

CABMW Member FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. QUESTION: Is someone from each County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife required to attend all the Wildlife Commission meetings?

ANSWER: Yes, NRS 501.303 and 501.290 requires that each County Advisory Board send a member or members to attend the Wildlife Commission meetings where the following occur: seasons for fishing, hunting, and trapping, and setting of regulations. The Wildlife Commission and Department consider input a valued resource, and over the years it has become expected for a representative of each County Advisory Board to attend all Wildlife Commission meetings and provide input on other matters that are up for the Commission's discussion and decision-making.

2. QUESTION: Do members of County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife get reimbursement for expenses attending Wildlife Commission meetings?

ANSWER: Yes, per NRS 501.303, members who are appointed to attend any Wildlife Commission meetings will receive payment for expenses in the form of State per diem and travel reimbursement. This should be included in your CAB budget. If you wish to have more than one member attend a Wildlife Commission meeting, please put that in your CAB budget request as well. Additionally, if a CAB member is on a Committee and there is travel involved, they will receive reimbursement. These expenses should be included in your CAB budget request.

3. QUESTION: Do members receive reimbursement for mileage and per diem or compensation for going to their own County Advisory Board meetings?

ANSWER: No, there is not reimbursement for attending County Advisory Board meetings, only for Commission meeting attendance. Further, per NRS 501.285 there is no salary or compensation of the board.

4. QUESTION: Is our County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife required to take and post minutes of each meeting?

ANSWER: Yes, per Open Meeting Law and Public Records Law each County Advisory Board is required to post their agendas at least 3 days before the meetings, and distribute to any individuals requesting them. CABs must also prepare minutes from each meeting within 30 days of the meeting, and make them available for public viewing.

5. QUESTION: Do the County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife take and provide input on season-setting and wildlife management in just their county, or for other counties as well?

ANSWER: Per NRS 501.297, "the Boards shall solicit and evaluate local opinion and advise the Wildlife Commission on matters relating to the management of wildlife within their respective counties."

6. QUESTION: Can CAB members discuss and deliberate on issues outside of CAB meetings, such as at a social setting or community meeting? Can they have dinner together, etc.?

ANSWER: Open Meeting Law restricts members of public bodies from deliberating outside of a publicly noticed meeting, however, members can have dinner together or interact at social events so long as they are not deliberating on any issues.

7. QUESTION: May County Advisory Board members represent their County on wildlife issues, through such mechanisms as writing letters or attending hearings on the state or federal level?

CABMW FAQs *CONTINUED*

ANSWER: No, there is no authority provided to County Advisory Boards beyond advising the Wildlife Commission within their respective counties per NRS 501.297.

8. QUESTION: Can a County Advisory Board have a joint meeting with another County Advisory Board?

ANSWER: After review by the Attorney General, NRS allows CABs to meet “at such other times as the chairman may call or the Commission may request” and therefore, CABs can meet jointly but not to take action outside their respective counties. The Open Meeting Law rules apply equally to all public bodies as defined in the Open Meeting Law Manual, so each still must prepare their own notice that a quorum of the body will be attending the presentation.

CABs have met jointly to interview and discuss Wildlife Commissioner Candidates to nominate to the Governor and jointly held a public comment period for the joint meeting. Although this was a joint meeting, they each had to notice their CAB meetings, and each board then individually took action for their CAB in a selection, and wrote letters to the Governor of their recommendations (see appendix documents).

Another example, if two or more CABs want to hear a presentation jointly for the convenience of the presenter, they may.