



Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 4, 2012
Location: NV Division of Forestry / NV State Parks
4747 Vegas Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89108

Time: 5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Paul Dixon, Chair Michael J. Reese, Vice Chair
Mike Pergola John Sullivan Brian Patterson
Ryan Anderson Jacky Holt

The agenda for this meeting was posted in the following locations;

- Nevada Department of Wildlife, 4747 West Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89107;
- Clark County Government Center, 500 Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89108;
- City of Henderson, City Hall, 240 Water Street, Henderson, Nevada, 89015;
- Boulder City, City Hall, 401 California Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada, 89005;
- Laughlin Town Manager's Office; 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada, 89028;
- Moapa Valley Community Center, 320 North Moapa Valley Road, Overton, Nevada, 89040;
- Mesquite City Hall, 10 East Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite, Nevada, 89027.

Date: November 28, 2012

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1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairman Paul Dixon.
- Roll call of Board Members was performed by Stacy Matthews. A quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- A. Chairman Paul Dixon requested all stand and Vice Chairman Reese led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes of September 18, 2012 CCABMW Meeting - Action

- The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on September 18th, 2012 were approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda for December 4, 2012– Action

- A motion was made and seconded to accept the Meeting Agenda as written with the addition of a brief intermission at 7:30 pm, and move discussion of Items 14 (CCABMW Meetings for 2013) and 11.A.8 (Bear Hunt Petition) to the beginning of Action Item discussions. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **CAB Member Items/Announcements/Correspondence:** Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CCABMW) members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the CCABMW. Any item requiring CCABMW action will be scheduled on a future CCABMW agenda. CCABMW board members may discuss any correspondence sent or received. (CCABMW board members must provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record).
 - Vice-Chair Reese announced that the Sporting Clay range at the Clark County Shooting Park is nearing completion with official opening set for January 17th, 2013.
 - Mike Pergola shared that he has been in contact with Stan Hardy and together they are reviewing what can be done to improve water fowl and upland game bird hunting in the Overton WMA.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon noted that the US Fish and Wildlife Service has declared the Grey Wolf recovered and has removed it from the Endangered Species list.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon also noted the planned Committee meetings planned prior to the Commission meeting December 7th and 8th meeting in Reno.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon closed Board Member Comment.
6. **Congratulations to Dr Karen Layne for her appointment to The Wildlife Commission as the General Public Representative.** Chairman Dixon and Dr. Layne will say a few words on her appointment.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon offered his congratulations to Dr. Layne on her appointment to the Commission.
 - Karen Layne made a brief statement.
7. **Update on Overton WMA Conceptual Management Plan public meetings (*informational*):** Chairman Dixon and NDOW representatives will provide an informational update on the Overton CMP public meetings held November 5th in Overton, NV and November 6th in Las Vegas NV. The meetings detailed how the Overton **Wildlife Management Area Conceptual Management Plan** would be revised by the summer of 2013 and how the public could give input that plans revision.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon and Tim Wood briefed the attendees on the status and results of public meetings held in Overton and Las Vegas. Chairman Paul Dixon explained that the public will have multiple chances to review and provide input to the Commission on the Plan as it develops.
8. **Wild Horse and Wildfire End of Year Update (*informational*):** Department of Wildlife staff will provide an update on the status of wild horse and wildfire issues pending in Nevada.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon introduced Anthony Miller (NDOW) to address this item.
 - Anthony Miller, NDOW Habitat Biologist, stated that there are no BLM or USFWS plans for October-December gathers or maintenance. He also provided information on wildfires in Nevada during 2012. There were 997 wildfires during 2012, 95 percent of which were kept under 300 acres. Approximately 614,000 acres were burned state-wide.
9. **Big Game Season Structure, Strategies, Timing and Opening Dates/Days Discussion Including A Historical Perspective (*informational*):** Department of Wildlife staff will give a presentation providing information describing the history and evolution of big game season structures and strategies and how we got to where we are today.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon deferred this item to the next CCABMW meeting when the PowerPoint presentation will be available..

10. Analysis of Mule Deer Antler Points and Measurements Presentation (informational):

Department of Wildlife staff will give a presentation providing information related to how point class information, and antler measurement data can be used to facilitate big game management.

- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Vice Chairman Reese to provide information on this topic.
- Vice Chairman Reese noted that he has been working with Tony Wasley (NDOW) to develop a proposal to add antler measurement data to the hunter survey. Tony will make a presentation to the Commission. Vice Chairman Reese would like to have that presentation and resulting feedback presented at the next CCABMW meeting.

11. Action Items:

- A. Discuss & make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners Agenda December 7th and 8th, 2012 and items brought forth to the Clark CCABMW from the public for discussion.** CCABMW agenda & support materials are available upon request to Stacy Matthews (702) 455-2705 or smatthews@co.clark.nv.us. The final Commission agenda & support materials should be available on December 3rd, 2012 at www.ndow.org/learn/com/mtg/support/agenda.pdf.

14. Authorize the CCABMW to set meeting dates for 2013. (For Possible Action)

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic, stating that the intent is to set dates and, where possible, locations of the CCABMW meetings for 2013. He noted that as seen in most of the 2012 meetings, the number of attendees has increased dramatically, which makes finding adequate meeting space more difficult. He addressed the Board members to offer opinions on Tuesday or Wednesday meeting preferences, and preferences on setting meeting locations in various parts of the County or centralize in one location.
- Vice Chairman Reese prefers the Commission Chambers at the CC Government Center. If that room's availability is better by switching to Wednesdays, he's fine with that.
- John Sullivan recommended that meetings be centralized with the exception that one meeting each year be held in Overton.
- Stacy Matthews stated that the attendance is not large enough to warrant use of the Commission Chambers. Instead, she will pursue scheduling meetings in the Pueblo Room at the County Government Center.
- Chairman Paul Dixon opened the discussion to the general public.
- Mike Kowal voiced his agreement with John Sullivan. He asked if meetings could be held on Saturdays.
- Chairman Paul Dixon responded that weekends may require overtime for County employees. Stacy Matthews was not sure of building availability. Vice Chairman Reese noted that moving the meetings earlier impacts the availability of information to be addressed at the Commission Meeting.
- Frank Mirabelli endorsed central meetings and continued meetings in Overton.
- Jason Peterson stressed the need for facilities large enough to accommodate the crowds.
- Brian Cimperman agreed with central locations and the meeting in Overton, but would like to see the Overton meeting on a Saturday morning.
- Neil Dille agreed with John Sullivan and the meetings should be on Tuesdays in Henderson.

- Ryan Werner added his emphasis on having a large enough room.
- Clint Bentley preferred Tuesdays to avoid conflicts with the Fraternity of Desert Big Horn meetings on Wednesdays.
- Chairman Paul Dixon close public comment.
- A motion was made and seconded to set the following dates for CCABMW meetings in 2013 to be held (if possible) in the Pueblo Room at the County Government Center starting a 5:30 PM: 01/29/13, 03/12/13, 05/07/13, 06/18/13, 09/17/13, and 12/03/13, with a meeting in Overton on Saturday 07/27/13 in the Community Center at 9:00AM. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Reopening the Lake Mead Hatchery and Trout stocking in Lake Mead. (For Possible Action) Clark CABMW Board Member Mike Pergola will lead a discussion and develop recommendations to get the Lake Mead Hatchery reopened and trout stocking reestablished in Lake Mead. These recommendations will be sent to the Nevada Wildlife Commission and NDOW.

- Due to lack of back-up information, no action can be taken, thus Mike Pergola has requested that this item be treated as informational only.
- Mike Pergola summarized the impact of the closure of the Lake Mead Hatchery has had on the cities of Henderson and Boulder City, the State of Nevada, etc. He has been meeting with local government officials to stress the importance of re-opening the hatchery. Mike introduced Clyde Parks.
- Clyde Parks, former manager of the Lake Mead Fish Hatchery, stated that he is speaking as a fisherman. He has not had a fishing license in 2 years. He discussed the water and pipeline issues faced with trying to reopen the hatchery.
- Bill Young asked how much higher would the water level in Lake Mead need to be to support the hatchery with the existing BMI pipeline. Clyde answered 38 feet higher.
- Jason Peterson asked if the BMI pipeline could be extended enough while the water being stored for Mexico is present at an acceptable cost.
- Mike Kowal asked how many other hatcheries are there in the state that raise trout, and why can't the Lake Mead Hatchery be used to raise warm water species?
- Clyde answered that trout are raised in a "raceway" hatchery. Catfish, bluegills, and crappie are raised in ponds that are drained when you want to harvest the fish. The Lake Mead Hatchery was built to raise trout.
- Vikki Werner suggested asking the public to contribute toward the cost of reopening the hatchery rather than just relying on trout stamp money.
- Jeff Newman asked if chillers could be used to lower the temperature of the water. Clyde stated that while there is a chiller at the hatchery used intermittently for the eggs, the full-time use of chillers would be prohibitively costly.

2. Commission General Regulation 13-01: Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2013-2014. (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify regulations relating to establishing 2013-2014 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take for raptors for falconry.

- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item. He asked for comment from the Board and then the Public. Hearing none, Chairman Paul Dixon made a motion to recommend the Commission adopt the proposed regulation as written.
 - Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- 3. Commission General Regulation 13-02: Noncommercial Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians for 2013 - 2014. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify regulations relating to establishing 2013–2014 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.
- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item. He asked for comment from the Board and then the Public. Hearing none, Chairman Paul Dixon made a motion to recommend the Commission adopt the proposed regulation as written.
 - Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- 4. Commission General 13–03: Big Game Tag Application Eligibility, Deadline Information and Tag Applications Online-Only Beginning in 2013. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify language regarding the 2013 big game application deadline information, to include adopting a proposal to conduct tag application processes online-only. This discussion will also include a review of the informational paper: *Big Game Tag Applications Available Online-only Beginning in 2013* which was revised to include the results of a survey sent to those applicants who have applied using only the paper application format during the last two years.
- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item. Last year less than 3 percent of the applications submitted were on paper.
 - Ryan Anderson noted that it would seem that in order to hunt, you would need to have a computer. Chairman Paul Dixon pointed out that public libraries have computers available for public use.
 - Ryan Werner noted that online applications will require some form of payment other than a check.
 - Vikki Werner proposed waiting for the use of paper applications to drop off completely. Many still using paper are "old timers" who are not knowledgeable of doing online processes.
 - Clint Bentley feels that eliminating the use of a check for payment will eliminate the person.
 - Jason Peterson noted that servicemen may not have access to computers to do online processing, and would need to be able to mail in their applications.
 - John Sullivan advised that there are very rural areas in Nevada where computers are few and far between and mail is the only way to submit an application.
 - Motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission accept the application deadline wording, but do not make the application process online only. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Commission General Regulation 421, LCB File No. R160-12 – Party Applications and Transferring Bonus Points. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify regulations relating to hunting; allowing for party applications for tags to hunt any antlerless elk or antelope with

horns shorter than its ears; clarifying the circumstances under which a person may transfer bonus points; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item. He asked for comment from the Board.
- Vice Chairman Reese believes this will improve hunter interest in seeking tags.
- Jason Peterson asked for clarification on the bonus point transfer. Any resident points can be converted to non-resident points and vice versa.
- Motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission approve the proposed changes to the regulation. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Commission General Regulation 420, LCB File No. R159-12 – Selection of Tag Alternates. (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to hunting; requiring an applicant for a tag who wishes to be included on an alternate list to apply electronically for the tag and indicate on the electronic application his or her desire to be included on the alternate list; requiring the Department of Wildlife to maintain certain records concerning the alternate lists; deleting certain provisions which require the Department to attempt to notify an applicant appearing on an alternate list; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item. He asked for comment from the Board.
- Vice Chairman Reese stated that Paul turned his tag back in. There is no provision for that tag to be issued to a specific non-profit organization.
- Motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission accept the proposed regulation as written. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Petition. (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a petition relating to making it illegal to fly and harass big game and other wildlife any time of the year for the purpose of scouting or hunting.

- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item. He asked for comment from the Board.
- John Sullivan noted the wording of this petition is unclear. He has issue with what constitutes harassment of wildlife. He also believes exemptions need to be made for NDOW, BLM, and tribal groups that assist USFWS.
- Brian Patterson noted that this petition is targeted toward Area 23 where people are using ultralites and small personal aircraft to scout for trophy bucks summer and fall.
- Mike Pergola asked how this can be enforced.
- Chairman Paul Dixon responded that some of the people doing these fly-overs are taking photos and posting them online looking for clients to guide to the area for trophy animals. The photos can be used to track down the offenders.
- Commissioner McBeath reminded everyone that the Commission will be voting to accept or deny the petition, not whether or how the use of aircraft will be restricted
- Ryan Werner Cory Lytle's family owns property in that area. Are they witnessing harassment?
- Ryan Anderson agreed with what Commissioner McBeath said and feels the Board should recommend acceptance of the petition.

- Jeff Newman has a friend with a farm and has had planes fly low over bedded-down bucks multiple times over the summer.
 - Jason Peterson is worried the word "scouting" may prohibit him from surveying a new hunting area when he draws a tag for a new area. He flies over at least 500 ft above ground level to observe the terrain, not game.
 - Motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the petition by the Commission. Motion passed for: 6, opposed: 1.
- 8. Petition. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a petition from **No Bear Hunt NV** relating to hounding during bear season.
- **This item was addressed out-of turn prior to Action Item 1.**
 - Chairman Paul Dixon opened this topic to the Board.
 - Jacky Holt shared his recent hunting experiences with and without dogs based on arguments against the use of dogs in hunting bears listed in the petition. He stressed that the hounds used for hunting are specialized animals, highly trained and prized for their abilities.
 - Mike Pergola offered that he sees no unfair advantage for a hunter to use hounds in hunting bears.
 - John Sullivan stated that he feels the use of hounds to hunt bears is an appropriate and traditional activity, and almost required in some areas. Dogs are used for many other types of hunting (e.g., birds, waterfowl, mountain lions, etc.).
 - Vice Chairman Reese noted that there are many uses for dogs in our society. Hunting is one of those uses. His dog gets excited when he brings out his gun to clean. Vice Chairman Reese also read into the record part of a rebuttal to the petition from Tracy Truman. He endorses the use of hounds in hunting bears.
 - Brian Patterson seconded John Sullivan's comments and agrees that use of hounds for hunting bears is appropriate.
 - Ryan Anderson stated his belief that this petition is one of any number of steps intended to ultimately make bear hunting so difficult or costly that it ceases to exist in the State of Nevada. He also noted that dog owners and handlers will not put their dogs at risk unnecessarily.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon summarized the comments from the Board before opening discussion to the public.
 - Commissioner McBeath stated that in his time on the Commission, the use of dogs in hunting bears was discussed extensively, and none of the arguments in the petition are new. The reason the Commission decided to permit the use of hounds is that there would be an experienced houndsman with the dogs who would be able to look at a treed bear and identify it as male or female. He further stated that there is no private property issue in Nevada given the areas where bear hunts will take place.
 - Stephanie Myers, Lee Canyon/Mt. Charleston, wished to go on record agreeing and approving the proposition that the use of dog for any kind of hunting is inappropriate.
 - Rachel Andersen shared her experiences hunting bears with and without dogs. Her preference is to absolutely use dogs for hunting bears.

- Don Molde stated he is attending as a resource representative of NoBearHuntNV. He noted that the "bear people" in Northern Nevada feel they did not get a chance to air their opinions to the Commission, and thus the Petition came about.
 - Richard Pabst stated his belief that the Petition is an attack on sportsmen by people who have the opinion that you should not hunt.
 - Commissioner Karen Layne, Las Vegas Valley Humane Society, stated that while the Petition was originated by NoBearHuntNV and humane groups in Northern Nevada with no input from LVVHS, etc., the LVVHS would endorse the Petition. She further clarified her position as not seeking to eliminate the bear hunt or the use of dogs for hunting bears, but to restrict use of GPS tracking of dogs during the bear hunt.
 - Jacky Holt noted that the use of GPS to track dogs on a hunt does not mean the hunter doesn't have to do anything. GPS or not, the hunter still needs to catch up with the dogs.
 - Jason Peterson voiced his belief that the Petition is not about the dogs but about the bear hunt. He further shared experiences with dogs in the military.
 - Kes Andersen feels dogs are good for hunting bears. He owns hounds and has and uses GPS tracking devices for his hounds. He in fact uses the tracking to ensure his dogs do not wander into private property accidentally.
 - Vikki Werner feels that while she is a sportsman, she is also part of the Public, and that it is wrong for organizations to assert that the Public shares a common opinion when she, as part of the Public, does not share that organization's opinion. She further agrees the Petition is part of the movement to get rid of hunting.
 - Clint Bentley noted that when dogs are used in hunting bears, the bears tend to stay clear of dogs. Thus the bears will tend to avoid areas where there are dogs, namely populated areas.
 - Jalindo Tiberti clarified that the Commission can either accept or reject the Petition.
 - Joe Luby addressed the Commissioners in attendance and requested they reject the Petition.
 - Jana Wright, Assistant to Clark County Commissioner Giunchigliani, speaking at the request of Gina Griesen (NV4A) noted that Gina is in favor of acceptance of the Petition.
 - Arlene Gawne apologized for an earlier outburst in reaction to another speaker's comments.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon closed public comment on this item and
 - A motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission deny this petition on the use of dogs in hunting bears. Motion passed unanimously.
- 9. Petition. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a petition requesting the Commission to comply with state NRS 501.100, 501.102 and the federal law 1997 Refuge Improvement Act 105 (57) Sec 5, (m) that NDOW will manage all native, non-migratory wildlife on the Sheldon as it does in the rest of the state including mountain lions, coyotes and trapping.
- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized this item.
 - Commissioner McBeath stated that he is unclear as to the extent the Refuge Improvement Act covers this area. He recommends the Board recommend acceptance of this petition with expansion to include other areas within Nevada.

- Motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission accept the petition but expand it to cover all National Wildlife Refuges in Nevada.
- Motion passed unanimously.

12. Public Comment: Members of the public who wish to address the Board may speak on matters within the jurisdiction of the Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. No action may be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Any item requiring Board action not on this agenda may be scheduled on a future agenda. Public comments on posted agenda items will be allowed at the time the agenda item is considered before the Board takes any action on the item. Comments will be limited to three minutes. **NOTE: Please complete the Public Comment Interest Card and submit to Chairman Dixon.**

- Chairman Paul Dixon opened the floor for Public Comment.
- Jason Peterson would like to propose an agenda item for future consideration regarding setting a half-point bonus point system for bull elk and possibly other species. He explained the financial benefit to the State if hunters were allowed to purchase a half-point at \$15 per year to be about \$2M per year.
- Don Molde voiced his congratulations on appointing Karen Layne to the Commission. He also noted that varmint/coyote killing contests on BLM land are no longer allowed.
- Stephanie Myers voiced her hopes that in the Board's Recommendations there will be a welcome for Karen Layne to the Commission.
- Ryan Werner for one is not happy with Governor Sandoval's appointment of Karen Layne to the Commission. He and his family are hunters and have always been supported of conservation issues. He is concerned that the CABs and the Commission are not listening.
- Chairman Paul Dixon noted that Karen Layne was appointed as the "General Public" Commissioner and thus she must represent sportsmen and non-sportsmen alike in her Commission decisions.
- Vikki Werner is offended when she hears sportsmen vs. general public. She is part of general public and is a sportsmen.
- Commissioner McBeath endorsed Karen Layne and predicted that she will learn how wonderful hunters are as conservationists. He is also looking toward what Dr. Layne will learn on the Commission and what she will take back to the groups who value her opinions.
- Bill DeJuncker is hopeful Commissioner McBeath is right, but is concerned with Commission itself. At times, the Commission blatantly ignores the input from the 17 CABs.
- Commissioner Young echoes Commissioner McBeath's comments on Karen Layne and having known her for 30 years and worked with her feels she is a good addition to the Commission.

13. Authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Commission for its consideration at its December 7th and 8th meeting in Reno. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit recommendations from this meeting to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

14. The next Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is scheduled for January 29th, 2012, at the Clark County Government Center to support the scheduled Wildlife Commission meeting on February 1st and 2nd, 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada

15. Adjournment

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned a 8:59PM.