

**Approved Minutes**  
**Minutes approved at the June 24, 2017 Meeting**  
**Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting**  
**Telephonic Commission Meeting**

The public is invited to attend and provide public comment from the following locations:

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
6980 Sierra Center Parkway  
Main Conference Room  
Reno, NV 89511

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Southern Region Office  
4747 Vegas Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89108

Public comment will be taken on every action item after discussion but before action on each item, and is limited to three minutes per person. The Chairman may allow persons representing groups to speak for six minutes. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items or attend and make comment during the meeting and are asked to complete a speaker card and present it to the Recording Secretary. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments in order to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda.

Forum restrictions and orderly business: The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place and manner of speech.

Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks that antagonize or incite others are examples of public comment that may be reasonably limited.

Please provide the Board of Wildlife Commissioners ("Commission") with the complete electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations to include as exhibits with the minutes. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format.

NOTE: County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) members and public comment allowed on each action item and regulation items as well as at the end of each meeting day.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Members:

Chairman Grant Wallace  
Commissioner Jeremy Drew  
Commissioner David McNinch

Vice Chairman Brad Johnston  
\*  
Paul E. Valentine

Commissioner Jon Almborg  
Commissioner Kerstan Hubbs  
Commissioner Bill Young

\* Commissioner Tom Barnes - Absent

Secretary Tony Wasley  
Recording Secretary Suzanne Scourby

Deputy Attorney General Harry Ward

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance during the two days:

Deputy Director Jack Robb  
Division Administrator Habitat Alan Jenne  
Management Analyst 3 Jordan Neubauer  
Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark  
Game Division Administrator Brian Wakeling

Deputy Director Liz O'Brien  
Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed  
Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger  
Fisheries Division Administrator Jon Sjöberg

Others in attendance – Reno Location:

Bobbi McCollum, self  
Rex Flowers, self  
Mel Belding

Gene Green, Carson CABMW  
Joel Blakeslee, Nevada Trappers' Association  
Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW

Others in attendance – Las Vegas Location:

Mike Reese, Southern Nevada Coalition for Wildlife

Jana Wright, self

Wednesday, April 19, 2017–2:30 p.m.

- 1 Call to Order, Introduction and Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Wallace

Chairman Wallace called the telephonic Commission meeting to order and Commissioners present were Chairman Wallace, Vice Chairman Johnston, Commissioners Almberg, Drew, Hubbs, McNinch, Valentine and Young. Commissioner Barnes was absent.

Roll Call of CABMW members present: Craig Burnside, Douglas; and Gene Green Carson.

- 2 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Wallace– For Possible Action  
The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER VALENTINE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0. COMMISSIONERS BARNES AND MCNINCH WERE ABSENT.**

- 3 Legislative Committee Report – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Drew – For Possible Action  
A report will be presented on the committee’s recent meetings. The Commission may review bills of interest and any associated amendments, consider legislative committee recommendations and may take official positions on those bills. The Commission may also choose to develop platforms on bills by supporting or opposing general concepts contained within bills rather than specific language. (Support materials are as of the Legislative Committee meeting held on April 12, 2017. Bill and BDR language may be viewed online at: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/79th2017>)

Commissioner Drew reviewed bills as denoted on spreadsheet provided as support material. Due to a bill deadline that passed some bills were cut; therefore they will not be reviewed and no further action needed because they failed to move out of house of origin on Friday: AB 112, AB 187, AB 238, AB 330, AB 332, AB 363, AB 373, AB 386, AB 443, AB 448, SB 73, SB 134, SB 231, SB 263, SB 269, SB 365, SB 475, SJR 11-78, and SJR 7.

Las Vegas Public Comment –

Mike Reese, Clark CABMW, said that although the bills died out of committee, they did not die in house, they still need floor vote.

Reno Public Comment – None

Commissioner Drew directed the Department to maintain bills on tracking sheet in red and if status changes, status will be updated. Commission position will stand. Commissioner Drew continued review of bills from spreadsheet:

AB 29 – Bill passed out of the Assembly Transportation Committee with an amendment incorporating many points from the Commission’s platform. The exception was that NDOW was not added as Ex Officio member. Legislation still has a ways to go before enactment. No change recommended to Commission platform.

AB 138 – Bill is different than platform suggesting approval; however, Commission platform is still applicable. Commission platform still pertinent and recommends no change.

AB 209, SB47 and SB 51 – No changes, no further discussion needed.

SB 75 – Commission platform stands.

SB 116 – Passed out of Senate committee. Amendments made that barbed wire not warning against trespass. Recommend no change to Commission platform.

Commissioner Drew said the review of the next nine bills which already have a Commission position will be discussed because the Commission may need to update its position.

AB 101 – Commissioner Drew said the original legislation has had multiple changes over the years. AB 101 was passed out of committee with two amendments. One of the amendments essentially restores bill back to original language. Personal recommendation oppose amendment 7 and as to amendment 206, not sure need for provision to enhance “game mammals” Blurs line of what money is intended for. Amendment 206 is to go back to 2013 version with report to Commission and legislature at same time to eliminate redundancy.

Discussion by Commission of amendments ensued.

Commissioner McNinch arrived at 3 p.m.

Public Comment Reno – None

Public Comment Las Vegas –

Jana Wright urged the Commission to support amendment 206, and she read section that dealt with predator plan.

Commissioner Drew read language from Legislative Session 2013 which set the Commission up to review and revamp Commission Policy 23. He said he sees no problem with providing report to Legislature.

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO OPPOSE AMENDMENT #7 AND LEAVE THE REST OF THE PLATFORM IN PLACE. IN TERMS OF AMENDMENT #206 STRIKE: “AND THE MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF BIG GAME MAMMALS” AND REPLACE SECTION 3 SUBSECTIONS 6 AND 7 WITH THE LANGUAGE FROM ASSEMBLY BILL 345 FROM THE 77<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN SECTION 2 SUBSECTION 4. COMMISSIONER VALENTINE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Commissioner Johnston said he is frustrated with the legislature tweaking the rules every two years as that is unfair to the people who pay the \$3 fee every time they apply and does not allow the Department or Commission to move through the plans without a change. The public believes the fee goes to predator control. Will support motion but wants his concern noted.

**MOTION PASSED 6 – 2. COMMISSIONERS HUBBS AND MCNINCH WERE OPPOSED. COMMISSIONER BARNES WAS ABSENT.**

AB 298 – Commissioner Drew said platform developed last week and recommends adoption of committee recommendation.

Public Comment Reno – None

Las Vegas – None

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO ADOPT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED PLATFORM. COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 8 – 0. COMMISSIONER BARNES WAS ABSENT.**

SB 221 (Education Council) – Commissioner Drew reviewed the changes and said the bill allows for a committee of the Commission; and provides for development of public information campaign. The amendment deletes subsection b, to no more than \$2 million of principal. Removes 20 percent annual allocation and up to \$2 million can be used. The Department can spend more to administer the account. Letter from Coalition attached and in exhibit file. Amendment adopted but the official amendment is not back from LCB yet with new language.

Public Comment Las Vegas –

Jana Wright said she heard Legislator Ratti had concerns about the Heritage money being used for projects. Amendment better than what it was.

Mike Reese, Coalition for NV Wildlife, said they are in favor and hopes that it meets the needs and educational issues.

Public Comment Reno –

Rex Flowers supports everything but the percentage for the subcommittee. That is ridiculous.

Commissioner Drew said there are provisions as described on page 9 that allow for NDOW to use no more than 50 percent of principal in event of catastrophe. Commission is to insure that balance of \$3 million be maintained.

Commissioner Hubbs asked what the need for this is and is there redundancy. She does not understand the shift from committee to council.

Commissioner Drew said education component is that \$3 fee was toward predator education. The money would expand Conservation Educations outreach to provide understanding of wildlife resources.

Commissioner Valentine said amendment provides Commission with oversight.

Commissioner Almberg agreed with Commissioner Valentine and concerns previously noted.

Commissioner Young said we need to make sure valuable use of public dollars. Sounds good but doesn't see a lot where the rubber meets the road.

Commissioner Drew said intended audience is the portion of public with no understanding of wildlife resource. Won't hurt to give the program a shot in the arm and broaden outreach.

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO UPDATE THE COMMISSIONS POSITION TO SUPPORT THE GENERAL CONCEPTS CONTAINED IN THE CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT ADOPTED BY THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE AND UPDATE “COUNCIL” TO “COMMITTEE” WITHIN THE PLATFORM. COMMISSIONER HUBBS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES WAS ABSENT.**

SB 364 (Revises provisions of trapping) –

Commissioner Drew reviewed the amendment. He said this is another bill where the Commission needs to capture concerns and questions in a platform.

Commissioner Hubbs said public has concerns about warning public of traps, especially if you take children out hiking.

Commissioner Drew clarified that the only signage required would be on state managed land.

Commissioner Young is opposed to any further changes. He said there are disconcerting things in his neighborhood with wild animals in neighborhoods with kids. People need to use common sense.

Chief Game Warden Turnipseed said no citation would be issued in disturbing a trap to remove an animal or child.

Public Comment Reno –

Craig Burnside said rivers owned by state and that is where beaver trapping occurs and that may need to be clarified.

Commissioner Drew said committee opposed for the following reasons: Unintended consequences in regard to changing “wildlife” to “any animal,” the lack of clarity on the signage requirements, applying someone’s name and address to a trap in lieu of registration, tampering with traps when a person or animal is not caught in the trap, and the proposed 24 hour trap check time. Recommends the Commission oppose conceptual amendment and add concern of lack of confidentiality on trap registration.

Commissioner McNinch said the concerns are legitimate. When platform adopted may complicate things more than they already are

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO ADOPT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED PLATFORM WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: OPPOSE THE CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT ADOPTED BY THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, ADD THAT THE LACK OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF TRAP REGISTRATION IS A CONCERN, STRIKE THE LAST SENTENCE IN THE PLATFORM, “AND THE PROPOSED 24 HOUR TRAP CHECK TIME” AND SIMPLY SAY THE COMMISSION SUPPORTS THE COMMISSIONS VISITATION REGULATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ADOPTED. COMMISSIONER YOUNG SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES WAS ABSENT.**

SB 370 – Transportation of Game/Aircraft

Public Comment - None

**COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON MOVED TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION WITH AMENDMENTS. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 8 – 0. COMMISSIONER BARNES WAS ABSENT.**

SB 411 – Authorizing Local Governments to Establish Program for Managed Care of Feral Cat Colonies

Commissioner Drew said the legislation would give authority to a board of county commissioners, governing body of incorporated city or town, or board of unincorporated town, the authority to authorize a basic managed feral cat colony. The bill did have a hearing. The NBWC Legislative Committee adopted a platform opposing the expansion of feral cat colonies due to concerns related to predation of native wildlife and potential disease transmission. Basically the entire bill was deleted with one key exception: Existing feral cat colonies violate NRS 474.110 that addresses abandonment of an animal. What SB 411 does at this point as amended is to change that provision to read: The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to a feral cat that has been vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and released back to the location of where the feral cat was caught. The bill went from authorizing a municipality or a county from authorizing a cat colony to essentially saying the Trap, Spay, and Release Program would no longer be considered abandonment. In his mind that is one and the same when it comes to wildlife. He said he believes the Commission’s Legislative Committee platform is still valid.

Commissioner McNinch said cats are hard on birds and cats can live a long time, and there is a disease factor. Not in favor of this, if they want to address feral cat population they should build a facility where cats can live to prevent harm to bird populations and control health issues.

Commissioner Johnston said the proposed amendment is a step in a worse direction as he understands the proposed legislation gave local governments the ability to adopt a program and manage feral cats, that was removed and now reads that anyone can catch a feral cat have it sterilized and release it. There is no management and no oversight of feral cats allowing individuals to do that on their own. He is opposed.

Commissioner Hubbs not in favor and supports Commission platform.

Public Comment SB 411 –

Jana Wright said the cats are already here. The goal of TNR is to sterilize cats and is a proven method of managing the problem. Once again, the cats are here and should be managed appropriately.

Commissioner Young left the meeting 4:20 p.m.

**COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO SUPPORT THE PLATFORM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER ALMBERG SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0. COMMISSIONERS BARNES AND YOUNG WERE ABSENT.**

SB 511 – (NDOW License Simplification) – Commissioner Drew said SB 511 passed committee, awaits hearing by Senate Finance. This bill is exempt as is funding legislation.

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT THE BILL AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0 WITH COMMISSIONERS BARNES AND YOUNG ABSENT.**

SJR 12 –

**COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO SUPPORT THE COMMITTEE PLATFORM ON SJR 12. COMMISSIONER VALENTINE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7 - 0. COMMISSIONER BARNES AND YOUNG WERE ABSENT.**

SJR 13 –

**COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO ADOPT THE PLATFORM RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE. CHAIRMAN WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7- 0. COMMISSIONER BARNES AND YOUNG WERE ABSENT.**

- 4 Commission Meetings – Secretary Tony Wasley – For Possible Action  
The next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 12 and 13, 2017, in Reno. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the time and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments as necessary at this meeting.

Deputy Director Robb said a future agenda item will be RFP for new licensing system.

May 3 is next NBWC Legislative Committee. Commissioner Johnston said he will not be able to attend.

- 5 Public Comment Period  
Persons wishing to speak are requested to complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Jana Wright said Clark County Shooting Park was not an appropriate venue for videoconferencing. She would like to see an agenda item explaining Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson funding because during the legislative session the question asked if the funding is being maximized.

Joel Blakeslee thanked the Commission and NDOW staff for their work; done right today.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Note: The meeting has been videotaped and is available for viewing at [www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org). The minutes are only a summary of the meeting. A complete record of the meeting can be obtained at the Nevada Department of Wildlife Headquarters Office in Reno.