

**ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

MONDAY

JUNE 20, 2016

PRESENT:

**Eric Clifford, Chairman**

**Jim Curran, Member**

**Peggy Hughes, Member**

**Jesse Lattin, Member**

**Mike Olsen, Member**

ABSENT:

The Churchill County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife convened at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, Suite #145, Fallon, Nevada. The following business was conducted:

Agenda Item 3: Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 4: Posting of Agenda.

Chairman Clifford stated he verified the agenda had been posted for the meeting.

Agenda Item 5: Review and adoption of Agenda.

On motion by Member Olsen, seconded by Member Hughes, which motion duly carried, it was ordered the Agenda be adopted for the June 20, 2016 meeting.

Agenda Item 6: Review and adoption of Minutes for May 9, 2016.

Chairman Clifford noted the minutes for the May 9, 2016 meeting were not ready for approval. He stated they could take action on the minutes from the March 21, 2016 meeting.

On motion by Member Lattin, seconded by Member Olsen, which motion duly carried, it was ordered to approve the minutes for March 21, 2016.

Agenda Item 7: Review of Correspondence.

Member Lattin stated he had received some phone calls regarding Saturday's agenda item #23 and he would bring that information up later in the meeting.

Member Curran asked if they had received anything from the Nevada Trappers Association. Chairman Clifford said he may have but he did not have it with him.

Agenda Item 8: Appointments.

- A. Items listed on the Final Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission's Agenda for June 24 and 25, 2016 meeting.

Chairman Clifford asked if there were any Board members wishing to discuss item #6 regarding the Duck Stamp projects funding request. There was no discussion.

On motion by Member Curran, seconded by Member Hughes, which motion duly carried, it was ordered to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Duck Stamp projects as submitted.

Chairman Clifford asked if there were any Board members wishing to discuss item #7 regarding the Upland Game Bird projects funding request. There was no discussion.

On motion by Member Hughes, seconded by Member Lattin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered to accept the Upland Game Bird Stamp projects as submitted.

Chairman Clifford asked if there were any Board members wishing to discuss item #8A regarding the Finance Committee Report, which showed the budget request and what NDOW recommended. He believed they looked at what was currently in our account and then would provide us with the amount of money to match. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #9A1, the Heritage Project Extension Request. He asked if there was anyone wishing to speak on this item. Hearing none, there was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford stated everything else on the agenda for the June 24, 2016 meeting was informational.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #17 from the agenda for the meeting held on June 25, 2016 regarding the General Guidelines for the Commission. He stated he knew they were working on changing from paper to electronic correspondence to save money. Member Lattin asked if they could still request items in paper form. Chairman Clifford confirmed they could. Member Hughes requested to continue to receive paper copies. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #18 regarding the License Simplification Strategy Update. Member Curran stated he did not believe they provided any support data. He read somewhere that a very small part of this was to change eligibility on an antelope tag from five years to three years and for a bull elk to five years, whether they were successful or not. He said he was not sure what they had in mind regarding license restructuring. Based on no information provided, there was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #19 regarding the Blue Ribbon Panel. Member Olsen asked Member Curran if he had heard of this group. Member Curran stated they were basically trying to fund non-game programs that did not qualify under any of the PR funding. He thought he would not be opposed to it, but it was hard to know what to do from a two page document. Member Olsen said after reading some of the names supporting it, he felt better about how it would be managed and keeping animals from being listed instead of just looking out for horses. Member Curran stated the Department had a whole diversity program that was non-game and he thought there had been more money diverted into that type of program than he would like to see as a sportsman. However, he felt as long as it was not taking away from a State program, it would be okay. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #20 regarding the Upland Game Release Plan. He stated he did not see anything that was local. Member Curran said it looked like the Snake Mountain Range in the White Pine Area and Unit 114 on Mt. Moriah. On motion by Member Curran, seconded by Member Lattin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered to support the wild turkey release in Area 114.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #21 regarding Commission Regulation 16-13. Member Curran stated the minutes summarized changes to extend the season for the upland game youth hunt to a week-long season with two weekends making it nine days; and a recommendation to amend the age requirement from 15 years of age and younger to 17 years and younger, which would match the youth waterfowl season in age requirements. Chairman Clifford stated he did not see a problem with that. He noted he was unaware the waterfowl youth age was 17 years and younger; he thought it was all 15 and collated with big game hunting as well.

Member Curran said they were increasing possession limits on upland game, which would be very similar to waterfowl and had made some changes to the opening days for Sage Grouse, which he did not have any problems with. Member Olsen made a motion to accept the changes to the upland game bag limits and seasons. Member Curran seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman Clifford next directed the Board to the furbearer portion of the item. Member Curran stated they seemed to be talking about bobcats and the Department's recommendation was to go from the last Saturday in November until the last day of February, which equated to a 94-day season. He discussed the data that had been collected for the last 25 years regarding kitten production and female/male ratios. When the production was poor, they supported the Department's recommendation to reduce the season; however, it was agreed in the past to increase the season if production was up. He said the last two years where kitten production and the female/male ratio was high, they had a 120-day season; November 1<sup>st</sup> through February 28<sup>th</sup>. He said since the late 1990's, only four season had been shorter than 120 days. Member Curran stated the Nevada Trappers Association was supporting November 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup> along with the gray fox season.

Member Curran stated a third criteria was interjected utilizing cats per trap night. He felt it would be impossible to tie that information to the actual harvest. Because of that, the

Department was only recommending what he was calling a standard season, which was 90 days. But the data that had been used for 25 years for those two criteria had always supported a lower day season if things were tough. He hoped all the County's would go along with November 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup> based on good production.

Member Curran made a motion to support the season for bobcat and grey fox from November 1<sup>st</sup> through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Member Lattin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Member Curran made a motion to support the Department's recommendation for all of the other furbearer seasons, which included the muskrat, beaver, mink, otter, kit and red fox. Member Olsen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #22. Member Lattin stated he knew that Fallon had the sheep tag for a couple of years, but it had never really shown back up. He wondered if they had to apply for it. Member Curran said they did not have to apply. Chairman Clifford said the California sheep tag this year was with the Wild Sheep Foundation. In the past two years it had been with the Nevada Bighorns Unlimited, Fallon. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #32. Member Lattin said at the last meeting the Board turned it down and from what Chairman Clifford just read versus the actual LCB file, the language did not seem to match. The item noted the third change would make it unlawful to hunt big game with a rifle using centerfire cartridge of .50 caliber or larger. But what the LCB file said was this regulation also made it unlawful to hunt big game with any firearm that was equipped with a citing system using a computer or electronically controlled firing mechanism. Also, if a rifle used a centerfire cartridge that was smaller than .22 caliber or larger than .50 caliber, or a rifle that used a centerfire cartridge with a case length of more than three inches. After much discussion regarding the way the language was written, all Board members concurred it was very confusing.

Chairman Clifford stated when he made his action report he would be sure to state the Board's recommendation would be tied to the LCB proposal, not from the agenda language for item #23. Member Lattin stated the discussion could be do we want to outlaw the BMG and the .416 Barrett or not. Member Curran stated he did not know enough about them to make a decision. Member Hughes asked why they would want to outlaw them. Member Lattin stated they were trying to regulate ethics; because it was no problem to make a 2,500 yard shot with the right person and the right scope. What they were trying to do was make people go out and hunt, they did not want them to lean over the hood of their truck with a weapon that would shoot 2,000 yards and make a shot on a ram. He said using a gun of that caliber on a sheep would split it in half; they would get some horns and maybe a cape but no meat. He explained they could use an electronic citing system if they had an extra \$25,000.

Member Lattin stated the way it was written now, he would support the LCB language. Member Olsen stated he supported making the Blackhorn 209 legal. Member Lattin

stated he supported that also. They also talked about some consideration being given to making hunting legal with pistols.

Member Lattin made a motion to support the way the LCB file R144-15 was written and to not support the way item #23 on the agenda was written. Member Hughes seconded the motion. Chairman Clifford asked for clarification by stating they were supporting making Blackhorn legal, outlaw the .416 Barrett and the .50 caliber, and make it legal to shoot a few more pistols. On call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #24. Member Curran stated he did not think there had been much opposition. Member Hughes stated she remembered the Board agreed to this item when it was brought up before. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #25 and stated they had already dealt with the definition of a spike elk. Member Hughes stated she thought the item read a little differently than what they had agreed upon. Chairman Clifford read the item into the record. He said what they proposed in March was a little different than the way it was written now. He read from the Board's minutes stating what they proposed was that a spike elk meant any elk without branching on either antler above the ears; however, their current definition read that a spike elk may be taken in an open season only without branching on either antler above the ears. Member Hughes stated they were saying that if it branched two points above the ear then it was okay, but no more than two points above the ear. They concluded it was a small change to the length. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #26. There was no discussion or action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #27. Member Olsen stated they wanted to change it to where when a boat sold, it would have to be inspected by the Department, which was another job for them. There was no action taken on this item.

Chairman Clifford brought the Board back to the local agenda (8b). He said at the last meeting it was requested by a community member to discuss the idea of supporting a County firearms range with Pitman Robertson money. He said Churchill County was the only county in the northern part of the State that did not have a county supported firearms range. He said it had been presented to the County Commissioners; however, they had not supported it. Member Curran stated with any other funding, the request had to be given early so they could set their budget and match funds. He wondered where they would be able to put a range in this County; it would have to go on BLM land or TCID land. He said the commissioners would look at it more seriously if they had a real proposal. Member Lattin stated he knew the Pitman Robertson money went into the Trap Club Range. Chairman Clifford stated that was brought to their attention and the concern was that the Stillwater Firearms Range was private and not open to anyone.

Member Lattin made a motion to support the concept of a public shooting range in Churchill County. Member Curran seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman Clifford next went to item #8C. He stated at the last meeting the Board approved to contract with Jaime Delleria to transcribe the minutes for this Board. He noted the Board had reviewed the contract. Member Curran asked if the time frame was so stated that each set of minutes would be ready for approval at the next meeting. Member Hughes stated she did not see that in the contract. Jaime Delleria informed the Board she had not been given a copy of the contract and would like to review it before approval. Chairman Clifford informed the Board the contract had been previously approved by the District Attorney as written.

On motion by Member Lattin, seconded by Member Hughes, it was ordered to approve the contract with Jaime Delleria for administrative services, contingent upon her approval. On call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 9: Future agenda items.

Continued discussion regarding the contract with Jaime Delleria for administrative duties.

Agenda Item 10: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

**7:06 p.m.** There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned without objection.



Eric Clifford, Chairman  
Churchill County Advisory Board to Manage  
Wildlife

*Minutes prepared by:  
Jaime Delleria, Independent Contractor*