



Non-profit Tax-exempt  
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August 6, 2009

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners  
1100 Valley Road  
Reno, NV 89512

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the 18 directors and 3500 members of NBU-Reno I would like to express our great concern about the ability of Gerald Lent to continue leading the Commission as chair. At the last Commission meeting in Lovelock Chairman Lent showed open hostility toward NBU in trying to reverse a decision made by the Heritage Committee to award NBU three Heritage tags to auction at our next banquet. After the Heritage Committee meeting Chairman Lent openly berated two NBU board members attacking them personally using profanity and telling them "payback is hell" and "next year you will be lucky to get a turkey tag". This was to an organization (NBU) that has raised millions for the Heritage fund in the last 12 years. Chairman Lent went on to make similar statements on the record at the commission meeting the next day including a false accusation that another commissioner was denied admission to our annual banquet. He has also used the public forum to openly criticize and berate the NDOW Director and other NDOW employees, and has been rude and made disparaging remarks to women appearing before the commission. This conduct is both unprofessional and unethical, and is an obvious abuse of power.

As the largest volunteer sportsman's organization in Nevada we have raised millions of dollars and logged tens of thousand volunteer hours in support of Nevada's wildlife and feel we have a right to be heard and treated with respect. In the past 5 years we have funded and actively participated in numerous big game trap and transplants, water enhancement projects, predator control projects, wildhorse control on the Sheldon, mule deer and elk studies, sage grouse studies, several youth hunting and fishing forums, and many range restoration projects. Because of our efforts all Nevadans have had increased opportunities to hunt or otherwise enjoy wildlife.

Chairman Lent is certainly entitled to his opinion but we feel that his apparent lack of objectivity and inability to depersonalize disagreement is a huge drawback in leading a state commission. We think his behavior puts the Commission at risk to legal action and is not the positive leadership needed to address the many wildlife issues facing our state. We strongly urge you to elect another chair at your next meeting.

Your attention in the matter is greatly appreciated. We look forward to finding common ground to work together in the future

Sincerely,

Nevada Bighorns Unlimited-Reno

  
Michael J. Bertoldi  
President

*Nevadans working for the future of Nevada's wildlife.*