

**ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

PRESENT:

**Peggy Hughes, Chairman**  
**Jim Curran, Member**  
**Eric Clifford, Member**  
**Tim Gubler, Member**  
**Jason Sibley, Member**

ABSENT:

**None**

The Churchill County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife convened at 6:05 p.m. in the Churchill County Complex, Commission Chambers, Fallon, Nevada. The following business was conducted:

Agenda Item 3: Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 4: Posting of Agenda.

Chair Hughes verified the agenda had been posted.

Agenda Item 5: Review and adoption of Agenda.

Member Curran moved to adopt the Agenda for the September 18, 2017 meeting. Member Clifford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 6: Correspondence.

There was no correspondence.

Agenda Item 7: Appointments:

A. Consideration and possible action re: Change in meeting time from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

Member Curran moved to start all future meetings at 7:00pm. Member Clifford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- B. Consideration and possible action re: Items listed on the final Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission's Agenda for September 22 and 23, 2017.

Chair Hughes said the Board would be acting on the following items from the State Commission's agenda: 11, 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.

Item #11: Commission Policy 27, Protection of Nevada Wildlife Resources – First Reading.

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. Member Curran said he received several emails regarding the draft which dealt with the permanent population of wolves in Nevada. He said he had no problems with the last sentence, which indicated the Department and Commission were opposed to the permanent population of wolves. Member Clifford echoed Member Curran's comments. Chair Hughes called for public comment; hearing none, she called for a motion.

Member Clifford moved to accept Commission's Policy 27 as drafted. Member Gubler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Item #12: Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas – First Reading.

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. She said it looked like they had removed some of the areas in the regions, but they did not say why. Member Curran discussed those areas, but he did not understand why they were dropping the fisheries.

Member Curran made a motion to accept Commission Policy 65 as drafted. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Item #13: Commission Policy 65, Management and Use of Wildlife Management Areas – First Reading.

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. She said it looked like wordsmithing from what was originally in the policy. She did not see much in the way of changing the policy; again they took out the fishery areas. Member Curran said the last paragraph had to do with non-consumptive users and charging on management areas, but they found out it was not cost effective. He agreed with removing that paragraph.

Member Clifford moved to accept Commission Policy 65 as revised. Member Gubler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Item #23: Commission Regulation 18-01 Fishing Seasons and Bag Limits for 2018 – 2020.

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. Chris Urquhart, Department of Wildlife, said there were two items up for discussion. The first was the addition of closed waters in Stillwater,

which would make it consistent between the State and federal regulations regarding fishing. He discussed Indian Lakes and the waters at the Stillwater Refuge. He said the other change was in Mason Valley regarding one day fishing for harvest or sport fishing. The intent had been to allow kids of all ages to go to Yerington to fish the ponds for a one-day derby. The last couple years had been a flop because adults came in before the kids event started and took out all the fish and stirred it up so only a few fish were caught by the kids. In trying to find a way to meet the goals of the one day event they wanted to make an age restriction; however, there was an Attorney General's opinion that they could not make an age restriction. They may try to get another Attorney General's opinion or open it at 8:00am so no one could fish prior to that. He believed that would eliminate the age discrimination issue. Those were the options they would present to the Commission. It was not in the recommendations as a change because they were just going to present it to the Commission and let them decide. Everything else remained the same.

Mr. Urquhart discussed stocking Lake Lahontan with white bass and catfish, and the small die off of juvenile carp. The Lake had stratified about 15 feet down and material got to the decomposing state and took oxygen out of the reservoir as it rose. He explained how the dead fish were found in good water, which made it difficult to determine when and where the oxygen was depleted.

Mr. Urquhart and the members talked more about the Stillwater Refuge, federal regulations vs Nevada regulations, the Ruby Marshes, 15-year Management Plan, Canvasback Duck Club and Mercury levels. There was no public comment.

Member Curran moved to approve the recommended changes to Commission Regulation 18-01 Fishing Seasons and Bag Limits for 2018 – 2020. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Item #22: Commission General Regulation 427, License Simplification, LCB File No. R-20-17.

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. Member Curran stated a hearing was held a year ago to explain what the Department wanted to do. He said most of this would change the regulations to correspond with what the Legislature said they could do. He said this would involve an increase in fees to resident adults in Nevada, but would eliminate all the additional stamps now required to have with a license. He reported another change was to the license expiration. If a license was purchased on April 1<sup>st</sup>, for example, it would be good until April 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year. He noted this did not include a trapping license, which would still be on a fiscal year basis. He thought the Board should adopt the concept because the benefit was worth it. He said everyone would still need a federal duck stamp.

Member Curran moved to accept the concept of General Regulation 427. Member Clifford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Item #24: Memorandum of Understanding for Reciprocal Fishing and Watercraft Registration Requirements on the Waters of the Colorado River in Common to the States of Nevada and Arizona

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. She called for any comments from the members. Hearing none, there was no action taken on this item.

Item #25: Commercial Collection of Reptiles – Draft Regulations

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. Member Curran said he received some correspondence on this. He stated one came from Tom Bense who was the only commercial collector in Nevada. He explained Mr. Bense had been in business for 30 years and collected in Clark County and all the way up to and including Churchill County. He thought this action was an assault on all things commercial, whether it was trapping, guiding or commercial fisheries. He said there was no scientific information to justify prohibition against collecting reptiles. He thought there were more killed on highways then collected. He recommended counties oppose any complete prohibition on commercial collection of reptiles.

Member Curran moved to oppose any prohibition on the commercial collection of reptiles at this time due to no scientific justification available to prohibit collection. Member Sibley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Item #26: Pronghorn Antelope Translocation

Chair Hughes read the item into the record. She said this looked like what had been done in the past and she did not think there were any problems with their efforts. Member Clifford said the Department would provide where the potential source herds would come from. Member Gubler said he read somewhere that they would pull them out of the herds in the eastern district. Member Curran stated they may come from all the fire damaged areas. Member Gubler asked who would pay for this and Member Curran stated the State would pay for the helicopter or possibly trade. Member Gubler stated he thought NDOW had traded a bunch of sheep to Utah for turkeys. Member Curran stated they also sent some to Texas.

Member Gubler moved to accept the Pronghorn Translocation as recommended. Member Clifford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

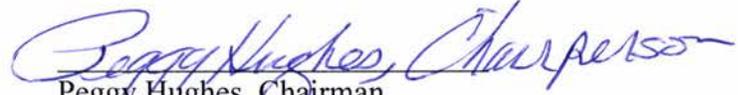
Agenda Item 8: Future agenda items.

Chair Hughes called for any items. Member Curran said he would like Commissioner Erquiaga to attend to discuss Sand Pass Road still being closed because of flood damage even though people could drive all the way through. He wanted to know if it was a County road and who had repaired the washouts.

Agenda Item 9: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

**6:45 p.m.** There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peggy Hughes, Chairman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Peggy Hughes, Chairman  
Churchill County Advisory Board to Manage  
Wildlife

*Minutes prepared by:  
Jaime Deller, Independent Contractor*