

Nevada Board of Wildlife Search Committee Meeting
By Teleconference
At
Nevada Department of Wildlife
1100 Valley Road
Reno NV 89512
And
90 Nob Hill Avenue
Eureka NV 89316

Minutes

March 25, 2011

Committee Members Present:

In Reno:

Gerald A Lent, Vice Chairman
Daryl Capurro, Commissioner

In Eureka

Scott Raine, Chairman

Others Present:

In Reno:

Kristina Ross, Staff
Dana Carvin, NV Dept of State Personnel
Patrick Cates, Deputy Director, NDOW
Jim Jenne, Lyon County ABMW
W S Meyer
Don Molde
Rex Flowers, Washoe County ABMW

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Raine at 10:05 a.m.

Scott Raine appointed Gerry Lent to be chairman for this meeting since he was attending by teleconference.

Approval of the Agenda – Action

Chairman Lent called for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment Period

No comment from the public.

Status of Applications Report

Scott Raine asked Kris Ross to give a report on the application process. Ms. Ross reported that the announcement was sent to at least one person in all 50 states, with Alaska responding they do not share announcements from other entities with their staff. The announcement was also sent to all 17 County Advisory Boards, to a list obtained from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies of Program Chiefs and Fish Chiefs. It was also sent to the American Fish and Wildlife Association. Additionally, it was posted on the State of Nevada's web site, the NV Dept of Wildlife's web site and on Recruiting Nevada, a site featuring positions in Nevada.

A total of 11 applications were received and reviewed for the statutory requirements by Ms Ross in collaboration with Dana Carvin, Supervisory Personnel Analyst, with the State Department of Personnel. From this review, it was determined that 6 candidates do not meet the requirements, five do meet the requirements.

A review and comment on each of the candidates was done.

The Committee concurred with Staff on those meeting the requirements:

- Robert Beach, Asst National Coordinator, USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services in Colorado
- Gary Bertellotti, Regional Supervisor, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Dept
- Steve Ferrell, current Policy Advisor to the Governor of Wyoming, previously Director , Wyoming Game & Fish Dept
- Kevin Lansford, formerly with NDOW as a Staff Biologist, previously District Supervisor for USDA - Wildlife Services in Nevada
- Kenneth Mayer, Acting Director NDOW, former Director of NDOW

After each review and synopsis of experience by staff a discussion was held between the Committee members. After each discussion, a motion was made, seconded and carried to include these candidates in the interview group.

The Committee concurred that the following do not meeting the requirements:

- Jim Burdett, unrelated BA in Business Administration; currently President and CEO of Allegra Print & Imaging in Las Vegas; no work experience in management of wildlife
- Steven Dagher, unrelated BA in Business Administration; currently working for Advantage Sport Surfaces Ltd; no experience in management of wildlife
- Chandler Kasper, no degree indicated; currently with Bob Hoffman Marine Services; no experience in management of wildlife
- Jack Reime, BS in Criminal Justice; currently a Compliance Officer at Redhawk Casino; no experience in management of wildlife
- Gregory Smith, Jr, no degree indicated; currently a job supervisor at Clark County Safekey; no experience in management of wildlife

After each review and synopsis of experience by staff, a discussion was held between the Committee members. A motion was made, seconded and carried to exclude these candidates from the interview.

The Committee did not unanimously agree on the following candidate not meeting the requirements as determined by staff:

- Jeremy Rakowicz, currently a Conservation Officer for the South Dakota Fish, Game and Parks.

Staff did not see the experience rising to the level of "substantial experience in the management of wildlife and a demonstrated ability to administer a major public agency."

Committee member moved to include Mr. Rakowicz in the interview process. Motion died for lack of a second.

At the conclusion of the discussion of all candidates, Chairman Lent asked if there was a motion to reconsider the application of Jeremy Rakowicz. Motion was made, seconded and carried.

There was a lengthy discussion and comments by Deputy Director Cates explaining why his experience was not at the level of management required. He also voiced his concern that if this candidate was ultimately chosen, there would certainly be legal fallout from that appointment.

The Committee did decide to include this candidate in the interview. Motion was made, seconded and carried.

The Committee directed staff to advise each candidate of the disposition of his application. To be included in the invitation to the interview was to be a request for 3 letters of recommendation; a Waiver for a background check as indicated in the announcement; and a copy of transcripts, a copy of the degree or other proof of the college degree. Interview date is to be the first day of the April Commission meeting, Friday, April 15, 2011.

CAB member Rex Flowers expressed concern that the County Advisory Boards, in particular will not have time to meet and provide any input in to the process.

Dr. Molde requested that it be made clear in the invitation letter to the candidates that the interview will take place under the open meeting law and the public is allowed to attend the entire proceeding.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Ross, Personnel Officer
Staff to Director Search Committee