

Approved with Changes Nov. 14, 2008 - MINUTES
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting
at
Eureka County Courthouse
10 South Main
Eureka, NV 89316

Friday, August 15, 2008 – 10:30 a.m.

Call to Order, Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Introduction and Roll Call of County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Secretary Mayer

- 1 Election of Officers – Action - In accordance with Commission Policy, the Commission will elect a chairman and vice chairman, for fiscal year 2009.

Wayne E. Kirch Award Presentation – Chairman

- 2 Approval of Minutes – Action - Commission meeting minutes from June 27 and 28, 2008.

Approval of Agenda – Action - The Commission will review the agenda and may remove items from consideration or adjust their order of presentation.

Member Items

County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items

Public Comment Period

- 3 Orientation Committee – Commissioner David McNinch – Action
The Commission will be asked to approve and finalize the draft County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife manual.

Workshop on Regulations – Informational

- 4 Commission General Regulation – 358 – LCB File No. R066-08 – Eligibility Waiting Periods – Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger
The Commission will be asked to adopt language revising the circumstances under which a resident of Nevada or a nonresident is eligible to apply for a tag to hunt antelope, bighorn sheep, elk or mountain goat; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- 5 Commission General Regulation - CGR 362 – LCB File No. R155-08 – Wolverines – Chief of Law Enforcement Rob Buonamici
The Commission will be asked to adopt language to add wolverines to the list of mammals classified as protected; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- 6 Reports - Informational

A Department Budget –Deputy Director Doug Hunt
B Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Annual Conference Report – Commissioner McNinch
C Department Activities Report – Director Ken Mayer
D Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Nhu Nguyen
E Clark County Shooting Park – Commissioner Lurie
F Hollow Mine Claim Markers – Wildlife Diversity Chief Laura Richards
G Application Hunt 2008 Draw Report – Don Sefton, Systems Consultants

Saturday, August 16, 2008 – 8 a.m.

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, Introduction and Roll Call of CABMW Representatives –

Member Items

Public Comment Period

Regulations – Action

- 7 Commission General Regulation – 358 – LCB File No. R066-08 – Eligibility Waiting Periods – Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger
The Commission will be asked to adopt language revising the circumstances under which a resident of Nevada or a nonresident is eligible to apply for a tag to hunt antelope, bighorn sheep, elk or mountain goat; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.
- 8 Commission General Regulation - CGR 362 – LCB File No. R155-08 – Wolverines – Chief of Law Enforcement Rob Buonamici
The Commission will be asked to adopt language to add wolverines to the list of mammals classified as protected; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.
- 9 Commission Regulation 08-02 Waterfowl Seasons for 2008-2009 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Craig Mortimore – Action
The Commission will establish hunting season dates and bag limits for waterfowl, snipe, falconry seasons for migratory game birds, and a youth waterfowl season for the 2008-2009 hunting season.
- 10 Reports – Informational
 - A Department “Green Team” Report – Management Analyst III Kim Jolly
 - B Wildlife Damage Management Committee – Wildlife Staff Specialist Kevin Lansford
 - C Cortez Mountain Sheep Transplant – Game Division Chief Russ Mason
 - D Shed Antler Report – Chief of Law Enforcement Rob Buonamici
- 11 Future Commission Meeting – Director Ken Mayer - Action
The next Commission meeting is a joint meeting with California’s Fish and Game Commission and is scheduled for September 5, 2008, at Kings Beach California, and for September 6, 2008, at NDOW’s Headquarters’ office in Reno. The Commission will review potential agenda items for that meeting and will discuss the start time of the September meetings and discuss Commission Committee meeting dates and times. The chairman may adjust committee assignments and may create new committees.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners present for two day meeting:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Chairman Gerald Lent | Vice Chairman Ron Lurie | Commissioner Tom Cavin |
| Commissioner McBeath | Commissioner McNinch | Commissioner Mori |
| Commissioner Raine | Commissioner Swanson | Commissioner Wallace |

Director Kenneth E. Mayer

Nhu Nguyen, Deputy Attorney General

Suzanne Scourby, Recording Secretary

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel present:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Game Division Chief Russ Mason | Deputy Director Doug Hunt |
| Big Game Biologist Larry Gilbertson | Game Warden Joe Maslach |
| Management Analyst III Kim Jolly | Big Game Biologist Mike Cox |
| Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici | Eastern Region Big Game Biologist Mike Podborny |
| Joe Doucette, Conservation Education | |

Others in Attendance:

| | |
|--|--|
| William Miller, White Pine CABMW | Cindy Alexander, Clark CABMW |
| Ken Wellington, Elko CABMW | Monte Miller, SCI |
| Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW | Bevan Lister |
| Don Sefton, SCI | Steve Hemp, Humboldt CABMW |
| Tom Cassinelli, Humboldt CABMW | Jim Nelson, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited |
| Dan Heinz, self | Bill Meyer, Lyon CABMW |
| Giovanni Giordano, Humboldt CABMW | Mike Laughlin |
| Chad Bliss, Eureka CABMW | Pat Laughlin |
| Judi Caron | LeRoy Sestanovich |
| Chad Bliss, Eureka CABMW | Billie Filippini, C Ranches Inc. |
| Gib Mackedon, Churchill CABMW | Shane Boren, White Pine CABMW |
| Jim Fillipini, C Ranches Inc. | Assemblyman Jerry Claborn |
| Joel Blakeslee, NV Trapper's Association | Diana Belding |
| Mel Belding | Jack Robb |
| Jim Jeffress | Carl Slagowski, Rancher/Owner |
| George Parman, NV Livestock Association | Tom Tomera, Stonehouse Ranch Pine Valley |
| Jim Nelson, DVM, NV Bighorns Unlimited | |

Friday, August 15, 2008 – 10:30 a.m.

Secretary Mayer said since there is no chair or vice chair, he will call the meeting to order. Director Mayer led the pledge of allegiance, and introduced the four new Commissioners, Michael McBeath, Dr. Gerald A. Lent, Grant Wallace, and Tom Cavin, and asked them to share their background.

Commissioner McBeath said he is the Southern Region representative for sportsmen, and he was born in Henderson and raised in Las Vegas, has been hunting since he was nine-years-old, is a professional, works as a CPA/attorney for the Mirage/MGM Grand tax department as a tax attorney. He also manages a ranch from the standpoint of a business as they have a ranch manager for on the ground management and he said through that experience he has learned a tremendous amount about management of public lands, but wants to make it clear that his heart and allegiance is to sportsmen and hunters, and would lay any doubts to rest in that respect.

Dr. Gerald A. Lent said he is an optometrist from Reno and that he moved to Nevada when he was three or four-years-old and has lived in Nevada ever since. He said he is well known to most of the Commission here, as he has been active on sportsmen issues for the past 40 years, is a hunter, has hunted in Nevada all his life, has been active in sportsmen issues some good and some bad. He said his biggest success was passage of legislation privatizing the tag draw system and now we have one of the best systems in the United States, and is looking forward to representing sportsmen on the Commission.

Commissioner Grant Wallace said he is from Dyer which is in the south central portion of the state, near the California border, he is a farmer and a sportsmen. He loves the outdoors and loves to hunt, and looks forward to representing Nevada sportsmen and the farming interests of the state.

Commissioner Tom Cavin said he was born and raised in Hawthorne graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a degree in wildlife management and since then has been involved with sportsmen issues, and professionally went a different path going into private

business, but has worked on sportsmen issues since the mid-70s and is looking forward to working with everyone.

- 1 Election of Officers – Action
In accordance with Commission Policy, the Commission will elect a chairman and vice chairman, for fiscal year 2009.

Director Mayer said at this point he would like to entertain nominations for chairman.

Commissioner Scott Raine said he would like to see a sportsmen representative as the chairman of the Commission; therefore he would like to nominate Gerald Lent.

Commissioner Swanson said he will make the nomination for Commissioner McNinch as chairman.

Director Mayer asked for any other nominations, and a show of hands, all in favor...

Commissioner Mori said he would like to comment: First he would say he appreciates the fact that we have two people that are willing to take on the chairmanship and knows it is not an easy job with a lot of responsibility that goes with it, and he has struggled with his decision on how he would vote in this situation, and his original thinking was that we should go in direction with someone who has been on the Commission before, with experience of how things work and willing to step up and do that, and at the same time we have a new face, and he also appreciates the fact that someone who is new wants to be the chair and is enthusiastic with being on the Commission, and so they would be inclined to want to do a really good job, and just wanted to throw that out, and he has struggled with how he is going to vote on this issue, but hopes that however he ends up doing it, that both you guys understand his vote.

Director Mayer said he was advised that we probably need a motion and a second to close the nominations and open it up for further discussion.

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RAINE.

Director Mayer asked for further discussion from the public, and hearing none asked for public comment, and hearing none, called for the question. He asked for a vote on Gerald Lent, and then Commissioner McNinch.

VOTE ON MOTION IN FAVOR OF GERALD LENT AS CHAIRMAN: CAVIN, MORI, WALLACE, RAINE, AND LENT.

VOTE ON MCNINCH: LURIE, SWANSON, MCNINCH, AND MCBEATH.

Director Mayer said the vote is 5 – 4 in favor of Dr. Lent, and he is chairman.

Mr. Ken Wellington, Elko CABMW, directed a question to Director Mayer and Deputy Attorney General Nhu Nguyen, he said he believes there might have been a violation of the Open Meeting Law with discussion of the chair, and does not know how to go about

getting an investigation, because he heard two weeks ago that Dr. Lent was telling people he would be chair of the Commission.

DAG Nguyen said she was not aware of that and told him there is a process to submit violations to the Attorney General's Office, and she will provide him with the name of the DAG to contact. DAG Nguyen said now that we have a chair, he is to proceed with running the meeting.

Mr. Wellington said thank you.

Chairman Lent asked for nominations for vice chairman and asked for a motion.

COMMISSIONER CAVIN NOMINATED SCOTT RAINE FOR VICE CHAIR.

COMMISSIONER SWANSON NOMINATED COMMISSIONER LURIE FOR VICE CHAIR.

Chairman Lent asked for any more nominations and hearing none asked for a motion to close nominations.

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. COMMISSIONER RAINE SECONDED THE MOTION. COMMISSION VOTE FOR COMMISSIONER RAINE AS VICE CHAIR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, WALLACE, LENT, RAINE. COMMISSION VOTE FOR LURIE: COMMISSIONER SWANSON, MORI, MCNINCH, MCBEATH AND LURIE. VOTE WAS 4 – 5, WITH FIVE IN FAVOR OF COMMISSIONER LURIE.

Chairman Lent said the Vice Chairman is Commissioner Ron Lurie.

Wayne E. Kirch Award Presentation – Secretary Mayer presented the Wayne Kirch Award to Bernie Metcalf.

Mr. Shane Boren of White Pine CABMW provided background information on the water developments that Mr. Metcalf worked on and preservations of trail and thanked him for his efforts on behalf of sportsmen.

2 Approval of Minutes of the June 27 and 28, 2008, Meeting – Action

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Approval of Agenda – Secretary Mayer said Commissioner Raine requested that agenda item 10 C be heard at 10 a.m. on Saturday because of local interest

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE REQUESTED CHANGED BY SECRETARY MAYER, COMMISSIONER CAVIN SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Member Items –

Commissioner Raine said regarding agenda item #10 C, “Cortez Mountain Sheep Transplant” that he believes there are people here today to discuss the item during public comment because they will not be present tomorrow.

Roll Call of CABMW Members Present: Cindy Alexander, Clark; Shane Boren, White Pine; Bill Miller, White Pine; Chad Bliss, Eureka; Bill Meyer, Lyon; Steve Hemp, Humboldt; Jim Evans, Eureka; Ken Wellington, Elko ; Rex Flowers, Washoe; Gil Yanuck, Carson; and Tom Cassinelli, Humboldt.

CABMW Member Items – Mr. Gil Yanuck of Carson CABMW brought forth that his board is working on a bear ordinance modeled on Douglas County for nuisance bears. He reminded the Commission and CABMW members of the upcoming joint California/Nevada Commission meeting and cookout on Sept. 4, 2008.

Mr. Ken Wellington, Elko CABMW, reminded Commissioner Raine that he is a sportsmen’s representative, and that his board would like the Wells Elk Resource Plan on a future Commission agenda.

Mr. Chad Bliss, Eureka CABMW, told the group there is a barbecue dinner planned for tonight and right after today’s meeting there is trap shooting at the Perdiz Range.

Public Comment –

Mr. Mike Laughlin said he is an ex coyote trapper and believes we are in a era of a new start of this Commission, and we should thank the governor and he hopes that we all work together to bring back Nevada’s famous deer herds.

Mr. Jim Jeffress thanked rural sportsmen for allowing him to serve the sportsmen of the state and that positive work done on the various commission committees, and that he appreciates their input and hardwork. Mr. Jeffress wished the new Commission well.

Mr. Jack Robb said it was a pleasure serving on the Commission, he met great people and he encouraged everyone to stay in engaged to work with the new Commission.

Mr. Bevan Lister said it has been a great opportunity participating on the Commission, and will repeat for the record that in his viewpoint the way it works, is the Department of Wildlife has to be the premiere scientific authority on wildlife in the state, the Commission is separate and handles the political side of the wildlife issue and how to use the science with long-reaching effects.

Chairman Lent thanked the previous Commission for their work on the Commission.

Secretary Mayer said official recognition for the former Commissioners will be at the September Commission meeting on Saturday in Reno.

Mr. Bob Viera, an archeologist, who is speaking for someone else *unintelligible on recording* and what he thought about the issue of the Cortez sheep transplant. He said he has been working in the state since 1982 and there is no archeologist evidence of

bighorn sheep being around the Cortez Mountains, and he does not think they were around as there is no evidence for the last 10,000 years.

Mr. George Parman, Eureka resident, said he loves to hunt deer and thinks the population of deer is around 8,000 and livestock folks keep water developments up.

- 3 Orientation Committee – Commissioner McNinch explained the Management Assistance Team and development of the County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Manual and said the Orientation Committee will proceed with revision of the Commission manual.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE CABMW MANUAL.
COMMISSIONER SWANSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Lurie thanked the committee for the work and information provided and said the workshop held in March was helpful.

Chairman Lent agreed that the manual will make the CABMWs more effective as the CABMW members do change frequently.

Commissioner McNinch thanked Kim Jolly, Glenn Bunch, and Gil Yanuck for their hard work on the manual and completing the manual in a timely fashion.

- 4 Commission General Regulation 358 – Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger reviewed section the regulation as contained in support material, and noted that in Section 1, it amends language for eligibility regarding antelope. The change is a five year wait if you harvest, and no wait if no harvest, regardless of weapon.

Commissioner Raine asked what the timeline is for implementation.

Ms. Hullinger said her best guess is, if approved, then if the Regulation Commission approves it on Sept. 17 and if not Sept. then it will be November, but it would be in effect for the next hunting season.

Commissioner Cavin asked that the language be consistent in Section 1 and Section 2 regarding “open season” and then in later sections the language shifts to five years, and would like it to be consistent.

Ms. Hullinger said that change could be handled in today’s workshop, and she continued review the regulation section by section for the Commission.

Commissioner Lurie asked that the changes that Commissioner Cavin requested be added for tomorrow’s action. Commissioner Lurie said he agreed with years rather than seasons because that is a confusing interpretation. The board agreed to keep it “years” and will include that in support material for tomorrow.

- 5 Commission General Regulation 362 – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici said the regulation is promulgated by a sighting of wolverines on the California/Nevada border, and the regulation is to handle the event of a wolverine wandering into Nevada. He said this is the responsible approach to take. He said Alaska allows for hunting and trapping of wolverines as furbearer; and Montana has a quota of 10 statewide. The CABMW

comments returned, had one board in favor, three no's, and the remainder reported that they had questions, and hopefully this answers the question.
Chairman Lent asked if wolverine sighted in Nevada.

Mr. Buonamici said he saw one when he was 12 and reported that wolverines have been sighted in Nevada but not recently.
Commissioner McBeath asked what the penalty is and what would happen to a trapper who accidentally caught a wolverine.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said it is a misdemeanor and with a maximum \$500 fine and up to six months in jail. If a trapper did catch one, the department would ask that it be handled the same as a mountain lion caught in a bobcat set.

Public Comment –

Mr. Joel Blakeslee, representing himself, said he is not too concerned that anyone would catch a wolverine in a trap, it would be very unlikely, and his personal preference would be to classify it as a furbearer with a protected season. He is ambivalent about it.

Mr. Mel Belding said he agreed with Mr. Blakeslee that wolverines should be a furbearer with a closed season, and a lot of people believe that the picture in circulation is fictional.

Ms. Judi Caron, representing herself, said she would ask for no action by the Commission and to research this matter further as the Department did for gray wolf.

- 6 A Department Budget – Deputy Director Doug Hunt reviewed the budget that was emailed to the Commission and said the reserve is healthy at \$3.4 million.

Chairman Lent asked what the “other” stands for on the fund.

Mr. Hunt said that is operating and materials and the primary expense is payroll.

Commissioner Lurie said he would ask for more detail in each spreadsheet and volunteered himself and Commissioner McBeath that they may be able to assist. He said he gets much support material for the FAT team but cannot make heads or tails of some of it.

Deputy Director Hunt said those are summary sheets, and detail could be provided.

Commissioner McBeath said we are in danger of not having enough information but if you go too far for non-financial types it won't be useful and said we need something that the users could basically analyze and determine where we are. Commissioner McBeath said he can work with Commissioner Lurie and make that possible for the Commission to interface with because he would not want to waste time.

- 6 B Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) – Commissioner McNinch reported that he attended WAFWA in Rapid City, South Dakota, and he represents the Commission on WAFWA's Commissioner's Committee and they discuss issues and they pick one or two issues and ask for presentations on the issues. All the WAFWA states seem to be struggling with the same issues with General Fund monies being one and

Utah and Wyoming have worked it out. Climate Change which is 90 to 10, off-highway vehicle issues and after this year's Nevada legislature meets, it is possible that there may be a registration fee, and that won't be the end of it. States are preparing for fire rehabilitation and obtaining seed from seed banks and there will be competition for the seeds. Technological issues were discussed such as lights on arrows, questions of impact of lead bullets on public health and hunters against hunger groups and impact of lead in meat because we don't metabolize lead.

Director Mayer said they are doing interesting work on the lead in meat and they are doing radiographs with most of the work being done in North Dakota. He said humans have a harder time processing lead than animals. One big issue for WAFWA is that scientists finished Chapter 11 of the Sage Grouse Conservation Assessment which was completed on time and they did a great job.

- C Department Activities Report – Director Ken Mayer said he still thinks that the activity report is the best way to get the word out. He asked Deputy Director Hunt to brief the Commission on the letter from Trout Unlimited (exhibit file).

Deputy Director Hunt provided the background on Spring Creek and the Trout Unlimited letter, and said that Snake Creek runs year round and is utilized at the hatchery. He said sampling was encouraged and provides data and Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) asked if they could put a data measuring/water gauge device on the flume and they did and made application to State Lands who makes the authorization and consulted with NDEP. NDOW felt comfortable and the letter from Mr. Duff represents the members of the Great Basin Chapter of Trout Unlimited. NDOW has encouraged SNWA who are conducting an archeological study, and staff thinks the information will be invaluable. He said no lawsuit filed yet, just a letter of intent.

Director Mayer said he discussed the issue with Governor Gibbons and he is on board and he also met with Mr. Duff, and NDOW will stay the course.

Commissioner McBeath said the law firm is also representing ranchers in the area, and even though these notices get filed, he is concerned that if we have a lawsuit, and where does the hit occur.

Deputy Director Hunt said the Department is billed in arrears by the Attorney General's Office.

Commissioner Raine said on the SNWA is the Department's stance neutral.

Secretary Mayer said his comments pertain only to this issue.

- D Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Nhu Nguyen said because of the new Commissioners she will provide a brief overview, and she reviewed the report contained in support material.
- E Clark County Shooting Park – Commissioner Lurie reported on developments at the Shooting Park, and ordinances are being developed, naming rights are being sold, and fee schedules. Awarded a certificate for something one of 100 awarded.

- F Hollow Mine Claim Markers – Director Mayer said the Nevada Mining Association is going to sponsor legislation to take care of hollow mine markers to prevent further bird mortalities.
- G Application Hunt 2008 Draw Report – Mr. Don Sefton and Mr. Monte Miller of Systems Consultants presented the 2008 Application Hunt 2008 Draw Report which was contained in support material.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

August 16, 2008, - 8 a.m., Saturday

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, Introduction and Roll Call of CABMW Representatives –

Chairman Lent called the meeting to order at 8 a.m. and asked for roll call of CABMW Members: Cindy Alexander Clark CABMW; Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW; Steve Hemp, Humboldt; Tom Cassinelli, Humboldt; Bill Meyerm, Lyon; Craig Burnisde, Douglas; Ken Wellington, Elko; Rex Flowers, Washoe; Bill Miller, White Pine; and Gib Mackedon, Churchill.

Member Items -

Commissioner Wallace said he will be unable to attend the September Commission meeting due to a prescheduled moose hunt.

Commissioner McNinch said he would like the mule deer biological bulletin developed by NDOW and management units to be presented at a future meeting.

Chairman Lent said he would discuss having that on a future agenda with the Director.

Public Comment - None

Regulations – Action

- 7 Commission General Regulations 358 – Eligibility Waiting Periods – Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger reviewed the changes as discussed in yesterday's workshop.

Commissioner Cavin said he would disclose that he is affected by the mountain goat change but that will not affect his vote.

Public Comment on CGR 358 -

Mr. Bill Miller, White Pine CABMW, said regarding the bull tag they would like it 10 and 10 because folks are not punching their tag and saying their unsuccessful.
Mr. Ken Wellington, Elko CABMW, said they spent lots of time on this and White Pine is the only board that did not support the changes, one public person said due to a death could not hunt and could not put in for a lifetime tag.

Commissioner Raine said a lot of issues but does not see a better compromise.

COMMISSIONER RAINE MOVED TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 8 Commission General Regulation 362 – Wolverines – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici presented further information on wolverines in other states.

Commissioner McBeath asked for explanation of pro and con of listed versus furbearer with a closed season.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said protected best describes the situation in Nevada as we don't intend to trap or hunt them and sends the best message to the public. He said the downside to classifying as a furbearer with closed season is that it may draw attention from anti-trapping public.

Commissioner Mori asked if the regulation is approved how hard is it to change from protected.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said it would be the same approach as initiating this regulation.

Commissioner Cavin said he had heard varying rumors about the credibility of the photograph and this regulation is the result of one photograph and assumes NDOW checked it out

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said they are basing the regulation on the integrity of California Fish and Game.

Big Game Biologist Kevin Lansford said they had pine marten cameras in the forest and captured photo of wolverine, and put up hair snares and they did get hair sample and DNA.

COMMISSIONER SWANSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED WITH COMMISSIONER RAINE OPPOSED, AND COMMISSIONER MORI ABSTAINING, 7 – 1, WITH ONE ABSTENTION.

- 9 Commission Regulation 08 – 02 Waterfowl Seasons for 2008 – 2009 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Craig Mortimore presented the waterfowl regulations (exhibit file). Mr. Mortimore said he attended a meeting where water delivery to the Lahontan Valley was discussed and water availability for wetlands in September and October. The TCID subsequent to the waterfowl meeting decided to release water on the last day of September and made recommendation to delay opener in Churchill which was based on wetland concerns in Lahontan Valley and not give indication that water would get there in time; however, with new information water will be released in time for a standard second Saturday opener.

Commissioner Swanson said Clark CABMW had requested a different opener.

Clark CABMW Chairwoman Cindy Alexander said they were told at their meeting that Overton Wildlife Management Area would not be ready in time.

Mr. Mortimore said staff have revised the questionnaire and there is a great deal of interest by Clark County residents to hunt Overton and that would not be accommodated by not opening Overton WMA.

Commissioner Swanson said hunters need to be educated about divers and harvesting scaups.

Mr. Mortimore said last year it was mallards, and status of scaup at flyway meeting required shortened seasons and is only 86 day season. Canvasback is closed this year and we are always trying to recruit new duck hunters and these new restrictions will be a challenge.

Director Mayer said the Department is very sensitive to these issues and he asked Mr. Pulliam and Mr. Bull to discuss Overton Wildlife Management Area with Manager Keith Brose and they determined the area will be ready and he spent an entire day down there and Overton has unique habitats and in three to four years Overton will shine with pond management.

Commissioner McBeath said he spoke to Keith and main concern was the sharecropper and that he requires certain amount of time for him to turn out water and the early opener impedes the sharecropper's growing season in September and October and that was timing of water deliveries. He asked if we have conflicts with lease.

Mr. Mortimore said the primary goal of the agency is to provide recreational opportunity which is above the sharecropper's needs and have to be concerned about federal regulations with baiting.

Director Mayer said we provide him opportunity for profit but the primary purpose of the area is to provide recreation for sportsmen.

Commissioner Raine noted differences in limits from original support material to what was handed out today, and noted huge difference for Ross snow geese.

Mr. Mortimore noted that there is a typographical area for snipe, and he said the initial support material was preliminary and what he provided today contains the recommendation from the Flyway Councils.

Chairman Lent said glad he changed the dates because canvasback migration is later in the month as far as Stillwater goes.

Mr. Mortimore said relating to delayed opener in Churchill was that other areas would be open and apply pressure to canvasbacks by opening on the 11th putting more hunters in the field before they migrate and obtain the greatest amount of participation.

Public Comment on Commission Regulation –

Chairwoman Cindy Alexander Clark CABMW reiterated that at their board meeting there was much discussion and they want it to open later.

Mr. Gib Mackedon Churchill CABMW said they support the 11th as the opener.

COMMISSIONER SWANSON MOVED TO ACCEPT NDOW RECOMMENDATIONS EXCEPT NORTHERN ZONE IN CHURCHILL TO OPEN ON OCT. 11, CHANGE OF SNIPE 8 – 16. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

Commissioner Lurie asked if he would take into account in his motion the situation in Clark County.

Commissioner Swanson said he is not sure of what is going on with manager of Overton, and wants to go with Department recommendation.

Commissioner McNinch said he would like brief discussion on snow and Ross' geese with larger take, and the reason for the increase.

Mr. Mortimore said contained in the framework recommendation was that take be increased in the interior states of the flyway, and coastal states stayed with what they had.

Commissioner McBeath said the public at the Clark CABMW meeting supported the Nov. 1 opener not just Mr. Brose, and is uncomfortable and is the last person who would cut off opportunity.

COMMISSIONER SWANSON AMENDED MOTION FOR LATER OPENER TO NOV. 1, AND COMMISSIONER LURIE, AS THE SECOND, AGREED WITH AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION.

Director Mayer said he would recommend that folks let the department worry about the sharecropper and the Department read is that the sharecropper is not going to run away as we are working with him to iron out internal concerns.

Mr. Mortimore said data indicates that Clark County had second highest amount of waterfowl hunters second to Washoe, and southern Nevada hunters hunt other areas than Overton WMA. He said the waterfowl summit is an attempt to get information and next year they plan to hold it in Southern Nevada, and invited them to participate this year. The late opener was keyed to habitat and hot weather and other states do not reduce the days due to that.

Commissioner Lurie said that the more Mr. Mortimore talks the more upset he gets because Southern Nevada is treated as a stepchild with no staff present to discuss the recommendations. The web needs to be used to provide information and need staff present at their CABMW meetings to answer questions and it is obvious that we need to get more information.

Director Mayer said he will commit to the Commission that the Overton manager will be tuned up and we will hold the next summit in southern Nevada.

Commissioner Cavin said he had problem with changing the framework for one area that the Department controls as opposed to the north where there are things out of control in the north, such as canal breaking and water deliveries.

Commissioner McBeath said we could dispel this with questionnaires and add question to what people want and go from there.

Clark CABMW Chairwoman Cindy Alexander said it is very confusing as the manager of Overton is at their meeting and here at this meeting headquarters staff say they are in disagreement with what Keith Brose is saying and they are not asking for Mr. Mortimore to be there, and that Steve Kimble has only attended one of their meetings.

Director Mayer said point well taken and he will handle that situation.

Commissioner McNinch said regarding the motion the 23rd was mentioned just for Moapa and clarified the motion.

Chairman Lent clarified the motion: Changing Southern Nevada opener from Nov. 1 to Jan. 23, the snipe from 3 – 6, 6 – 18, and going with the rest of the recommendations, and the Northern Zone back to Oct. 11.

CALL FOR THE VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT – COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR OF THE AMENDMENT: CHAIRMAN LENT, LURIE, MCBEATH, MORI, AND SWANSON, AND OPPOSED: CAVIN, MCNINCH, RAINE, AND WALLACE. CARRIED 5 -4. VOTE ON MAIN MOTION – MOTION CARRIED.

STATE OF NEVADA

BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Section 501.181, 503.090, 503.140 and 503.245 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of game birds, small game, and furbearing mammals. These recommendations comply with the *Proposed Regulations Frameworks for 2008-09 Late Hunting Season on Certain Migratory Game Birds* established by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

CR 08-02 - 2008-2009 Adopted on August 16, 2008

SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR MIGRATORY WATERFOWL

Note regarding Zone designations:

NORTHERN ZONE: Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, Pershing, Storey, Washoe & White Pine Counties

SOUTHERN ZONE: Lincoln & Clark Counties

| SPECIAL YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNT | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| OPEN AREAS: | NORTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | Sept. 27, 2008 |
| OPEN AREAS: | SOUTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, 2009 |

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| LIMITS: | Daily bag limit is the same as that for the general season for ducks, mergansers, geese, coots and moorhens. Canvasback is closed. Limits singly or in the aggregate for Canada and white-fronted geese. Limits singly or in the aggregate for Snow and Ross' geese. Snow and Ross' geese are closed in Ruby Valley within Elko and White Pine Counties. |
| SHOOTING HOURS: | ½ hour before sunrise to sunset |
| SPECIAL REGULATIONS: | Open to hunters 15 years of age or younger. Youth must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years old. Adults are not allowed to hunt during this season. Open to Nonresidents. |

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| DUCKS AND MERGANSERS | |
| OPEN AREAS: | NORTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 24, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | SOUTHERN ZONE, except the Moapa Valley portion of the Overton Wildlife Management Area. |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | Moapa Valley portion of the Overton Wildlife Management Area. |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | November 1, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| LIMITS (daily / possession) | |
| General Duck Limits: | 7 / 14 |
| Pintail: | 1 / 2 |
| Mallard (total/female): | Included within the general duck limit, but not to include more than 2 hen mallards daily and 4 in possession. |
| Redhead: | 2 / 4 |
| SCAUP (Lesser and Greater) | |
| OPEN AREAS: | NORTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | November 1, 2008 – January 24, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | SOUTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | November 1, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| LIMITS (daily/possession): | 2 / 4 |
| Shooting hours: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |
| Special Regulations: | Open to Nonresidents |
| CANVASBACK | |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | CLOSED |

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| COOTS AND COMMON MOORHENS (Common Gallinules) | |
| OPEN AREAS: | NORTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 24, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | SOUTHERN ZONE, except the Moapa Valley portion of the Overton Wildlife Management Area. |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | Moapa Valley portion of the Overton Wildlife Management Area. |

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| 2008-09 SEASON: | November 1, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| LIMITS (daily/possession): | 25 / 25 |
| Shooting hours: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |
| Special Regulations: | Open to Nonresidents |

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| COMMON SNIPE | |
| OPEN AREAS: | NORTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 24, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | SOUTHERN ZONE, except the Moapa Valley portion of the Overton Wildlife Management Area. |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | Moapa Valley portion of the Overton Wildlife Management Area. |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | November 1, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| LIMITS (daily/possession): | 8 / 16 |
| Shooting hours: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |
| Special Regulations: | Open to Nonresidents |

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| CANADA AND WHITE-FRONTED GEESE | |
| Open Areas: | Statewide |
| 2008-09 Season: | October 25, 2008 – January 25, 2009 |
| Limits (daily/possession) | 3 / 6 |
| Shooting hours: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |
| Special Regulations: | Open to Nonresidents |

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| SNOW AND ROSS' GEESE | |
| Open Areas: | Statewide |
| 2008-09 Season: | October 25, 2008 – January 25, 2009 |
| Limits (daily/possession) | 10 / 20 |
| Shooting hours: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |
| Special Regulations: | Open to Nonresidents CLOSED: Ruby Valley within Elko and White Pine Counties |

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| FALCONRY SEASONS FOR MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS | |
| Open Areas: | NORTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 Season: | October 11, 2008 – January 24, 2009 |
| OPEN AREAS: | SOUTHERN ZONE |
| 2008-09 SEASON: | October 11, 2008 – January 23, 2009 |
| Limits (daily/possession) | 3 / 6 |
| Shooting hours: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |

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| Special Regulations: | Migratory birds allowed for take include: geese, ducks, mergansers, coots, common moorhens and common snipe. Limits for all permitted migratory birds are singly or in the aggregate. Open to Nonresidents. |
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| SWAN | |
| OPEN AREAS: | Churchill, Lyon and Pershing counties |
| 2008-09 Season: | October 25, 2008 - January 4, 2009 |
| LIMITS: | One swan per swan permit Maximum two swan permits per season One swan per day |
| SHOOTING HOURS: | ½ before sunrise to sunset |

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| SPECIAL REGULATIONS: | <p>Persons may apply for one of the 650 swan permits. Applications must be mailed through a postal service to the address listed on the application or submitted online through the Internet at www.ndow.org. Permits are to be awarded through an initial drawing.</p> <p>Deadline: Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. by Friday September 19, 2008. No hand delivered applications for the drawing. Results of the initial drawing will be provided by Friday, October 3rd, 2008.</p> <p>Any remaining swan permits will be available on a first come, first served basis online or through the mail up to 7 weekdays before the close of the season or over the counter until the close of the season during normal business hours (M-F 8:00 am – 5:00 pm) at the Wildlife Administrative Services Office, 185 North Main Street, Fallon, Nevada beginning on Monday, October 6, 2008. Applications are available at all Department of Wildlife offices and select license agents. Persons may apply for a second swan permit beginning on Monday, October 6, 2008. Applicants can submit one application per draw period. Applicants that did not apply for the initial drawing period may submit two applications during the first come, first served draw period.</p> <p>Successful swan hunters are required to validate their permit pursuant to NAC 502.380, and then present at least the head and neck of their swan to an NDOW agent at selected sites for species verification within five (5) days of harvest. Mandatory inspection sites and requirements will be provided with the swan permits.</p> <p>If a total harvest of five (5) trumpeter swans is reached, the swan season is closed for the remainder of the season.</p> <p>Persons must possess a valid annual Nevada hunting license and both a current Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Stamp and a current Nevada duck Stamp, when required, to hunt swan in Nevada.</p> <p>Open to Nonresidents who have a valid annual Nevada hunting license or a Nonresident Short-Term permit to hunt Upland game & Waterfowl and required waterfowl stamps.</p> |
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10 Reports Informational

- A Department "Green Team" Report – Management Analyst III Kim Jolly
MA III Kim Jolly said at the last Commission meeting Commissioner Raine requested a report from the Department's "Green Team." Ms. Jolly said they are soliciting ideas from Department employees and the public on ideas to save money for the Department. She said in the Department activities report it was noted that the Department is allowed to purchase alternative fuel vehicles and she spoke to another Department and were told a certain percentage have to be alternative fuel and NDOW is allowed to purchase a hybrid such as a Prius; team is analyzing appliances in buildings and energy costs for

each building; and looking at the operations section of the budget. Ms. Jolly said the team would welcome the Commission to provide ideas and Commission budget.

- B Wildlife Damage Management Committee – Wildlife Staff Specialist Kevin Lansford Staff Biologist Kevin Lansford said the committee did not meet and the draft plan was submitted in support material and he would ask for questions from the Commission.

Commissioner McBeath asked how the budget will encompass the higher fuel costs.

Deputy Director Hunt said the state budgeting process does not allow for planning of those costs, and the Department has to go to the Interim Finance Committee for additional funds.

Chairman Lent said a new committee will be formed and will report back to the Commission in November.

Mr. Lansford said he would like to state that he personally supports the Wildlife Damage Management Committee being active and taking into account the diverse ideas.

Game Division Chief Russ Mason said they have approached WAFWA and a Predation Committee will be established at the mid-winter WAFWA meeting.

Chairman Lent said he would like to tell the group that this is Game Division Chief Russ Mason's last meeting, and he thanked him for all of his work and we are sorry that he is leaving.

Commissioner Cavin asked if by waiting until November if we will miss budget deadlines

Director Mayer said projects will continue and the budget is fine.

- D Shed Antler Report – Game Division Chief Rob Buonamici presented a power point presentation on shed antlers and the report is in the exhibit file.

- C Cortez Mountain Sheep Transplant – Game Division Chief Russ Mason said Commissioner Mori asked for a report on the Cortez Mountain sheep transplant at this meeting. Mr. Mason said the Department made progress with Memorandum of Agreements with Department of Agriculture and others and have their concurrence. He said all recognize cultural, economic impact of livestock, and there is concern over disease transmission. He said it is important and want to develop Nevada specific solutions, and want to understand other triggers out there. Implement management practices that benefit domestic animals and wildlife. He said the Woolgrowers and Cattleman's Association do not want disease and cattle in the same sentence because of groups such as Western Watersheds.

NDOW Game Biologist Mike Podborny stationed in Eureka provided the Commission a handout contained in support material relating to the Cortez Mountain Sheep Transplant.

Mr. Mason provided a handout from veterinarians that describe disease transmission and Mr. Mason said the risk of disease transmission is nil in his opinion.

NDOW Game Biologist Larry Gilbertson said the Ely Resource Management Plan is underway with BLM and saw the 9 mile buffer zone after planting bighorn in the Egans and did at our own risk and told BLM we did not agree with BLM and did not want to have excuse that we slipped sheep in and squeezed operators out and only put sheep in approved sites and the goal is to work cooperatively with livestock operators and we have established over 50 population and goal is to have bighorn sheep populations stable and not have to worry like California with Sierra Sheep. History that he has is last March with one biologist with 28 or 29 years experience, and the employee with most tenure at this time. Inherited transplant on Wheeler Mountain and was told that we put sheep there as experiment at our own risk, population built up and experienced "die-off" with no bodies found and less and less sheep and closed season and occasionally see sheep but not enough to hunt. Mt. Moriah same story but sheep allotment close by and have felt it is worth enhancing the population and is doing well. Disease interaction happens and it cycles and what happened with transplanting sheep is now we have sites closer to domestic livestock operations. Ask that we proceed at our risk and sportsmen's risk and assess solutions if something does happen.

Mr. Mason said we have situations where operators move in and decide to raise goats near bighorn sheep and strategy maybe to provide fence.

Commissioner Wallace asked if risk to domestic livestock?

Mr. Mason said the concern with pasturella and some animals are immune not a risk of it coming back to them.

Commissioner Raine said when approved it was stated that there was no conflict with grazing and asked why that was written.

Mr. Podborny said at the time it was determined there was no conflict, and don't believe there would be a negative impact. He said since then domestic livestock operators have expressed concern about being blamed for die-off because domestic sheep operation is 20 miles.

Commissioner McBeath said he is concerned about sportsmen access if sheep are put in.

Mr. Podborny said there is risk that bighorn will be on private land but enough access should be available. Most checkerboard land is open at this time.

Mr. Gilbertson said Tomera Ranches already provides access to chukar hunters and others for the most part. He said there is plenty that could be closed and plenty that could be opened.

Mr. Mason said the Record Book Committee has provided funding for signage on private land and for sportsmen to respect the land.

Public Comment -

Mr. George Parman, former livestock operator, said he had questions about sheep being killed by disease, and nothing mentioned if sheep being taken by predators. In his

lifetime he has seen the association of game and livestock and as sheep and cattle taken off federal lands, water not taken care of and also the wild horse issue not addressed. He believes that in the 1950s there were 400,000 sheep and now there are about 4,000, and related the number to the decline of the deer herds. Association of game and wildlife was complete balance and the land managers have done nothing but burn it up. Mr. Parman said to take care of the land and water and take care of the people and any time that government attacks the people that take care of it is wrong.

Mr. Carl Slagowski said he represents Slagowski Ranches, in opposition and shares an allotment with Baily family. Their grazing history started in 1864 and had a reduction of 4 percent in AUMs and south Buckhorn is the area of the proposed sheep transplant. He said their suspended AUMs have never been reactivated and due to the BLM not activating that shows an infringement on their grazing. Mr. Slagowski brought up points with water usage on their grazing allotments, no problem sharing water with wildlife that has been here, but not supportive of wildlife that is not native and that is trailered in by NDOW and dumped out. They inoculate their livestock against diseases that are communicable diseases of ruminants, and is concerned that if the sheep transplant goes through he will be out of business like Fred Fulstone. He asked that the board deny the proposal.

Mr. Tom Tomera, Tomera Ranches of Pine Valley, said he is the biggest owner of private land north of the sheep transplant site and has some public land as well of the north boundary. The biggest issue for him is that they are nonnative to the area, and it is nice deer areas and wonder with bighorn hunters in there if that will impact the deer herds and the trophy hunts. Mr. Tomera he has talked to the goat owners and they are using goats to combat invasive plants, and he has seen one goat away from the ranch and not sure how they would control that. Water is down in canyons and steep hills and the sheep will have to come down for water. Major water source is Frenchy Creek and have traffic every day in there, and the bighorn will be subject to access. There is a large horse problem, with 500 – 600 wild horses, and large lion population with them eating horses. Mr. Tomera is concerned with suspended AUM's and why have they not given them back to them if there is enough forage for sheep which are a nonnative species. Heavy snow in that area, and can be solid white and not survivable by most animals. He said they are very selective about who hunts on their land, and if bighorns do get in there and get established he would want a tag.

President Jim Nelson of Nevada Bighorns Unlimited said one issue brought up that Nevada Bighorns Unlimited agrees on is doing something about horses, and by virtue of the name of their organization they are for establishment of bighorn sheep, but also care about habitat and water developments. He said none of the issues brought up are unique to the Cortez and they have never pushed a livestock operator off and never would. He said these are multiple use lands and feels that there is room for that, being a veterinarian and has attended workshops on sheep and cattle and is not concerned with that because he does not believe that there is disease transmission, but sheep is a concern to him. Fred Fulstone was brought up and said this is not California and he did get a bad deal. Concerned with viability of livestock producers and does not feel that we are attacking and hopes that science and common sense would prevail and would encourage everyone to consider that when considering these issues.

Mr. Mason said he took note of concerns raised: Predator control – have funds for lion removal where bighorn sheep transplants occur and support two lion hunters from Wildlife Services and in southern part of the state bobcats. Abandoned waters – Former Commissioner Lister had brought up rehabbing abandoned water sources and remains interest of Dept. and hopes new Commissioner Wallace will assist with that. Goats – Hank Vogler pointed out to him that sheep and goats are different because goats carry diseases that livestock operators are just as concerned with them. AUMS – don't feel that is an issue as bighorn sheep live in different area than livestock animals. Incentive sheep tags – Something for the Commission to do as they have that authority.

Commissioner Mori said he tried to approach the issue with an open mind and originally when it came before the Commission he voted to support the transplant. Then he heard confusion over who had actually been contacted, and because we are meeting in Eureka that is why he wanted it discussed today because the people who attended the meeting are the ones who will be affected. Mr. Mori read the Cattleman Association's letter (exhibit file) and said the cattleman's letter states their opposition at this time to the transplant; however that does not mean that it can't be worked out later.

Commissioner Swanson said he is concerned that we need to be consistent with science and we should open the elk plan in Elko, and if science says it can support the transplant, and advise with some type of restraint, and if we take science we need to do it consistently.

Commissioner Raine said he had a document to read in the record, this person is opposed to introducing nonnative species and changes the balance of nature and ranchers are the ones who suffer, and is against the introduction of bighorn sheep in the Cortez Range in case they migrate to the Roberts Range. Commissioner Raine said the Phillipini family is present and many people present and there is little positive aspect to the transplant because AUMs are suspended and due to some scientific process there is not enough feed for the animals and if so why introduce another animal.

Mr. Ken Wellington Elko CABMW said he would like to remind Commissioner Raine that he is a sportsmen representative not the ranching representative and that is why Commissioner Mori is on the board.

Commissioner Tom Cavin asked what the timeline is.

Commissioner Swanson clarified that this transplant has already been approved by the Commission.

Mr. Mason said there is not really much more science that could be provided, and he has looked at comp and incentive tag program and elk is a \$2 million dollar business provided.

Commissioner Wallace said he agreed with Commissioner Raine that they have concerns and contacts and he asked if the ones here today if they were they part of the department's outreach, and maybe that needs to be discussed.

Mr. Podborny said he has talked to Tomera and Slagowski and he did not say that they all agreed, and he personally as a biologist cannot provide a written guarantee.

Director Mayer said he appreciates the comments but we are not going to “shove this down your throat” and we need to continue the dialogue and work cooperatively together because the transplant can occur this year or next. He constantly tells staff that we deal with science and that is what we bring forth and let the politics reside here. He said at this point we will get staff to work with local livestock operators and bring it back as a status report to the Commission.

Commissioner Raine said NDOW has to speak to people affected and still one family that has large amount of AUMs in the Cortez Range that have still not been notified. He said he would appreciate that people be contacted.

Mr. Mayer said obviously discussions not productive to date, and would defer to the Commission that it has not been properly vetted.

Mr. Gilbertson said this has come up before and NDOW has been releasing animals for many years, and the Department through the big game process is that Commission approves biennial big game addition, he said this caught us off guard and have established over 50 bighorn sheep populations throughout the state, and most places we put sheep is rugged and inaccessible and usually no private land issues and put them in areas that BLM and Forest Service consider “non-range and nongrazeable” and always overlap of wildlife and domestic animals because they all go to the water. Always a public process and this is one area with significant private land. We have approval to go forward and that is what we are doing, and sent letters out and received one letter from Slagowski, and had special meeting in Eureka and no one showed up and certainly willing to continue and this is still only a proposal.

Commissioner Swanson said breakdown is that people who have concerns are not going to the Advisory Board and that happened in Elko County and the format is there and if we don't use the CABMW then let's disband the boards. He said he appreciates Commissioner McBeath's comments in addressing the sportsmen concerns. To have the cattleman show up at the Commission and the cattleman do not wish to step down and address it at the CABMW meeting.

Chairman Lent reminded the group that this is an informational item for today.

Commissioner Mori agreed that mechanism to go through CABMWs and for whatever reason that has not come through and is trying to get the process going.

Commissioner Lurie said he appreciates seeing everyone today and from what he has heard that there are items that need to be addressed and staff made it clear nothing will be done until there is agreement. Every member on the board is accessible by email and telephone and he represents general public but gets calls from sportsmen all the time and these are good issues and would like to see more involvement with CABMWs. He said he appreciates the comments and people attending and knows that when this plan was approved we never heard from the ranchers other than Commissioner Riordan and now Commissioner Mori.

Commissioner Raine said when he speaks of what is good for ranchers is also good for sportsmen, and it is vital for sportsmen to understand that what is good for ranchers is good for sportsmen and does not differentiate between the two.

Chairman Lent said we had a very good dialogue on this today and Director Mayer said he will work on this, and thanked everyone for their input from both sides, and is sure we will move forward to get this resolved with the director's assistance and agency information. Chairman Lent thanked everyone for coming and the comments.

- 11 Future Commission meeting – Director Mayer said the next meeting is the joint Commission meeting with Calif. Fish and Game Commission, and he has a list of 10 items and Friday's meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. at King's Beach, Calif., on Sept. 5 and back in Reno on Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008.

Chairman Lent said he would like to hear from California what impact no mountain lion hunting has on their wildlife programs because lions are on the border going back and forth.

Director Mayer said they can cover that at the meeting and will ask and noted that Nevada has one of the most aggressive mountain lion hunting programs in the state.

Commissioner Swanson said he would like to hear the pros and cons of how they take public comment in the state.

Director Mayer said that can be addressed during the agency overview.

Committee Assignments – Chairman Lent said he will be submitting committee assignments in writing to the Department at a later meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Note: The minutes are a synopsis of the meeting. At the Department of Wildlife headquarters in Reno is a complete record of the meeting, including recordings; and all the exhibits received/referenced during the meeting. The record is available upon request for review.