

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY  
ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

**155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406  
January 22, 2019**

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 22, 2019.

PRESENT:	Wildlife Board Member Peggy Hughes Wildlife Board Member Jim Curran Wildlife Board Member Timothy Gubler Wildlife Board Member Jason Sibley Wildlife Board Member Gary Cordes Deputy Clerk to the Board Pamela D. Moore
ABSENT:	N/A

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

**Public Comment:**

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

**Verification of the Posting of the Agenda:**

It was verified by Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 16th day of January, 2019, between the hours of 8:30 and 9:00 AM at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

**Consideration and possible action re: Review and adoption of Agenda as submitted or revised:**

**Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Member Timothy Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Consideration and possible action re: Review and adoption of Minutes of the regular meeting held on:**

**A- October 31, 2018.**

The Minutes of the meeting held on October 31, 2018 are submitted for the board's consideration and approval.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

**Member Gary Cordes made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on October 31, 2018 as submitted. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Consideration and possible action re: Review of Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence presented for review.

**Appointments:**

**A- Consideration and possible action re: Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for January 25 and 26, 2019, which is attached as Exhibit "A" to this Agenda.**

The board will consider items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for January 25 and 26, 2019, which is attached as Exhibit "A" to this Agenda. The board will take action as deemed appropriate.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Other

**Commission General Regulation 482 - Public and Sellable Lists, LCB File No. R192-18:**

The State Commission will hold a second workshop to consider amending Chapters 488 and 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation clarifies the authority of the Department to remove specific personal information from any list sold or distributed by the Department or the Department's licensing vendor and makes it confidential. The regulation also simplifies how a person can request that their personal information remain confidential by removing the requirement that the request be in writing. The Commission held a workshop on November 2, 2018 and directed the Department to bring the regulation back for a second workshop for further discussion.

Member Curran said I believe the only change is to eliminate that written requirement so that they couldn't put your name on a list. That is the way I read it anyway. Chairwoman Hughes agreed.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there were any public comments but there were none.

**Member Jim Curran made a motion to accept Commission General Regulation 482 as written. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Benefits and Challenges Surrounding Quota Setting and Application Timing:**

The Department will provide the Commission with a briefing regarding hunt applications and quota timing. The briefing will include comparative data from other western states and planned process improvements being implemented within the Department. This item is informational at this time.

Member Gubler said he read they are just trying to make a better time to try to get a quota before you put in. Is that correct? Let's say you want to put in for 181 and you know that they are going to give out 12 sheep tags before you put in for it. Is that what they are getting at? Member Curran agreed and said some members of the public have asked for that. I think they are giving a briefing on the pros and cons of proceeding with the request for a quota before they apply. I would anticipate possibly some future regulation to implement the change but this is just informational at this time. Member Sibley said I don't know if it is doable in that timeframe. Member Gubler said you do your counts after you put in.

Member Cordes said I looked at this with a broad view point and I appreciate what they are trying to do but trying to compare Nevada to Idaho, Oregon, Wyoming or Montana is difficult because Nevada is such a unique state, as are the other western states. Obviously, people want to know if they are going to get their tags sooner so they can make plans around vacations, work, and things of that nature but I do think there will be some difficulty trying to compare Nevada to other states fairly.

Chairwoman Hughes said I would assume that when they have this discussion at the Commission meeting that this will come back to us again with discussions and perhaps recommendations, so I see no need to make any motion. Am I correct? The members agreed

**Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Predation Management Plan:**

The draft Fiscal Year 2020 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review. Following this review, the draft plan will be updated and shared with the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC). All comments from the PARC, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2019 meeting. The Commission will receive an update at the March 2019 meeting from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee and may provide additional direction at that time.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there were any comments. Member Curran said I believe there are only two new projects on that list – passive survey estimate of black bears in Nevada and assessing mountain lion harvest in Nevada. I believe those are the only two that are not ongoing approved predator projects. It looks like the lion evaluation is strictly an in-house using harvest data for the past 10-15 years, breaking it down by management area, harvest, sex ratio, production data, and I assume somebody at the University is probably doing it. It is only a \$10,000 project. They are justifying the passive survey estimate on black bears because of the increasing population going to some of the adjacent mountain ranges. I think they need to know what is going on in the Sweetwater, Excelsior, and some of these other ranges. This plan will come back to us at least 3 more times or it always has in the past. I know there is a predator committee and a commission that will make recommendations at this meeting next week. At this time, unless somebody has a major problem, it is basically mostly all of the same projects that we approved last year, except for those two. I don't see any reason to recommend any changes.

**Member Cordes made a motion to approve the plan as submitted. Member Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-05, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Big Game Seasons:**

The State Commission will consider adopting 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics, hunt boundary restrictions, and legal weapon requirements, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quota.

Discussion was had regarding the seasons for each and associated changes.

**Antelope - Member Curran made a motion to accept the recommendation for all resident and non-resident seasons for antelope for all weapon groups. Member Cordes seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Resident Elk – Member Gubler made a motion to accept Elk seasons as recommended. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Desert Bighorn Sheep - Member Curran made a motion to accept the recommendation for opening and closing dates for all sheep. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Goat - Member Sibley made a motion to accept the recommendations for seasons related to goats. Member Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Mule Deer - Member Cordes made a motion to accept the mule deer hunt schedule. Member Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-06, 2020 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quota:**

The State Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2020 Heritage Tag species, seasons, and quota.

**Member Sibley made a motion to accept the recommendation as submitted. Member Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-07, 2019 Partnership in Wildlife Tags:**

The State Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2019 Partnership in Wildlife Tag hunt species, seasons, and quota.

**Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Regulations 19-07, 19-08, and 19-09 as submitted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-08, 2019 Silver State Tags:**

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2019 Silver State tag species, seasons, and quota.

**Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Regulations 19-07, 19-08, and 19-09 as submitted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-09, 2019 Dream Tag:**

The State Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2019 Dream Tag species, seasons, and quota.

**Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Regulations 19-07, 19-08, 19-09 as submitted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-10, 2019 Big Game Application Deadlines:**

The State Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2019 big game tag application deadlines and related information.

**Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Regulation 19-10 as submitted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-11, 2019 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits:**

The State Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2019 big game tag application eligibility, tag limits, and related information.

**Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Regulation 19-11 as submitted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-12, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quotas:**

The State Commission will consider adopting 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 hunting seasons and quotas for restricted nonresident guided mule deer, including hunt boundary restrictions.

**Member Cordes made a motion to accept Commission Regulation 19-12 as submitted. Member Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-03, 2019 Black Bear Seasons:**

The State Commission will consider adopting 2019 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.

**Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Regulation 19-03 as submitted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Commission Regulation 19-04, 2019-2020 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits:**

The State Commission will consider adopting 2019-2020 mountain lion season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.

Member Cordes said you have a harvest limit of 245, so are there reports that break that out along the different units or how is that tracked? He was told it is statewide now. He then asked how the harvest was in our area? Member Gubler said we don't get a lot of harvest in Churchill County except when it snows a little. We get some out of Mineral County and the Wasatch. There are quite a few in Washoe County but around here it is not as much. We have some places where we could use some lion management but it is hard to get projects going because many people are against lion harvesting.

**Member Gubler made a motion to accept Commission Regulation 19-04 as submitted. Member Cordes seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**Consider Future Agenda Items:**

The next State Commission meeting will be held on March 15 and 16, 2019 and, therefore, the County Advisory Board needs to meet that week prior. Suggested dates are March 11 or 12, 2019. It was agreed to hold the meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

**Public Comment:**

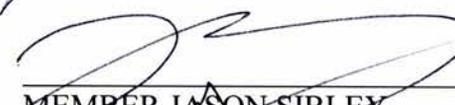
Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment. Member Sibley said we lost a big portion of the 183 Desert herd starting in October through December. Subsequently, we will probably lose lambs from now until February. I would guess we probably lost 50%. There will be a follow up flight in March to get a count and see what rams are available for next year's harvest. It is the same strain as the Fairview slate die-off that happened in 2007. We had die-off in the Clan Alpines in 2009 but there was nothing conclusively found besides pneumonia. I suspect that the 2009 die-off was just a result of something coming across the highway from the 2007 die-off because we did see some ram death in 2009. It is hard to say if there were individual sheep that were left over from the 2009 die-off on the Clan Alpines or it was something that might have been over in 181 or whatever that might have crossed the highway and reignited the MOV. There were no domestics but there was a report from a hunter that there were goats in West Gate and that somebody was watering goats there. We secured that area so that, if that was true, there wasn't going to be more goats there. The Little Angel Guzzler went dry for a period and this was the first year we really did have sheep starting to use West Gate pretty heavily off the highway, so it was pretty plausible that it could have been something like that initially but once I collected a lot of samples and once we got all the hunters to turn in all the hands and things, we found out that it was the same strain type that we found in 2007. The best hope is that we have rebounded from the 2007 die-off quickly on Fairview, so the best bet is that we will have some low lamb ratios for a couple of years and then maybe we will rebound again. Hopefully, it will not go back between 181 and 184 again, which easily could happen in the future if we still have some rams that might have it. It seems like Cow Canyon is still okay for now. We went all the way up to Tum Dummy Canyon, south of Grover Canyon as far as the die-off but it did originate from the south it seems because that is where I initially started seeing the lamb loss and then we had healthy lambs at Horse Creek and then a week and a half later we started to see die-off in Horse Creek with lambs initially and then ewes. Most of what I have found so far is ewes but we did have rams that had pneumonia and all that. It is hard because there is a lot of country to hike and look at to actually find what you physically lost but we might see some of that out of the helicopter in March. There were no further comments.

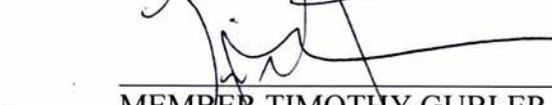
**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

  
CHAIR PEGGY HUGHES

  
MEMBER JIM CURRAN

  
MEMBER JASON SIBLEY

  
MEMBER TIMOTHY GUBLER

  
MEMBER GARY CORDES

ATTEST:

  
Pamela D. Mocre, Deputy Clerk to the Board