

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the February 3, 2009 Meeting

The DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE was scheduled for **5:30 p.m. on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009 in the CVIC HALL (SECOND FLOOR) 1602 ESMERALDA AVE, MINDEN, NEVADA.**

PRESENT: Chairman Mike Turnipseed
Vice-Chairman Kevin Servatius
Eric Scheetz
Bob Cook

MEMBERS ABSENT: Craig Burnside

STAFF: Lorraine Diedrichsen, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT: Matt Bernard
Mike McCuster
Mike Davies
Mike Turner
Reed Varble
Carl Lackey

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is retained by the Board Chairman and is available for review upon request.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** – Chairman Turnipseed called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and determined a quorum was present. He extended a welcome to the newest board member, Eric Scheetz.

Eric Scheetz spoke briefly about the passing of Joe Denton. Mr. Scheetz provided his background and his interest in managing wildlife in Douglas County. He is interested in following the plans of NDOW and the public.

- 2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 2, 2008** – MOTION by Cook/Servatius to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Burnside absent and Scheetz abstaining.
- 3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA** – None.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS** – Matt Bernard spoke about the upcoming wild turkey release and asked what the opportunity is for the private citizen. Is public money being used? It is difficult for a sportsman; it becomes the private land owner's private quarry.

Carl Lackey said private property is the only place they will survive. When the population gets large enough for a hunt, the property owner has agreed to allow a few hunters to go out and hunt. No public money was spent because the National Wild Turkey Federation paid for

everything. It is up to the private land owner who can hunt but turkey tags can be purchased for birds on public lands.

Bob Cook talked about the Southern Nevada Water Authority and noted he received a response to the letter he wrote Mr. Reid. In addition, he stated he went blue grouse hunting at the top of Kingsbury on November 15. The gates were closed so hunters could not drive in. He would like the gates to remain open until deer season is closed.

5. **DISCLOSURES** – Mike Turnipseed discussed an email he received from his son regarding a committee meeting he had attended.
6. **REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE NOVEMBER 21 AND 22, 2008 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING** – Bob Cook attended and highlighted the following topics:
 - Transplanted 104 sheep out of the River Mountain area. They are trying to keep the sheep out of the area but cannot use the drop net in the park. The residents want the sheep to remain so they are feeding and watering them. One of the options is to remove the grass but there are no solutions yet.
 - ½ of the wild horse population is in Nevada.
 - Pike have been located at Comins Lake and will be monitored.
 - Marshall Goldy sent a letter regarding Mountain Lions.
 - Stock boat for Lake Mead.
 - Toured the Clark County shooting range.
 - Future use of crossbows.
 - Overton Wildlife Interpretative Center.
 - Spoke about Joe Denton.
7. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REDUCTION OF WATERS TO RECEIVE FISH PLANTS IN CALIFORNIA – CRAIG BURNSIDE** – Due to Craig Burnside's absence, this item was continued to March 24, 2009.
8. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ISSUES AT THE CARSON LAKE AND PASTURE – ERIC SCHEETZ** – After attending a meeting in Reno, Mr. Scheetz learned 30,000 acres on this project will be transferred to the state in 2010. Direction was sought from the different groups for suggestions and concerns regarding the development of the Master Plan.

Mike Turnipseed provided a history of the Carson Lake and Pasture.
9. **ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA** – Kevin Servatius asked to remove item 9M for discussion. Mike Turnipseed asked to remove item 9C for discussion. Eric Scheetz asked to remove item 9F for discussion. **MOTION** by Cook/Servatius to approve the consent calendar; carried with Burnside absent.
 - 9-A. **ACTION REGARDING PETITION OF IRA HANSEN.** The commission will consider a petition from Mr. Ira Hansen requesting to clarify and define the term “disturb” as referenced in NRS 503.454.2. The commission may accept and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition.
 - 9-B. **ACTION REGARDING APPEAL OF BRIAN M. MCGURTY.** The commission will consider an appeal from Mr. Brian M. McGurty on the denial of his permit to continue scientific collection.

9-C. ACTION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICY (“APRP”) COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER RAINE. Commissioner Raine will report to the full commission on the APRP Committee meeting held on January 7, 2009, and may ask that the commission take action on the committee’s recommendation to revise Commission Policy No. 1, “General Guidelines for the Commission.”

Mike Turnipseed read from the proposed guidelines said the Committee is trying to micromanage NDOW, their budget and regulate donations and their use. This violates statute.

Kevin Servatius agreed and asked the NDOW representatives for their opinion.

Carl Lackey said donations are sometimes time sensitive and this would affect that. This stems from the discord between Hunters Alert and NBU. It will prevent groups from giving the department a hand because it would take Commission approval.

Eric Scheetz discussed the current requirement for approval of donations over \$10,000 by the state bodies. He would oppose circumventing the laws and would like more information to make sure all issues are addressed.

Kevin Servatius said this is a clear attempt to manage NDOW by the Commission. They are not charged with this.

Bob Cook agreed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Servatius to oppose the proposal by APRP in agenda item 9C; carried with Burnside absent.

9-D. ACTION REGARDING WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (“WDMC”) - COMMISSIONER RAINE. Commissioner Raine will report to the full commission on the WDMC Committee meeting held on January 8, 2009, and may ask that the commission take action on the committee’s recommendations.

9-E. ACTION REGARDING FINANCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER LURIE. The committee will request approval of the committee charter. The committee may also request the commission to take action regarding recommended legislative revisions to NRS 501.179, relative to commissioner compensation.

9-F. ACTION REGARDING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN LENT. The committee may request action regarding the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s proposed legislation in Assembly Bill 77 to increase civil penalty amounts, provide for a civil penalty for conviction of wanton waste, and to make possession of wildlife illegally taken outside Nevada’s jurisdiction unlawful; the committee may also request action regarding the release of big game tag draw information within 48 hours of completion of the draw process; the committee may also request action regarding legislation pertinent to mountain lion hunting with Department staff, providing suggested language for consideration by Assemblyman Claborn on a lion bill.

Carl Lackey said the harvest objective is not a quota; it is a number that should not be exceeded in total harvest. He provided an explanation of the formula used to determine harvest objectives.

Mike Turnipseed said some hunters felt the decrease in deer population is a direct result of coyotes and lions.

Eric Scheetz asked what facts we have to work with as a managing group? How many cats do we have? How many deer do we have being eaten by the cats?

Carl Lackey responded the lion study at UNR will provide much more information. We only have harvest statistics at this time. This bill could end lion hunting in the state.

Matt Bernard asked if there is a mountain lion management plan.

Carl Lackey responded yes but it needs revisions.

Eric Scheetz said he would like to see the information from the UNR study.

9-G. ACTION REGARDING HERITAGE COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER CAVIN.

The commission will hear a report on the heritage account's interest and principal from Administrative Services Officer Dave Prather. Commissioner Cavin will report to the full commission on the Heritage Committee meeting held on February 5, 2009, and may ask that the commission take action on the committee's recommendations.

9-H. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-01, HERITAGE TAGS 2010 - BIG GAME STAFF BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. The commission will adopt the heritage tag species, seasons, and quotas for 2010.

9-I. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-02, HERITAGE TAGS 2011 - BIG GAME STAFF BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. The commission will adopt the heritage tag species, seasons, and quotas for 2011.

9-J. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-03, RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. The commission will establish 2009 and 2010 season dates, species, quotas, hours, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take for raptors for falconry.

9-K. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-04, NON-COMMERCIAL COLLECTION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS FOR 2009 AND 2010 - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. The regulation establishes the 2009 and 2010 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collection of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.

9-L. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-06 - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST KEVIN LANSFORD. The commission will adopt mountain lion harvest objectives for the 2009 / 2010 and 2010 / 2011 seasons.

9-M. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-05, PROPOSED BIG GAME SEASON DATES - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST MIKE COX. The commission will adopt the 2009 and 2010 hunting seasons for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal gender, age and physical characteristics, and legal weapon requirements; partnership in wildlife ("PIW") and emergency hunt structure and statewide quotas; the 2009 nonresident restricted deer tag quotas and seasons; dates and times for indoctrination courses. *NDOW Note: Support material sent under separate cover.*

Kevin Servatius discussed input received from sportsmen regarding the interstate late hunt. They

feel the urban interface for the rifle/muzzleloader/archery hunt in December for 192/194/196 is getting tricky. Personally, he agrees with NDOW's recommendation and feels it is a quality late season hunt.

Carl Lackey said the sportsmen's concerns can be addressed with quotas.

Matt Bernard stated he struggles with the rationale of starting the seasons in midweek. Is it being monitored and is it effective? It does not spread people out.

Mike Turner thought the youth deer hunt should open on a weekend and close on a Sunday.

Matt Bernard said he would like to advocate for the kids and would like the deer season to open on the first Saturday of October. The youth get the short end of the stick but opening the youth on a separate day would be hard to enforce.

Kevin Servatius thought, from an enforcement perspective, it would not make sense to have the youth and the others open separately. Perhaps addressing the commission as an addendum to our recommendations or a petition would be an avenue to change it.

Eric Scheetz said we need to measure all the angles to see the whether it is working.

Matt Bernard thought sending a survey to everyone who sent in an application asking whether they would like the season to open on a weekday or a Saturday would result in an overwhelming response of "Saturday".

Kevin Servatius left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

- 10. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE FEBRUARY 6 AND 7, 2009 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING.** A report on each of the following informational items will be provided by a Nevada Department of Wildlife representative or a Wildlife Commissioner at the upcoming Commission meeting.
 - 10-A. CORRESPONDENCE - CHAIRMAN LENT.** The commission will review and may discuss written items sent or received by the commission since the last regular meeting and provide copies for the exhibit file.
 - 10-B. COMMISSION POLICY NO. 50, DUCK STAMP PROCEDURES, FIRST READING - CHIEF OF CONSERVATION EDUCATION KELLY CLARK.** The department is requesting the commission to revise Policy No. 50 to change the number of Nevada duck stamps printed from 50,000 to 35,000.
 - 10-C. 20010 PRELIMINARY BIG GAME HARVEST RESULTS - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST MIKE COX.** Summary and overview of preliminary big game harvest data.
 - 10-D. WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES ("WAFWA") ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT - CHAIRMAN LENT, COMMISSIONER McNINCH, AND SECRETARY MAYER**
 - 10-E. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL BRYAN STOCKTON**
 - 10-F. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES / LEADERSHIP TEAM NOTES - SECRETARY**

KEN MAYER

**10-G. DEPARTMENT BUDGET - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER III
DAVE PRATHER**

**10-H. WILDLIFE DIVERSITY DIVISION PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE -
CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS**

**10-I. DEPARTMENT ACTIONS RELATED TO “EARLY AND UNAUTHORIZED
RELEASE OF 2008 BIG GAME DRAW RESULTS”**

10-J. 2009 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - DIRECTOR KEN MAYER

**10-K. UPDATE ON WILD HORSE ISSUES AND LEGISLATION - CHIEF OF
HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM**

**10-L. UPDATE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE INVOLVEMENT - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM**

Mike Turnipseed said this refers to wind farm applications and there are five companies that want to put in solar. BLM does not know how a large solar field might effect living things.

**10-M. NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE WATER MONITORING RELATIVE
TO SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY PROJECTS - CHIEF OF HABITAT
DAVE PULLIAM**

Mike Turnipseed gave a brief history of the applications and hearings.

**10-N. BASSET AND COMINS LAKE FISHERIES’ STATUS - DEPUTY DIRECTOR
RICH HASKINS**

**11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER
COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS** – Mike Turnipseed and Eric Scheetz will attend the Reno meeting.

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT DCABMW MEETING – The next DCABMW meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2009.

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Reduction of waters to receive fish plants
- Budget
- Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

14. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Scheetz/Cook to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.; carried with Burnside absent.

The minutes of February 3, 2009 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 24th day of March, 2009.

Mike Turnipseed, Chairman