes

November 24, 2009

Page 7 of 7

Member Flowers noted that he had returned too late from a business trip to ask that the matter be added to tonight's (November 24, 2009) agenda.

17. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS * – *Selection of additional agenda item(s) for the Thursday, January 28, 2010, meeting.*

The January 28, 2010, meeting agenda may include, but is not limited to: 1) a review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about the process by which members are selected/appointed to serve on various Subcommittees to assure that a more democratic process for appointment is in place.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

* denotes NON action item