

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

MINUTES

Thursday ~ March 7, 2013 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Regional Emergency Operations Center
Conference Room
5195 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, Nevada

MEMBERS

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chair Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:00 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]

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 28, 2013, MINUTES [For possible action]

Hearing no public comment Chair Flowers asked for a motion.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to approve the January 28, 2013, minutes, as submitted.

Member Shea asked that page 6 be amended to reflect that the non-resident Sheep Hunt tag allocation had been moved from Unit 031 to Unit 034.

Member Reed amended the motion to approve the January 28, 2013, minutes, as amended. Member Harwell amended the second. 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) March 15 and 16, meeting in Reno, Nevada; and 2). May 10 and 11, meetings in Reno, Nevada.*

Member Shea will attend the March 15, 2013, meeting.

Member Harwell will attend the March 16, 2013, meeting.

Member Reed will attend the May 10 and 11, 2013, meetings.

Chair Flowers and Member Spencer may also attend one or both of the May 10 and 11, 2013, meetings.

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

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6-1). Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements – Chair Flowers outlined correspondence from Judi Caron on proposed Dream Tag project as well as correspondence from Mike Smith expressing his concern about Washoe County Game Board Chairman's actions. Chair Flowers commented that the Public Land Committee would meet at 3:30 p.m., March 14, 2013; Wildlife Damage Management Committee at 5:30 p.m., March 14, 2013; and the Legislative Committee on March 15, 2013.

6-2). Overview of the February 1 and 2, 2012, meetings of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners – Chair Flowers noted that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners had made minor modifications but nothing that had any direct effect on Washoe County. Chair Flowers pointed out that the video of the meeting was available on the NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) website <http://www.ndow.org/learn/com/video/>.

Member Harwell commented that he would try to attend the Public Lands Committee meeting and asked that any Washoe County board member in attendance convey his request to form a Wildfire Committee to address fire damage and how future wildfires would be addressed.

7. COMMISSION LEGISLATIVE ACTION [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners on the selection of a spokesperson(s) for the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the Legislature to communicate positions in writing, and/or in person at the Legislature during the 2013 Session (February to June 2013).*

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item and opened public comments.

Judi Caron commented that the language, in her opinion, appears to be overly broad and questioned the intent.

During the discussion it was noted that the intent is to appoint one or more representatives to attend legislative hearing to convey the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) positions on various matters that the Commission has previously taken a position on. Additionally, it appears that the selection of a representative is open to non-Commission members.

Ms. Caron noted that she had observed a portion of the SB82 hearing and was somewhat disappointed that a Subcommittee of the Commission had not already addressed the issue and brought forward a recommendation.

Chair Flowers commented that he would try to attend the March 15, 2013, meeting of the Legislative Committee.

Ms. Caron voiced her support for the selection of spokespersons by the Commission.

Member Harwell commented that Kim Jolly is involved in the process as part of her duties with NDOW and that he believes Chris MacKenzie, an attorney in Carson City (Nevada) would be an appropriate spokesperson for the Commission.

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Member Reed suggested that he believes the Commission should have persons present to respond to Legislative issues in an appropriate manner.

Chair Flowers concurred and suggested that perhaps two (2) Commission members should be appointed so that in the event one person is unavailable the other person could attend.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners appoint one or more spokespersons to represent the Commission at Legislative hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify positions taken by the Legislative Committee on bills of the 2013 Session and to approve, deny or otherwise modify the Legislative Committee's positions as official Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners positions.*

Chair outlined the agenda item noting that the intent is to discuss each of the bills separately with public comment and recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners

SB120 – To revert the Department (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to its former status as a Division under Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

Member Shea commented that this had occurred in the past and questioned the need to spend additional monies.

Judi Caron recalled the previous placement of NDOW as a Division under the Department of Natural Resources and explained that she believes this action would place significant limitations on the management of Nevada's Wildlife, which is better handled by a stand-alone Department.

It was moved by Chair Flowers, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose SB120 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

SB132 – Revises the validity of hunting and fishing licenses from the current March 1 through the end of February cycle to the date of issue for twelve (12) consecutive months.

Judi Caron recalled previous discussion some ten (10) years ago and expressed her support for the proposal as it would provide a consistent cash flow for the Department.

Member Reed commented that he believes this would most likely reduce the workload on staff by spreading the renewal process over the entire year instead of a single month each year.

Member Harwell commented that he believes it would be a nightmare for law enforcement.

Member Shea commented that he did not believe it would be detrimental to law enforcement but may be difficult to implement as many areas do not have computerized facilities statewide thus resulting in some licenses still being handwritten.

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There was additional discussion about the proposal during which it was noted that the change may provide some relief to fiscal issues experienced with a single annual payment.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse SB132 as written. The motion carried: Members Reed, Shea, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Harwell dissenting.

SJR7 – Proposes to amend the Nevada State Constitution to preserve the right to hunt, fish and trap in the State of Nevada as a right rather than a privilege.

Judi Caron expressed her support for SJR7 as written.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse SJR7 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

SB11 – Prohibits the possession in the State of Nevada of wildlife that was acquired, hunted, taken or transported in violation of a law or regulation of another state or country.

Judi Caron stated she support the regulation.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse SB11, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 6:40 p.m. and reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

Chair Flowers explained that pending legislation could be followed on the legislatures website by clicking on <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/PLT/A> to follow specific legislation.

SB82 – To prohibit the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners from authorizing the hunting of Black Bears and make the Black Bear a protected mammal.

Judi Caron noted that she had heard concerns expressed about approving prohibitions. Of particular concern is that such a prohibition could limit the multiple use of resources and that the current system provides an opportunity to address population increases and decreases. Ms. Caron pointed out that hunting is a recognized and supported management tool. Ms. Caron noted that she had not heard anyone express support for a prohibition.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose SB82. The motion carried unanimously.

AB168 – Revises provisions governing the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners and the County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife to require that each County Board include one (1) member of the General Public.

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Responding to Judi Caron's inquiry about the definition of "General Public", Chair Flowers explained that no specific definition was provided in the legislative language.

Ms. Caron outlined her concerns about the use of the term noting that both consumptive and non-consumptive users constituted a member of the General Public in her opinion. Ms. Caron pointed out that all residents have the ability to purchase a license and that she cannot support the proposal.

Joel Blakeslee also stated that he is opposed to the modification.

Members Harwell, Reed, Shea, Spencer and Chair Flowers all voiced opposition to the proposed modification.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose AB168. The motion carried unanimously.

AB128 – Will exempt a person from the payment of a fee for the management of aquatic invasive species under certain circumstances. The bill is intended to recognize the payment of similar fees from other states for shared waters. There were no public comments.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse AB128 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

SJR1 – Expresses support for wild horses and burros in Nevada.

Joel Blakeslee recalled that there had been significant discussion about the joint resolution and that he believes that the language should be modified to require that wild horses and burros be managed at appropriate levels that have been established by the BLM (Bureau of Land Management). Currently wild horse populations are nearly twice the BLM's established appropriate management levels.

During the discussion it was noted that NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) is required to maintain established populations for Elk and certain other species and that the existing management levels for wild horses and burros should have to be met by the BLM as is for Elk.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose SJR1. The motion carried unanimously.

SB134 – Revises provisions governing animals. The purpose of the bill provides that the construction of a fence surrounding guzzlers for wildlife shall be constructed in a manner that prevents livestock from being trapped in the fence and those guzzlers of 1,000 gallons or more NDOW must make application to and receive authorization from the Nevada State Engineer. The application must include an accurate description of the guzzler's location. It was noted that this particular legislation had not yet been heard nor is it listed to be heard in the near term.

Joel Blakeslee commented that he had discussed the language with the bill's sponsor who indicated that this was the result of an incident in White Pine County in which animals became trapped in a

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fence and subsequently died. Mr. Blakeslee noted that the bill would also require the registration notice at the site so that the Nevada State Engineer can be told of any issues. Mr. Blakeslee stated that he was not advocating any position on the legislation emphasizing that his comments were meant to reflect his discussion with the bill's sponsor.

Member Reed commented that he felt it may be premature to make any recommendation if a change in the language is being considered.

Chair Flowers noted that he is opposed to the proposed legislation and explained that guzzlers depend on rain and snow to collect moisture rather than lakes, streams or groundwater.

Member Harwell commented that he opposed the legislation.

Member Shea explained that all guzzlers are marked with the name and contact information and that he was not in favor of the proposal.

It was moved by Chair Flowers, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose SB134. The motion carried unanimously.

SB181 – Proposes to revise provisions relating to fishing NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes) 501.077 to allow NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to issue fishing permits for public or private non-profits that benefit adults with disabilities. Currently the provision is applicable to those groups providing care of foster and child service programs. The bill has not yet nor is it scheduled for a hearing at this time.

It was moved by Member Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse SB181 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

SB184 – Revises provisions for Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners by reducing the number of sportsmen on the Commission from five (6) to four (4) and replacing that position with a member holding a 4-year degree in Environmental and specific knowledge or expertise as it relates to threatened or endangered species. Nominations for appointment may be submitted by any person for consideration by the Governor.

Joel Blakeslee commented that he believes the language to be too narrow and that he is in opposition.

Judi Caron also expressed opposition to any legislation that would replace one of the sportsmen's positions on the Commission.

Member Shea noted that while he has the necessary expertise to serve in that capacity it appears that he would be disqualified as he also hold hunting/fishing licenses. Therefore, he is opposed to the legislation.

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Chair Flowers noted that the language is too restrictive and that it does not specifically state that the candidate(s) cannot hold a hunting/fishing license. Chair Flowers believes that most retired biologist might be viable candidates.

Member Shea noted that not all biologists have expertise in threatened and endanger species which would further narrow the pool of candidates.

Member Reed concurred with Member Shea.

Member Harwell stated that he was opposed to the legislation as well.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose SB184. The motion carried unanimously.

SB213 – Revises provisions related to Trapping.

Joel Blakeslee – Nevada Trapper's Association, provided an overview of the proposed modifications and recalled that registration of traps included an inherent flaw in that the current owner of a specific trap cannot be identified should a trap be stolen or sold. Mr. Blakeslee explained that in order to properly identify traps all trapping equipment numbers would have to be registered and conveyed to a new owner if sold and reported as stolen in some instances. The proposal only requires registration of the trapper rather than the specific trap. Additionally, without video surveillance it would be nearly impossible to contest a change of trap baiting. Other concerns include the lack of providing for extenuating circumstance such as vehicle failure or weather conditions that may prevent a trapper from inspecting traps in the 96-hours timeline. Mr. Blakeslee outlined a recent presentation to the Nevada Humane Society on how to free a dog from a trap with one person indicating they would damage or destroy a flagged or signed trap. Mr. Blakeslee noted that most trappers would pay a citation for failure to inspect within the required timeline.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners oppose SB213. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 740 p.m. and reconvened at 7:49 p.m.

Chair Flowers reordered the agenda.

12. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 392, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R047-11, Falconry** [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 falconry; authorizing the care or possession of raptors by certain persons not possessing a license or permit to possess raptors; authorizing certain transfers of raptors; authorizing the training of raptors by certain persons; authorizing the use of falconry raptors in certain educational programs; authorizing the filming or photographing of falconry raptors in certain circumstances; authorizing the use of falconry raptors for certain abatement activities; providing for the disposition of deceased falconry raptors; providing for the banding or other identification of falconry raptors; requiring certain reporting regarding raptors to the*

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Department of Wildlife and United States Fish and Wildlife Service; providing for the transfer of falconry raptors under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain activities with certain falconry raptors; providing for the housing of falconry raptors; providing for the release to the wild of falconry raptors under certain circumstances; revising provisions regarding applications for and issuance of a license to practice falconry; revising provisions regarding the possession of falconry raptors; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. [Taken out of agenda order]

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item.

David Catalano – Western Region Biologist, provided an overview of the agenda item and explained that the modification brings NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) in line with federal policies by 2014 established by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Mr. Catalano noted that a number of scoping and discussions of the draft plan had been held with an opportunity for interested parties to provide comments on the NDOW webpage which were incorporated into the regulations. Mr. Catalano noted that this was language received from the LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) and that he was in support of the legislation as written.

Hearing no one wishing to speak in favor of, or in opposition, to the agenda item, Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or a motion.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse Commission General Regulation 392, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R047-11, Falconry, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 13. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 397, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R046-11, Raptor Capture** [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 falconry; authorizing the taking under certain circumstances of raptors by a person other than the holder of a permit to take raptors; authorizing the retaking under certain circumstances of raptors that have been previously identified as falconry raptors; specifying the duties of a holder of a permit to take raptors who takes a raptor that is injured during the taking; providing for the banding or other identification of falconry raptors; authorizing the practice of falconry and the application for and obtaining of a permit to take raptors for falconry by residents of a country other than the United States who have a falconry license issued by that country; amending provisions specifying the conditions under which raptors may be taken; requiring traps used to take raptors to be attended at all times; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.*

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item.

David Catalano – Western Region Biologist, pointed out that this too was intended to bring NDOW in line with federal regulations/guidelines and that a number of scoping meetings and comments from Falconers as well as an opportunity to provide additional comments on the website and had been

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incorporated in the final proposal. Mr. Catalano noted that the process had taken several months to complete.

Responding to member Reed's inquiry about owning a Falcon, Mr. Catalano noted that a license was necessary to own a Falcon. Additionally, based on the level of expertise a license/permit is issued for apprentice, general or master Falconer, with each have a specific set of requirements and guide

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

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorse Commission General Regulation 397, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R046-11, Raptor Capture, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

16. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 426, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T004-13, Desert Tortoise (Temporary)** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a temporary regulation relating to desert tortoises; prohibiting a person from possessing more than one desert tortoise under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. The Wildlife Commission will consider taking action to restrict the number of pet desert tortoises for adoption/possession as approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to one per person as of the enactment date (May 1, 2013). Pet desert tortoises in possession prior to enactment are not affected by the regulation (only new possessions of pet desert tortoise). The amendment is needed due to the over breeding of pet desert tortoises in captivity primarily in southern Nevada.*

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item.

David Catalano – Western Region Biologist, responded to Member Reed's inquiry about returning Desert Tortoises to their natural habitat, explained that the release of a domesticated Desert Tortoise could bring a wide variety of diseases to the wildlife population. Currently the Desert Tortoise population is stable and any disease associated with human and domestication could have serious impact on the population. Currently the Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking a land swap in Southern Nevada to extend the refuge.

Hearing no one wishing to speak, Chair Flowers closed public comment noting that a similar agenda item had been heard by the board previously.

It was moved by Member Shea, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 426, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T004-13, Desert Tortoise (Temporary), as written. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **PETITION – Henry Krenka, Nevada Outfitters and Guides** [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 submitted by Henry Krenka,*

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President, Nevada Outfitters and Guides, "to eliminate questionable areas of regulations monitoring the Outfitters and Guides. The new proposed regulations would give a clearer description of Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and NOGA's (Nevada Outfitters and Guides Association) position pertaining to the guiding industry."

Member Shea recused himself.

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item and opened public comments.

Responding to Joel Blakeslee's inquiry about why Member Shea had to recuse himself, Chair Flowers explained that his recusal removed the potential for a conflict of interest complaint. Chair Flowers pointed out that Member Shea was welcome to speak as a member of the public.

Mr. Blakeslee explained that he did not agree with the need for a recusal.

Judi Caron noted that during the legislative hearings a number of individuals had spoken who may have represented a special interest and/or positions. Therefore she does not see the need for Member Shea to be recused.

Chair Flowers noted that this is a complex petition that is well written and thought out.

Sean Shea, speaking as a private citizen, explained that the former regulation was cumbersome, convoluted and contained multiple duplications. Mr. Shea stated that he is in favor of the petition as it will clean-up the inconsistencies, duplications and streamline the regulation. Mr. Shea noted that he had attended and participated in meeting(s) on the petition previously.

Ms. Caron noted that she could not comment until after hearing the board's discussion. Of some concern is that the revision may make it more cumbersome for new guides or sub-guides to get involved.

Mr. Shea explained that the petition will clarify and shorten the regulation by removing language that did not need to be in the regulation. Mr. Shea also noted that a letter of recommendation is needed to move towards a Master Guide's status.

Responding to Ms. Caron's inquiry about the process, Mr. Shea explained that the revision would clarify the rules and regulations for the State of Nevada to become a guide thus allowing a Sub-Guide from Canada to become a Master Guides in the State of Nevada.

Member Reed noted that the petition had a number of grammatical errors and somewhat confusing formatting, which makes the request appear rather unprofessional.

Chair Flowers concurred and suggested that the petition be moved forward with a recommendation to correct grammatical and typographic errors and Chair Flowers had some reservations with portions of the petition. Chair Flowers pointed out that the issue would be brought back to the County Game Boards if approved by the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to move forward.

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It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners accept the petition filed by Henry Krenka on behalf of the Nevada Outfitters and Guides on its merits. Member Reed recommended that the grammatical and typographic and other errors be corrected as needed. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed and Spencer assenting; Chair Flowers dissenting; and Member Shea recused.

Member Shea rejoined the meeting.

10. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT, Fiscal Year 2012 Predator Management Report and Fiscal Year 2013 Predator Management Plan [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a report from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee, and the 2013 report will be presented that describes expenditures and results of Fiscal Year 2012 Predator Management activities and Predator Management projects scheduled for Fiscal Year 2013.*

Chair Flowers provided an overview of the agenda item and opened public comment for each of the project proposals.

Member Harwell questioned whether Agenda Item #10 was a Wildlife Damage or Predator Management project as he believes damage is something caused by Elk or Mule Deer whereas Predator Control is significantly different.

Chair Flowers noted that the issue had been discussed on many occasions without response or results. Chair Flowers noted that FY13 (Fiscal Year) started on July 1, 2012 and would end on June 30, 2013.

Project 6 provides for the protection of Desert Big Horns and establishes minimal population levels for Desert Bighorn and the reintroduction of the species in several areas in Lincoln County.

Member Reed suggested that this is a waste of resources as the result was a survival of 55 animals out of 287. Member Reed believes that the money should be reallocated to Project 22, which targets specific areas for predator control, which he believes is more efficient and cost-effective from aircraft.

Joel Blakeslee noted that as a former member of the Predator Management Committee, the harvest of Bobcats cannot be easily accomplished from aircraft, which were decimating the Desert Big Horn populations.

Member Reed expressed concern that no one was present to discuss the issues with the board and that he believes funds would be better used for wildfire restoration and reduction of Pinyon/Juniper encroachment.

Chair Flowers noted that the motion could include language to reallocate funds to another project such as Project 22. It is Chair Flowers' belief that the unused funds remain available for other needs and can be used on a continuous basis.

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Mr. Blakeslee commented that he believes Predator Control funds cannot be used for reseeding projects.

Judi Caron expressed her concerns as to the amount disbursed to Wildlife Services and pointed out that the majority of the Predator Control funds are generated by sportsmen fees with very little contributed by others such as wool growers and cattlemen.

During the discussion it was noted that the cost of salaries, benefits and administration should be able to fund having someone knowledgeable present at the meeting to answer questions and provide an overview of the various projects. Other concerns include, but is not limited to the lack of support materials on each project and that rational for the continuation.

Chair Flowers suggested that the board make a motion to: 1) take no specific action; or 2) disapprove each item due to lack of support materials.

It was moved by Member Shea, seconded by Member Reed, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners take no action and that the Washoe County Advisory Board make no specific action, due to the lack of support materials and the absence of an NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) representative to address concerns. The motion carried unanimously.

11. COMMISSION POLICY NO. 24, "Hunting Opportunities Among Weapons and Hunter Groups" Second Reading [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify amends Commission Policy No. 24 "Hunting Opportunities Among Weapons and Hunter Groups."*

Chair Flowers opened the agenda item and noted the rewrite of the formula for non-resident tags.

Hearing no public comment Chair Flowers asked for board discussion or a motion.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Policy No. 24, "Hunting Opportunities Among Weapons and Hunter Groups", as written. The motion carried unanimously.

14. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 424, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T002-13, Transportation Permit (Temporary) [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 adding a transportation permit to the game tag, and other matters relating thereto.*

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

Judi Caron expressed her support for the Transportation Permit noting that this, in her opinion, makes the process user friendly.

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Hearing no other public comment Chair Flowers closed public comment and asked for board discussion or motion.

Chair Flowers noted that after review of the materials the phrase tag hold should be changed to read tag holder on page 3 under item 9. Chair Flowers also believes that the effective date needs to be clarified to avoid any misunderstanding. Drawing attention to page 4 NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) 502.390 first sentence requiring the signing on the back of the tag, Chair Flowers noted that there is nothing that explains the need.

Judi Caron noted that in the early 1980's tags had to be signed and that she had been stopped by a Game Warden who asked to see her license which she had did not have in her possession. The Game Warden did accompany her back to her vehicle and accepted her driver's license as identification. Ms. Caron suggested that the board not recommend approval without some rationale.

There was some discussion about the proposal during which it was noted that Guides tags are drawn about two (2) weeks before others. Additionally it is thought that the provision of a transportation permit will assist guides who sometimes are required to transport the harvest for their client. Other discussion suggested that additional information may be needed before an informed recommendation can be formulated.

A motion by Member Harwell to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve only the transportation permit for Game tags. The motion died due to lack of a second.

It was moved by Chair Flowers, seconded by Member Reed, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 424, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T002-13, Transportation Permit (Temporary), with the following modifications: under item 9 sub paragraph D change "hold" to read "holder"; NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) 502.390 delete the added language.

Ms. Caron questioned whether "except as otherwise provided a person to whom a game tag has been lawfully issued and lawfully validated may use his or her game tag designation as the transport" was also being eliminated.

Chair Flowers withdrew the motion. Member Reed withdrew the second.

It was moved by Chair Flowers, seconded by Member Reed, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 424, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T002-13, Transportation Permit (Temporary), with the following modifications: 1) Item 9 delete first sentence "The tag has been lawfully validated per NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) 502.390; 2) section d under sub 9 change "tag hold" to read "tag holder"; and 3) and NAC502-390 delete new language.

There was some discussion of the motion during which it was noted that the intent of the change could be done in one small paragraph and that 13-year old school identifications do not typically include a signature.

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

- 15. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 425, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T003-13, Transportation Demerit Points (Temporary)** [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 demerits assessed on game tag transportation permit and trapping visitation and providing other matters properly relating thereto.*

Chair Flowers outlined the item and noted the proposed modifications to demerits associated with transportation permits and failure to inspect traps within the mandated 96-hours. Chair Flowers opened public comment.

Joel Blakeslee – Nevada Trappers Association, suggested that the board either recommend denial or delay until the June or July meetings as he would prefer to have input from the Nevada Trappers Association - Board of Directors before making a recommendation. Of particular concern is the lack of exceptions should a trapper experience a vehicle breakdown, adverse weather conditions and the like. Additionally, trappers are subject to multiple citations if delayed in trap inspection whereas a hunter is not. Mr. Blakeslee noted that while Game Wardens are provided some discretion there is no requirement for the Warden to make an exception. For instance a trap currently offered for sale by Scheels is 1/64-inch too narrow and could result in a citation. Mr. Blakeslee recalled long discussions about these issues in the past to no avail. Therefore, it is Mr. Blakeslee's opinion that the regulation need to provide specific direction so that a trapper would not be subjected to more than one citation for failure to inspect in a single day.

Judi Caron outlined her concerns with 12-demerit points for the unlawful use of a game transport tag. Ms. Caron noted that the tags may have been filled out or punched incorrectly. Additionally, without education it results in hunters being portrayed as unlawful citizens and poachers, which she takes offense to.

There was some discussion about the proposal, during which it was noted that hunting privileges can be lost for a year or more with too many demerits. Other discussion noted that the regulation did not appear to be well written and should be re-written for clarity.

Chair Flowers suggested a motion to deny noting that a representative of the board will be present to explain the recommendation for denial.

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny Commission General Regulation 425, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. T003-13, Transportation Demerit Points (Temporary). The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Flowers combined agenda items 17 and 18.

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17. **TAAHC (Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee) TOPICS** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the TAAHC (Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee) consider three (3) new, existing or modifications to existing topics http://www.ndow.org/learn/com/committee/taahc/topic_list.pdf related to tag allocation and application hunt recommendations of importance to Washoe County; and*
18. **TAAHC (Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee) SURVEY QUESTIONS** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the TAAHC (Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee) add three (3) questions focused on tag allocation and application hunt processes of importance to Washoe County.*

Chair Flowers outlined the two agenda items and drew attention to the list of items identified at the January 28, 2013, meeting (copy on file).

Member Shea suggested a discussion about the piggy-backing of Bonus Points.

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

It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the TAAHC (Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee) consider the January 28, 2013, list of topics and survey questions including a discussion of piggy-backing bonus point. The motion carried unanimously.

19. **WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** [Non-action item] – *Selection of additional agenda item(s) for the Thursday, May 2, 2013, meeting. **NOTE:** This meeting is scheduled to be held at the Regional Emergency Operations Center on Spectrum Boulevard.*

Member Reed drew attention to an article that he found disparaging and insulting to biologists who, in his opinion, “do a fine job generally speaking.”

The May 2, 2013, meeting agenda may include but is not limited to an update on the Washoe Lake Mitigation issues by Elmer Bull, as well as an update from Mark Freese on the Ruby Pipeline.

Chair Flowers noted that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners may set their April legislative meeting during their upcoming meeting in March.

Member Shea noted his concern that a predator biologist had not been present at tonight’s (March 7, 2013) meeting and that he believes staff should be present to address any questions or issues that may arise at future meetings.

Chair Flowers noted that he had indicated that Heritage Funding for project(s) in Washoe County would most likely be supported if brought to the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife.

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20. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

21. ADJOURNMENT [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

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