DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the August 10, 2009 Meeting

The DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE was scheduled for **5:30 p.m. on MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009 in the CVIC HALL (SECOND FLOOR) 1602 ESMERALDA AVE, MINDEN, NEVADA.**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Lorraine Diedrichsen, Recording Secretary

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 5:35 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.

2. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 23, 2009** – MOTION by Servatius/Burnside to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Cook and Scheetz abstaining.

3. **MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA** – None.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS** – Chairman Turnipseed stated Doug Martin would send the joint letter, which was previously approved by the DCABMW, to the U.S. Forest Service. The addition of the blue grouse season dates and a request for a timely response to the letter would be incorporated into the final version of the letter.

5. **DISCLOSURES** – Kevin Servatius and Eric Scheetz both noted they had contact with Carl Lackey from NDOW.

6. **REPORT AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DRAMATIC DECREASE IN THE DEER HERD IN UNIT 192 - ERIC SCHEETZ.**

   Mr. Scheetz questioned the origin of the numbers in the Big Game status book and noted the differences in those numbers and the numbers supplied by Carl Lackey. Whether the interstate herd was being considered in the numbers was discussed as well as what numbers the DCABMW should use when considering the appropriate numbers for tracking and quota setting.

   Mr. Burnside noted the problem lies with how the numbers are derived not being qualified.

   Mr. Servatius suggested reagendizing this topic and inviting Carl Lackey to attend the next DCABMW meeting.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE STATUS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DCABMW'S STRATEGIC PLAN - ERIC SCHEETZ.

Mr. Scheetz distributed a *preliminary draft* copy of the plan to gain input from the other board members. An overview of some of the components presented included:

- Core values_- what is important to the DCABMW.
- Mission Statement - Included are NDOW's, Douglas County's and a proposed *draft* statement for the DCABMW.
- Strategic objectives – will be developed to implement the planning goals.
- Performance management – statistics, performance, and measures.

The input from the other board members will be considered in all aspects of this process; this process could take well over one year.

Mr. Turnipseed reminded everyone the board is also responsible for non-consumptive wildlife/non-game species such as skunks, owls, raptors, raccoons, bats, snakes, etc.

Mr. Servatius agreed and added this should encompass not just hunters and fisherman but the non-sportsman who enjoy the agricultural component of Douglas County.

Mr. Scheetz discussed the performance measures as they relate to the variation in the numbers of the deer herd. The goal of monitoring statistics becomes difficult with these variations.

Mr. Burnside asked if the DCABMW was involved in the development of the wildlife component of the Douglas County Master Plan.

Mr. Servatius responded he was unsure but would provide that section of the Master Plan to Mr. Scheetz for him to review.

Mr. Scheetz talked about the trend with Vision Statements becoming more specific and asked the board how they would like to apply that to developing goals and strategies.

Mr. Turnipseed thought raising public awareness (what we have, what their habitat is, and what should be protected) with non-game species would be a positive step.

Mr. Scheetz said the Strategic Planning Goals were presented not as specific actions but as items to advocate.

All the board members thanked him and thought this draft document was an excellent start.

8. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE JUNE 26 AND 27, 2009 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING.

Mr. Turnipseed attended and provided a brief update on the following topics:

- Pheasant population in the Mason Valley
- Distribution of the Heritage Tags
- Areas for reintroduction of salmon
- The Commission's position on legislative issues was not reported to the Legislature.

9. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendized for the August 14 and 15, 2009 Wildlife Commission meeting and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without extensive hearing. Any member of the Board or any citizen may request that an item be taken from the consent agenda and acted upon separately during this meeting.

Mr. Burnside asked to remove item 9F for discussion.

Mr. Scheetz asked to remove item 9D for discussion.

MOTION by Burnside/Cook to approve the consent agenda minus items 9D and 9F; carried unanimously.

9-A. ACTION REGARDING ELECTION OF OFFICERS – CHAIRMAN LENT. In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a chairman and vice chairman for fiscal year 2010.

9-B. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 364 LCB FILE NO. R206-08 – GAME DIVISION CHIEF MARK ATKINSON. Commission General Regulation 364 LCB File No. R206-08 proposes that the Commission accept changes to elk damage and elk incentive tag regulations which make revisions to NAC 502.42259, 502.42261, 502.42263, 502.42266, and 504.350. *This item is agendized as part of an informational workshop on Friday, August 14 and for action on Saturday, August 15.*

9-C. ACTION REGARDINGCOMMISSION POLICY #1 – COMMISSIONER SCOTT RAINE. In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will have a second reading of proposed updates from the Commission's Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy Committee for Commission Policy #1, "General Guidelines for the Commission". The Commission will be asked to adopt the proposed changes to Commission Policy #1 and dividing Commission Policy #1 into three separate policies:

a. Commission Policy #1, "General Guidelines for the Commission"
b. Commission Policy #3, "Appeals Policy"
c. Commission Policy #4, "Petition Process and Adoption of Regulation Policy"

This item is agendized as part of an informational workshop on Friday, August 14 and for action on Saturday, August 15.

9-D. ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL CONVERSION OF THE WINE CUP RANCH TO A WILD HORSE REFUGE – KEN WELLINGTON, ELKO COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE. The Commission will be asked to take possible action on responding to renewed interest in the development of portions of the Wine Cup Ranch in Elko County into a wild horse refuge. Changes proposed in HR1018 may allow such a conversion to occur.

Mr. Turnipseed provided the location of the Wine Cup Ranch, which is mostly private land.

Mr. Burnside read from the May minutes of the Commission meeting regarding the timing of

the flights and fawn count, and questioned the correlation of that with the proposed wild horse refuge.

Mr. Scheetz wondered how the wildlife is going to react to a wild horse refuge. Some of the changes proposed by HR1018, especially Section 10, are concerning, particularly lifting the restriction on the authority of the Secretary to relocate horses and burros to public lands where they did not exist. This may increase the area where horses are allowed to run free. He thought this could open the door in the Pinenut Range.

The board discussed the number of wild horses in Nevada and the difficulty in getting them adopted out. This proposal raises concerns from a wildlife prospective. They would like to watch the progress of this issue.

No action was taken.

9-E. ACTION REGARDING WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – COMMISSIONER SCOTT RAINE. The Commission will hear a report from its Wildlife Damage Management Committee and be asked to take action on the committee's draft plan recommendations that identify predator management proposals for the Predator Management Plan for 2010.

9-F. ACTION REGARDING ONLINE HUNT APPLICATION CHANGES/AMENDMENTS AFTER APPLICATION SUBMISSION – CHIEF OF OPERATIONS BOB HAUGHIAN. **The CABMWs and the public are requested to review options presented and make recommendation to the Commission. The Commission will be asked to make a selection of one of the proposed options.**

Mr. Burnside noted six options were presented and staff is recommending Option 6.

After a review of all the options, the DCABMW agreed that Option 1 would be their preference.

MOTION by Cook/Burnside that the DCABMW recommends Option 1 to the Commission; carried unanimously.

9-G. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 07-07 AMENDMENT #4 – GAME DIVISION STAFF BIOLOGIST KEVIN LANSFORD. The proposed amendment to Commission Regulation 07-07 Amendment #4 addresses changes to bobcat pelt sealing dates that were approved at the June Commission meeting in Lovelock.

9-H. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 09-08 – GAME DIVISION STAFF BIOLOGIST CRAIG MORTIMORE. The proposed Commission Regulation 09-08 recommends season dates and bag limits for migratory waterfowl, common snipe, coots and moorhens for 2009-10. The proposed regulation also recommends dates and bag limits for the special youth waterfowl hunt and falconry season dates and bag limits for migratory game birds.

10. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE AUGUST 14 AND 15, 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 GERALD A. 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. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL NHU NGUYEN

10-C. WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES REPORT – COMMISSIONER TOM CAVIN AND SECRETARY KEN MAYER

10-D. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES/LEADERSHIP TEAM NOTES - SECRETARY KEN MAYER

10-E. HERITAGE COMMITTEE – COMMISSIONER TOM CAVIN

10-F. APPLICATION HUNT 2009 DRAW REPORT – DON SEFTON AND MONTY MARTIN, SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS

10-G. 48 HOUR DRAW RELEASE UPDATE – DON SEFTON, SYSTEMS CONSULTANT

10-H. BITTERBRUSH AND WILDFIRE – CLIFF GARDNER. A presentation will be made on bitterbrush and wildfire and their effects on wildlife habitat.

10-I. MUZZLELOADER VISUAL DISABILITY MODIFICATIONS WORKSHOP – DEPUTY DIRECTOR RICH HASKINS. ***This item is adgenized as an informational workshop on Friday, August 14th*****. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has asked that the Nevada Department of Wildlife implement a process whereby reasonable modifications to the muzzleloader hunting program are available to accommodate hunters with visual disabilities, as a result of a multi-state disability complaint by the North American Muzzleloader Association.**

Mr. Servatius discussed the possibility of a 1x power scope on muzzleloaders in Nevada, subject to the determination of the type of eye correction criteria.

11. ACTION REGARDING FUTURE COMMISSION MEETING - DIRECTOR KEN MAYER. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 25 and 26, 2009, in Las Vegas; and the Commission will review potential agenda items for that meeting. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments and create new committees.

No action was taken.

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS.

Mr. Burnside will attend the Elko meeting.

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT DCABMW MEETING.

The next meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2009.

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Strategic Plan
- Quagga mussel
- Decrease in the deer herd
- Lake Tahoe pier
- Closure of the forest service road

15. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION by Cook/Servatius to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m.; carried unanimously.

The minutes of the August 10, 2009 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 22nd day of September, 2009

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Mike Turnipseed, Chairman