

DRAFT
Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board
Minutes
November 28, 2012

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility on November 28, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Jim Evans, Chris Torres, and Lester Porter

Members Absent: Raymond Hodson and Dale Hornickel

Others Present: Jake Tibbitts- Eureka County Natural Resources Manager, and Kathy Porter- Eureka County Natural Resources Assistant/CAB Secretary

Call to order

Chairman Jim Evans called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. A quorum was determined to be present.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Review and Approve Minutes-

The minutes of the September 13, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion made by Jim Evans and seconded by Lester Porter.

Correspondence and reports

Jim Wise of Fish Creek Ranch spoke with Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resource Manager about his interest in restoring the fishery at Fish Creek. Mr. Wise has spoken with Chris Crookshanks about this project also. Mr. Wise is interested in attending a future meeting to propose his ideas for restoring the fishery, hoping for public support. The board briefly discussed the restoration of other fisheries and public use of private waters. The board expressed their interest in hearing Mr. Wise's proposal. Mr. Tibbitts will invite Mr. Wise to the next meeting.

Mr. Tibbitts read a letter into the record for Raymond Hodson, who was unable to attend the meeting.

"I apologize for not being able to attend this meeting. It is an important one especially for me.

First of all I would like to express my disappointment in the recent deer hunt. The amount of tags in areas 15 and 14 especially, because I hunted these areas heavily. I feel we need to be more convincing when setting quotas next season. I also feel that NDOW could be their own biggest predator to deer. And if they say the increase in tags is not about money they have a lot to explain to the public. I am also concerned about the appointment of the president of the Humane Society to the game commission. Although I don't know what we can do about it.

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In conclusion the reason I am not at the meeting is that I am exercising my right to hunt with hounds before they take it away. And I hope everyone Agrees with me in a strong disapproval of action item number 17 of the petition to ban hounds to pursue black bear. Hopefully the commission knows that they cannot manage black bears without the use of hounds. But I am confused after reading the support material on action item 17. It looks as though no bear hunt Nevada is proposing that we sell bear tags over-the-counter. This would be an economic benefit to the Department of Wildlife and a disaster to law-enforcement. I feel we need to stop this or they will go after lion hunting next. I will be attending the meeting December 7 and 8 in Reno. Thank you and have a good meeting.”

Wildlife and Mule Deer Enhancement Projects-update on pinyon-juniper thinning projects and wildlife guzzlers installation and consider further efforts to move forward for successful implementation of projects including review and possible approval of RFQ.

Mr. Tibbitts updated the Board on the RFQ and additional funding. Lee Turner of NDOW recommended not moving forward with the project until Connie Lee of NDOW has completed the funding process with the Landowners Incentive Program (LIP). Heritage money has to be spent by June 30, 2013. The Board agreed to wait for Ms. Lee to finish processing our proposed project to acquire the additional funding before the CAB begins to move forward with the projects.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting Agenda and Support Material—

Action Item: 13 Tag Application – Proposal to Accept Tag Applications Online-Only Beginning in 2013 – Operations Division Chief Bob Haughian

During the September 2012 Commission meeting the Department presented a proposal and informational paper titled “Big Game Tag Applications Available Online-only Beginning in 2013.” The informational paper is now augmented with an addendum which addresses the results of a survey sent to those applicants who have applied using only the paper application format during the last two years. The Commission may take action to direct the Department to proceed with online-only tag applications beginning in 2013.

In Support

Chris Torres moved to support the online application process as prior CAB minutes reflect. The Board acknowledged CAB member Dale Hornickle’s disagreement and prior concern for those sportsmen that may need help with the online process because they are not computer literate or do not have a computer. Lester Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 14A Commission Regulation 13 - 01 – Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2013 - 2014 – Chief of Wildlife Diversity Laura Richards

The Commission will establish 2013 - 2014 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take for raptors for falconry.

In Support

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Mr. Evans moved to support regulation 13-01, taking raptors for falconry for 2013-2014, as written. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 14B Commission Regulation 13 - 02 – Noncommercial Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians for 2013 - 2014 – Chief of Wildlife Diversity

Laura Richards

The Commission will establish 2013 – 2014 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.

In Support

Mr. Torres moved to support the proposed regulation 13-02, noncommercial collection of reptiles and amphibians for 2013-2014. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 14C Commission Regulation 13 – 03 - Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Deadline Information – Program Officer 3 Maureen Hullinger

The Commission will adopt language regarding the 2013 big game application deadline information, to include adopting a proposal to conduct tag application processes online-only

In Support

Mr. Torres moved to support the language regarding the 2013 big game application deadline information and support the online application process as prior CAB minutes reflect. The Board acknowledged CAB member Dale Hornickle’s disagreement and prior concern for those sportsmen that may need help with the online process because they are not computer literate or do not have a computer. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 14D Commission General Regulation 421, LCB File No. R160-12 – Party Applications and Transferring Bonus Points – Program Officer 3 Maureen Hullinger

A regulation 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. Note: See support material for agenda item #6 A.

No Recommendation

Action Item: 14E Commission General Regulation 420, LCB File No. R159-12 – Selection of Tag Alternates - Program Officer 3 Maureen Hullinger

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. Note: See support material for agenda item #6 B.

In Support

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Mr. Porter moved to support general regulation 420, to create an alternate list to apply electronically for tag and desire to be included on the alternate list. Mr. Torres seconded, motion carried.

Action Item: 16*Petition

Lincoln County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife has petitioned the Commission “to make it illegal to fly and harass big game and other wildlife any time of the year for the purpose of scouting or hunting.” The Commission may accept the petition and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition.

In Opposition

Mr. Torres moved to **oppose** the petition “to make it illegal to fly and harass big game and other wildlife any time of the year for the purpose of scouting or hunting” as is. The CAB discussed that they were not totally opposed to the concept but felt that a year-round restriction is unnecessary. The Eureka CAB recommends that if this petition is going to be pursued that the restriction be enacted for 2 weeks prior to hunting. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried.

Action Item: 17* Petition Catherine M. Smith board member of No Bear Hunt NV has submitted a petition from a Corporation petitioning the Commission to change “NAC 503.147 Hunting with a dog. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150) It is unlawful to hunt, chase or pursue: Any black bear or mountain lion with a dog except during the open season, in an open management area and under the authority of a hunting license and: (a) A black bear tag if the person is hunting, chasing or pursuing a black bear; or.” The Commission may accept the petition and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition.

In Opposition

Mr. Porter moved to **oppose** the change to NAC 503.147 hunting with a dog. Mr. Torres seconded, motion carried unanimously. The CAB felt that their concerns were described well in a letter submitted by CAB member, Raymond Hodson, who was unable to attend the meeting:

“Hopefully the commission knows that they cannot manage black bears without the use of hounds...I feel we need to stop this or they will go after lion hunting next.”

Action Item: 18* Petition

Robert Brunner has petitioned the Commission “to comply with state NRS 501.100, 501.102 and the federal law 1997 Refuge Improvement Act 105 (57) Sec 5, (m) 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.” The Commission may accept the petition and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition.

No Recommendation

The CAB discussed and felt that hunting opportunities on the Sheldon should be maximized and they voiced general support in the hunting of predators there. However, the CAB decided to make no recommendation on this specific petition.

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Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was scheduled for January 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Agenda items: Bear hunt and Area 14 deer tag quotas.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Porter and seconded by Mr. Torres.
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____ 2012.

Respectfully submitted: _____, Secretary
Kathy Porter

Approved: _____, Chairman
Jim Evans