

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

MINUTES

Thursday ~ November 29, 2012 ~ 6:30 p.m.
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Conference Room B
1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada

MEMBERS

Rex Flowers, Chair
Daryl Harwell, Vice-chair
Michelle Spencer, Secretary
John Reed
Sean Shea

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE [Non-action item]

Member Harwell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Rex Flowers, Daryl Harwell, John Reed, Sean Shea and Michelle Spencer.

ABSENT: None.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

Don Molde expressed his appreciation for Governor Brian Sandoval's recent appointment of Mrs. Karen Layne to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to fill the general public position.

4. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2012, MINUTES [For possible action]

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Reed, to approve the September 13, 2012, minutes, as submitted.

Hearing no public comment, Chair Flowers call for a vote.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT [Non-action item] – *A discussion and selection of member(s) to attend the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings on: 1) December 7 and 8, 2012, in Reno, Nevada; and 2). February 1 and 2, 2013, meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.*

Member Reed and Chair Flowers plan to attend the December 7 and 8, 2012, meetings in Reno, Nevada.

Chair Flowers will attend the February 1 and 2, 2013, meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada.

6. COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES [Non-action items]

6-1. Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements – Chair Flowers noted that the Washoe County District Attorney's Office had opined that public comment should be taken on all For Possible Action items including approval of previous

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 2 of 14

meeting minutes as is done by the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. The January 28, 2013, meeting will be held at the REOC (Regional Emergency Operations Center) located at 5195 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, Nevada.

6-2). Overview of the September 21 and 22, 2012, meetings of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners – Chair Flowers outlined actions and discussions of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) about wildfire and joint rehabilitation efforts and priority setting by NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) and the BLM (Bureau of Land Management). Other Commission discussion noted that wild horse and burros management is “handcuffed” even though the use of euthanasia to reduce the excessive herd populations. Chair Flowers noted that the BLM is running out of places to keep the horses and funding to properly meet the needs of the herds. Chair Flowers explained that the Commission had approved the Trapping Regulation. The use of range finding scopes was approved with light that is not visible to the human eye. Chair Flowers noted that there had been discussion about correspondence on the Eco-Sanctuary proposed in eastern Nevada including funding sources. Chair Flowers suggested that future Commission meeting reports include informational reports listed on the Commission agenda, which may reduce the time needed to review action items. Commission meeting videos are available at www.ndow.org for viewing.

6-3). Update on the OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) Committee – Member Reed requested he be removed from any official association with the OHV Commission.

7. CHANGE OF MEETING START TIME [For possible action] – A review, discussion and possible action to change the start time of future Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meetings from 6:30 p.m.

Chair Flowers outlined the request and noted that the new meeting location is a secured facility and that he will have his grandson serve as the door man. Chair Flowers recalled that the meeting time had been changed from a 6:00 p.m. start time to accommodate work schedules of the former members. Chair Flowers suggested that the meeting time be changed from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Hearing no one wishing to speak, Chair Flowers asked for board discussion or a motion.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to change the start time from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

8. COMMISSION REGULATION 13-01 – Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2013-2014 [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify 2013-2014 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take for raptors for falconry.*

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 3 of 14

Chair Flowers opened the agenda item and noted that no modifications were being proposed. Hearing no one wishing to speak, Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or motion.

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 13-01 p Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2013-2014 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **COMMISSION REGULATION 13-02 – Noncommercial Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians for 2013-2014** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify 2013–2014 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.*

Chair Flowers opened the agenda item and noted that no modifications were proposed for the 2013-2014 season. Chair Flowers opened public comments.

Don Molde questioned whether there was a reporting requirement for collectors.

Chair Flowers commented that he did not have an answer and closed public comments.

Member Reed asked whether there was an effort to enforce the regulation.

Mike McCusker – NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife), explained that while commercial collectors are required to submit monthly reports on species and GPS (Global Positioning System) coordinates as well as locations for points of sale. However, enforcement typically occurs in select target areas and noted the difficulty in finding a non-permitted collector. Mr. McCusker also pointed out that non-commercial collectors did not have a reporting requirement but are held to the limitations defined in the regulation. Responding to a question about human consumption, Mr. McCusker stated that it was unknown if collectors actually consumed the reptiles or amphibians.

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Reed, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 13-02, Non-commercial collection of Reptiles and Amphibians for 2013-2014, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Flowers reordered the agenda to hear Agenda Item 13 before Agenda Item 10.

13. **TAG APPLICATION – Proposal to Accept Tag Applications Online-Only Beginning in 2013** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposal and informational paper titled “Big Game Tag*

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 4 of 14

Applications Available Online-only Beginning in 2013.” The informational paper is 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. [Taken out of agenda order]

Chair Flowers provided an overview of the agenda item and opened the meeting to public comment.

Responding to Margaret Martini’s inquiry about the percentage of paper applications compared to on-line applications, Chair Flowers explained that ± 4 -percent of the total applications were submitted in paper form leaving ± 96 -percent of applications being completed on-line. Chair Flowers pointed out that support materials had been distributed via email and that a book of all support materials was available for public inspection at the meeting.

Bob Brunner expressed his concern about how rural areas could avail themselves of internet access noting that some remote areas may have little or no service.

Chair Flowers closed public comments and asked for board discussion or a motion.

Chair Flowers explained that the Commission (Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners) had received an informational update at their September (2012) meeting on the matter. Although Commissioner Scott Raines asked about anticipated cost savings that information was not yet available. Chair Flowers believes that the transition to only electronic applications should, in his opinion, be delayed until January 2014 thus allowing an opportunity to identify and resolve issues that may arise as well as providing an opportunity to alert the public to the transition.

Member Shea pointed out that non-resident first time applicants had to file a paper application.

Member Reed noted that several surrounding states offer only on-line applications.

Member Spencer outlined her concerns about trying to transition to a fully electronic system in a short time span and concurred that the start date should be delayed until 2014.

During a brief discussion it was pointed out that a delay in the implementation would allow NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to address issues such as first time non-resident applicants as well as an understanding of anticipated cost savings. Other discussion noted that the electronic application process instantly identified any incorrect entries thus avoiding delays that would be experienced with a paper application. Other discussion focused on the cost of providing paper application forms to the various outlets compared to anticipated cost savings by moving to an all-electronic format. As the discussion continued, it was pointed

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 5 of 14

out that a previous computer issue resulted in the timeline being extended beyond the original deadline.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners move towards an on-line only application process in January 2014 allowing ample opportunity to advertise the change in process and resolve issues such as first time non-resident applications that currently must be submitted in written format. The motion carried: Members Reed, Shea, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Harwell dissenting.

10. **COMMISSION REGULATION 13–03, Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Deadline Information** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify language regarding the 2013 big game application deadline information, to include adopting a proposal to conduct tag application processes online-only.*

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item and hearing no one wishing to speak, closed public comment and asked for board discussion or a motion.

Member Harwell questioned the language which limits applications to only one type of hunt.

Chair Flowers explained that he believes the hunt category is in reference to species and that Mule Deer are in a separate paragraph and noted that there are several different types of hunt including depredation and junior hunts.

There was additional discussion about the proposed language during which it was suggested that the regulation be written in a manner that is easily understood by the general public and sportsmen in particular.

It was moved by Chair Flowers, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners not approve Commission Regulation 13–03, Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Deadline Information, as currently written. Chair Flowers recommended that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners direct that NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) staff provide clarification of application eligibility in paragraph 2 (e.g. by species or weapons class) as well as paragraph 4; and that based on the previous recommendation to delay implementation of on-line applications only until January 2014 that the first sentence under Big Game Tag applications be deleted. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Shea, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Reed dissenting.

11. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 421, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R160-12 – Party Applications and Transferring Bonus Points** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the*

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 6 of 14

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify 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.

Chair Flowers provided an overview of the agenda item. Hearing no public comment, Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or a motion.

Chair Flowers outlined his concerns associated with party hunts that could result in a reduced number of opportunities for other individuals. Chair Flowers then outlined the odds of drawing a tag for the various weapons class and explained that he was not in favor of the proposed change.

Member Reed commented that he could support the proposal.

Member Harwell noted that he could not support the proposal.

A motion by Member Reed to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 421, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R160-12 – Party Applications and Transferring Bonus Points died due to lack of a second.

It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny Commission General Regulation 421, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R160-12 – Party Applications and Transferring Bonus Points as it pertains to Party Hunts for Antlerless Elk or Antelope with horns shorter than ears and approve all other portions of the regulation as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Spencer, Shea and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Reed dissenting.

- 12. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 420, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R159-12 – Selection of Tag Alternates** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise 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.*

Chair Flowers provided an overview of the agenda item and opened public comments.

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 7 of 14

Bob Brunner questions whether there was any cost savings realized with the change.

Chair Flowers stated that 369 tags had been returned last year and that he believes this will allow the reallocation of tags for other species.

Hearing no further public comment, Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or a motion.

During the discussion it was pointed out that the on-line only application process had been recommended for implementation in 2014. The intent of the proposal is to reallocate returned tags for species as well as sheep or elk. It was noted that the proposal does not alter the return of bonus point nor does it allow for a refund of fees. The proposal only allows the reallocation of an unused tag thus increasing revenues and allowing more hunter opportunity. Discussion then turned to the length of return deadline of 2-weeks (10 working days) or fourteen (14) business days as listed in the proposal. It was suggested during the discussion that the deadline for return of a tag for reallocation could be closer to the season opening since the system is computerized. Other discussion pointed out that NDOW was seeking the longer timeline rather than SCI. Discussion then turned to the need to write regulations in a more user friendly manner with attention drawn to the use of "consanguinity" and use of the word "affinity." It was noted, after a quick web search that "consanguinity" meant "blood relative" and "affinity" "relationship by marriage" in this context.

It was moved by Chair Flowers, seconded by Member Reed, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 420, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R159-12 – Selection of Tag Alternates with the modification that fourteen (14) business days be reduced to ten (10) business days and add that electronic notification to successful alternates be used with a required return verification of receipt. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 8:06 p.m. and reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

Chair Flowers commented that he would seek a motion to reopen and consider agenda item 10 after agenda item 16 is completed and suggested that those interested in the reconsideration stay.

- 14. PETITION – Lincoln County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a petition from the Lincoln County Advisory Board to Manage "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.*

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item and asked for public comment.

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 8 of 14

Don Molde commented that due to a lack of a specific reason for the request he is unsure what approval of the petition would resolve since existing regulations prohibit the harassment of big game animals by air.

Chair Flowers noted that current regulations prohibit a flight within two (2) days of the hunting season in the area a hunter intends to hunt.

Margaret Martini asked for clarification of the petition process.

Chair Flowers commented that all County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife and individuals may file a petition to seek a change in existing or the creation of new regulations. Chair Flowers believes that this petition may be in response to the use of small aircraft to cause shedding of antlers in specific areas. However, that is not made clear in the petition.

Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for board discussion or motion.

During the discussion it was suggested that this type of regulation could easily be challenged and that enforcement would be difficult at best.

Mike McCusker – NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife), explained that regulations related to game animals were typically tied to specific management units and that this type of regulation would be difficult to enforce.

As the discussion continued it was suggested that the petition be reworded to narrow the scope to specific dates/times and locations as the current request is too broad. Other discussion noted that the current regulations include a definition of high level flight which is not restricted.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny the Lincoln County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife petition as it is currently written. The motion carried unanimously.

15. **PETITION – Catherine M. Smith** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a petition from 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.*

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 9 of 14

Chair Flowers outlined of the agenda item and asked petitioner Catherine Smith to provide opening comments.

Catherine Smith provided an overview of the petition to modify NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) 503.147 to prohibit the use of hounds in the black bear hunt. It is Ms. Smith's belief that approval of the prohibition of hounds would be a public relations win for NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife).

Margaret Martini expressed her support for the modification and noted that a previous survey indicates that 85-percent of those surveyed were opposed to the hunt. The use of hounds, in her opinion, sometimes results in non-target wildlife being harassed and hounds trespassing on private property. It is Ms. Martini's belief that the use of hounds is an unfair advantage and negates the actual sport of hunting.

Don Molde submitted a handout (copy on file) showing California Bear harvest data dating to 1986 and includes data on the total kills with data on the use and non-use of dogs in the hunt with respect to the sparing of females.

Bob Brunner commented that hunting with hounds is a family heritage and that he has not had an issue with random running. Mr. Brunner noted that most hikers with dogs tend to scare more individuals and that the application for the bear hunt by 2,900 individuals compared to 60 emails in opposition shows a higher level of support for the bear hunt. Therefore, Mr. Bruner believes the petition should be denied.

Lloyd Peake noted that California, Oregon and Washington had banned the use of dogs and suggested that this body take those facts into consideration.

Carolyn Stark expressed her support for the petition and noted that family traditions tend to change over time. Ms. Stark pointed out that typically hikers with dogs have their animal on a leash, whereas hounds being used for a hunt are not leashed. Ms. Stark noted that there are sportsmen that support banning the use of dogs and that the majority of Nevada residents are not hunters and may find the use of dogs inhumane.

Mel Belding commented that dogs are used in the management of bears as they are used to assist in the collaring of bears to track their movement and range. It is Mr. Belding belief that this will come to the legislature and suggested that the board recommend denial of the petition.

Mike Smith commented that he has used dogs when hunting deer in Alabama where terrain is thick. It is Mr. Smith's belief that the use of dogs while hunting is a convenience tool rather than a management tool. However, this is step one in the process and will be further vetted at the Commission (Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners) meeting. Mr. Smith commented that, in his opinion, this is the best venue to address the use of dogs rather than

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 10 of 14

a legislative remedy. Mr. Smith encouraged the board to consider the public's concerns on the matter.

Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or a motion.

Carl Lackey – NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife), commented that twelve (12) of the fourteen (14) bears harvested used, dogs in the first year's hunt. Thus far eight (8) bears have been harvested five (5) used dogs in the current season. Mr. Lackey responded to an inquiry that there was not a limit on the number of females this year. Additionally, one hunter let a female go after having her treed. Mr. Lackey explained that he had not been informed of any dogs being injured by bears.

Member Harwell outlined research into the use of hounds noting that the use of hounds is a tool that he believes is better than the use of bait.

Member Reed noted that his hunting dogs are well trained in tracking and once they are on the hunt they do not care about anything else. Member Reed stated that he could not support the petition.

Member Shea commented that as a Master Guide in the State of Nevada and a houndsman he has used dogs to assist UNR (University of Nevada, Reno) in the capture and collaring of Mountain Lions, which would not have been possible without the use of dogs. Member Shea noted that three (3) of the six (6) sponsoring organizations of the petition are out-of-state. It is Member Shea's belief that the petition is politically motivated.

Member Spencer commented that she and her husband both hunt and that as an employee of a federal agency her spouse uses hounds for various species of wildlife. Member Spencer noted that, in her opinion, it is not necessary that the State of Nevada operate in the same way as other states. In her experience dogs typically have a one track mind when tracking. Therefore, she does not believe this is a necessary course of action.

Chair Flowers commented that he did not support the request and recalled his understanding that data would be gathered over the next three to five years before making any modifications. Chair Flowers concurred that the petition may be politically motivated and that the sponsoring agencies outside the State of Nevada should focus on issues within their own states. Therefore, Chair Flowers will recommend that the Commission deny the petition.

Member Reed expressed his appreciation to the dedication and effort of the individuals involved and thanked them for their time and effort in attending these meetings.

It was moved by Member Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner deny the Catherine M. Smith petition to ban the use of hounds in the bear hunt. The motion carried unanimously.

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 11 of 14

- 16. PETITION – Robert Brunner** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a petition from 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.*

Chair Flowers opened the agenda item and public comments asking Bob Brunner to provide an overview of his petition.

Robert Brunner explained that the State of Nevada has a right and responsibility to manage its wildlife, which is not currently being done in the Sheldon. Mr. Brunner pointed out that the State of Nevada is not following its own laws and that federal agencies are required to follow state laws unless there is a specific reason that there should be a separation. Mr. Brunner explained that while the surrounding areas are managed by the state, predators are not managed in the Sheldon and are having a detrimental effect on wildlife populations.

Cathy Smith noted that a study had been done in conjunction with UNR (University of Nevada, Reno) demonstrating that Nevada lions are going to California.

Don Molde noted that he had spoken with a supervisor for the Sheldon who indicated that there is a higher number of Pronghorn Antelope this year than in previous years. While Mule deer herds are not tracked it appears that despite the harvest of 110,000 Coyotes and Mountain Lions over the past 12-years Mule deer populations remain flat. Mr. Molde noted that the Sheldon’s management had indicated they would consider other alternatives once biological data was available. Therefore, Mr. Molde believes this to be a meaningless petition.

Carolyn Stark pointed out that a pack of coyotes chasing prey is how animals feed on other animals.

Mel Belding asked that the board recommend approval of the petition and expressed his appreciation for Mr. Brunner’s work. Mr. Belding recalled having three (3) seasons in 1980 and 1981 and pointed out that while the Sheldon conducts their own aerial surveys their methodology may in fact be counting the same animals more than once.

Mr. Brunner noted that the matter has been discussed on several occasions and that the Commission (Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissions) can move the process forward.

Mr. Belding recalled an instance wherein he was told that there were no Mountain Lions in the Sheldon even as he stood over a Mountain Lion track.

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 12 of 14

Margaret Martini noted her concern about a lack of data as happened with the Bear hunt and believes approval of the petition without specific data would be a travesty of what the board is here for.

Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or a motion.

Member Shea commented that he is in support of the petition.

Member Reed noted that there is a need to fly the Sheldon low and slow to secure an accurate count of Pronghorn and other species. Member Reed noted his support for the petition that will return authority for wildlife management to the State of Nevada and concern about the intent of Sheldon management to remove all manmade water sources.

Member Harwell expressed his support for the petition that he believes will provide for a consistent and balanced approach to wildlife management.

Chair Flowers noted that the issue had been discussed at this level several times and that he supports the petition as written. Chair Flowers believes that wildlife on the Sheldon needs to be managed consistent with wildlife management practices in the rest of the state.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the petition submitted by Robert Brunner as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Flowers stated he would like a motion to reopen and reconsider agenda item 10 due to clarification of the hunt category.

It was moved by Member Spencer, seconded by Member Reed, to reopen and reconsider Agenda Item 10. The motion carried unanimously.

- 10. COMMISSION REGULATION 13–03, Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Deadline Information** [For possible action] – *A review discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify language regarding the 2013 big game application deadline information, to include adopting a proposal to conduct tag application processes online-only.* [Reopened]

Chair Flowers explained that the application for only one category of hunt for each animal species and is not related to weapons class.

Member Reed noted that if no further action is taken the previous motion would stand.

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 13 of 14

A motion by Member Harwell to recommend approval of Commission Regulation 13-03, Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Deadline Information with one change to strike only the one day hunt for Muledeer died due to lack of a second.

Chair Flowers outlined his interpretation of the modifications.

It was moved by Member Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 13-03, Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Deadline Information as presented with the deletion of the first sentence dealing with online applications under General Application.

After a brief discussion Member Shea amended the motion as follows.

Member Shea amended the motion to delete the first line under General Application and any other references to online applications via the internet. Member Spencer amended the second.

Hearing no one wishing to speak on the matter, Chair Flowers called for a vote.

The motion carried: Members Harwell, Shea, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Reed dissenting.

17. **WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** [Non-action item] – *Selection of additional agenda item(s) for the Monday, January 28, 2013, meeting. **NOTE:** This meeting is scheduled to be held at the Regional Emergency Operations Center on Spectrum Boulevard.*

Chair Flowers noted that there were four subcommittees meeting before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission's meeting.

Member Shea suggested a future agenda item be added to modify the boundary of Unit 033 to add McGee Mountain without any change to the existing Sheldon boundary.

Chair Flowers will contact Elmer Bull about an update on the Washoe Lake issue.

18. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

Don Molde suggested a future agenda item to discuss a recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to get rid of organized varmint hunts in the State of Nevada. Additionally, Mr. Molde believes that the Lincoln County petition needs to be more specifically written to target a specific time, areas and types of aircraft.

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Minutes

November 29, 2012

Page 14 of 14

Margaret Martini noted that other states have twenty (20) to thirty (30) years of data to support the banning of hound use and that the State of Nevada does not have to reinvent the process. Ms. Martini emphasized that she believes the continued inference that the group is anti-hunting is inflammatory and pointed out that the group includes a number of hunters. Ms. Martini also emphasized that she does not believe that the petition to ban the use of dogs in the Bear Hunt is politically motivated and that the comments about the Californification of Nevada is unfounded. Ms. Martini explained that she also believes that Members Shea and Spencer should have recused themselves on agenda item 15 as they both use dogs either personally or professionally. Additionally, provable data is available and can be provided.

Bob Brunner noted that nearly 87-percent of the State of Nevada is federally owned whereas Pennsylvania and California are not. As of Monday (November 26, 2012) NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) had not compiled the data he was seeking and that United States Department of Fish and Wildlife is in violation of state law and may face a legal challenge unless the issue is resolved. Mr. Brunner prefers to see the issues resolved so that wildlife management practices can move forward.

Mel Belding commended the makeup of the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife noting that there is a wealth of experience that has not been seen in several years.

19. ADJOURNMENT [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

AS APPROVED BY THE WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE IN SESSION ON JANUARY 28, 2013.