



Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 18, 2014

Location: Clark County Government Center
500 S. Grand Central Pkwy.,
Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111

Time: 5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Paul Dixon, Chair J. Michael Reese, Vice Chair Ryan Anderson
John Sullivan Brian Patterson William Stanley John Hiatt

The agenda for this meeting was posted in the following locations;

- Nevada Department of Wildlife, 4747 West Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89107;
- Clark County Government Center, 500 Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89108;
- City of Henderson, City Hall, 240 Water Street, Henderson, Nevada, 89015;
- Boulder City, City Hall, 401 California Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada, 89005;
- Laughlin Town Manager's Office; 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada, 89028;
- Moapa Valley Community Center, 320 North Moapa Valley Road, Overton, Nevada, 89040;
- Mesquite City Hall, 10 East Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite, Nevada, 89027.

Date: March 12, 2014

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1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Chairman Paul Dixon.
- Roll call of Board Members was performed by Stacy Matthews. A quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- Chairman Paul Dixon requested all stand and asked Vice Chair Reese to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2014 CCABMW Meeting - Action

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on January 28, 2014 as written. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda for March 18, 2014 – Action

- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that item #12.E would be treated as informational since minutes from the Black Bear Committee meeting were not available to act upon.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept the CCABMW Meeting Agenda as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Unless otherwise stated, items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda, and two or more items may be combined for consideration. The Board may also remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.

- 5. CAB Member Items/Announcements/Correspondence: (Informational):** Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CCABMW) members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the CCABMW. Any item requiring CCABMW action will be scheduled on a future CCABMW agenda. CCABMW board members may discuss any correspondence sent or received. (CCABMW board members must provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record).
 - Brian Patterson corrected the New Jersey Black Bear harvest numbers he had quoted at the last meeting. The correct number is 251.
 - Vice Chair Reese noted that there was a Tournament at the Clark County Shooting Park last month that drew 470 shooters. It was the largest ever held at the Park. He added that over 200 shooters are expected at a tournament this month.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon announced that the upcoming Commission Meeting will be televised via video conference at the CSN East Cheyenne Campus. He also provided information to resolve the question regarding mule deer being native to Nevada that was brought up at the last CCABMW meeting. Mule deer are native, but deer were rounded up and transported to feed the miners.
- 6. Appointment of New Board Member, John Hiatt (Informational) –** Mr. John Hiatt, was appointed to the CCABMW to replace Jay Holt.
 - John Hiatt is a long-time resident of Southern Nevada and has served as Conservation Chair of Red Rock Audubon for almost twenty years. Chairman Dixon welcomed John to the CCABMW Board.
- 7. Spring Youth Turkey Hunt Discussion (Informational) –** Board member Ryan Anderson will lead a discussion about the lack of a spring youth turkey hunt in Moapa Valley.
 - Ryan Anderson noted that it is difficult to draw a turkey tag for Moapa Valley. It is his belief that this is probably because it is hard to get landowner permission. He wants to petition NDOW to start a youth hunt. He also stated that Kensen Lee has asked to have the draw and distribution of tags moved up one month in a letter he provided for the record. As it is, tags are mailed the end of the week before the season starts and hunters have no time to prepare, or worse yet, the tags don't arrive in time.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon asked Commissioner McBeath if he could see any issue with having youth hunt.
 - Commissioner McBeath replied that no one has ever asked for one. You only have to ask.
- 8. Disease Event Update – Southern California Desert Bighorn Sheep –Pat Cummings (Informational) –** A wild sheep disease report will be provided and Pat will discuss the impacts on the Southern Nevada Big Horn populations.
 - This topic was tabled since Pat Cummings was unable to attend the meeting.
- 9. Overview of Wildlife Harassment Laws (Informational) –** An NDOW representative will lead a discussion pertaining to statutes and regulations regarding wildlife harassment including use of aircraft and drones. In addition, the laws pertaining to the harassment of hunter, trapper of sportsman or outdoors enthusiasts will be discussed.
 - Lt. Mike Maynard (NDOW) presented an overview of current wildlife harassment laws including chasing wildlife with motorized vehicles, aircraft, and helicopters; chasing by dogs, shed antler collecting, and use of drones.

- John Sullivan asked if the laws addressing harassment by aircraft need to be tightened up to include provisions evaluating intent of the pilot when animals are disturbed.
- Lt. Mike Maynard responded that the law has provisions that cover situations where the pilot was authorized to fly to do his / her job for example. Furthermore, when NDOW investigates harassment complaints, they always question pilot intent.
- John Sullivan referred to a recent article in the RJ noting that a judge had thrown out a case against a person flying a drone recklessly because the FAA has no viable regulations regarding drones. He also recommended that NDOW ensure their drone regulations are in synch with the FAA.
- John Hiatt asked if it is legal to haze geese off of a golf course or elk off of private land.
- Lt. Mike Maynard stated that NDOW uses the "reasonableness test" when it comes to private property. Did the land owner make every reasonable effort to relieve the situation before resorting to drastic measures? He pointed out that there are other regulations besides NRS statutes that can come into play. If, for example, a duck builds a nest in your backyard, you would be violating a federal statute if you disturb that nest.
- Commissioner Karen Layne asked about harassment laws not applying to waterfowl in urban ponds.
- Lt. Mike Maynard responded that waterfowl in urban ponds are not considered to be wild.

10. Desert Tortoise Program update (*Informational*) – An NDOW representative will lead a discussion about the status of the tortoise issues in Southern Nevada.

- Chairman Paul Dixon read input from Chris Tomlinson, NDOW who was not able to attend the meeting.

11. Status update on the Overton Conceptual Management Plan (*Informational*) – An NDOW representative will lead a discussion about the status of the Overton CMP.

Tabled: An NDOW representative was not able to attend the meeting.

12. Action Items:

Discuss & make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners March 21st and 22nd, 2014 Agenda and additional items brought forth to the Clark CCABMW from the public for discussion. CCABMW agenda & support materials are available upon request to Stacy Matthews (702) 455-2705 or smatthews@co.clark.nv.us. The final Commission agenda & support materials should be available on March 14th, 2014 at http://www.ndow.org/Commission/Schedule_and_Agenda/

A. Commission General Regulation 416, Shed Antlers, LCB File No. R155-12- (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about the adoption of a regulation relating to shed antlers; requiring a hunting license for the taking of shed antlers from the field; providing for a shed antler collection season; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. The need for the shed antler regulation is to reduce disturbance of big game animals, by shed antler hunters, during the critical time of year when these animals' energy reserves are at a low.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic.
- Vice Chair Reese led the discussion. He is in favor of regulation that is reviewed and possibly revised on a year to year basis. He feels it is important to collect data on the effectiveness of the regulation and then revise the regulation as needed.

- Chairman Paul Dixon read the proposed regulation. The regulation requires the collector to have a valid Nevada hunting license and it sets the dates to coincide with the dates set in neighboring states for taking sheds from the field. He added that a person could be fined if they pick up a shed antler without having a license.
- Lt. Mike Maynard stated that the "reasonableness test" would come into play. If a 4 year-old picks up a piece of antler and brings it home, he's not going to jail.
- Bill Stanley stated that he is in favor of requiring hunting license and in favor of ending collection season in August.
- Ryan Anderson agrees with season ending in December and requiring hunting license.
- John Hiatt noted that the concern is with commercial collecting, using vehicles, etc. He feels a collector needs a Nevada business license, hunting license, other permits, etc.
- John Sullivan stated that he believes this is a good starting point since it addresses non-resident commercial collectors.
- Lt. Mike Maynard answered questions regarding enforcement.
- Commissioner McBeath discussed origins of the proposed regulation.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend support for the proposed regulation with addition of requiring permit for commercial collecting. The motion and second were withdrawn due to discussion on addition of commercial permit. A new motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission accept the proposed regulation as written amended to have NDOW provide feedback of data collected annually for possible revision to the regulation. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Commission General Regulation 430, Guide License Changes, LCB File No. R053-13 -

(For Possible Action) The Clark CABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about revising provisions relating to the issuance and renewal of a license as a master guide or sub-guide; permitting a master guide to use the services of another master guide or a sub-guide licensed under another master guide in certain circumstances; removing territorial limitations imposed by the State on the operation of master guides; revising the grounds for denying an application for a license or for revoking or suspending a license; extending the period within which a master guide must notify the Department of Wildlife after terminating the employment of a sub-guide; revising provisions governing the licensure of habitual violators and the submission of records relating to the clients of a master guide; expanding the circumstances under which a client must physically accompany the master guide or sub-guide during the entire pursuit and taking of an animal; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic. There was no Board or Public comment.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept LCB File No. R053-13 as written. Motion passed: Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 (Vice Chair Reese)

C. Fiscal Year 2015 Draft Predation Management Plan (Second Draft) - (For Possible

Action) The Clark CABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about the second draft of the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Predator Management Plan.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic
- Vice Chair Reese voiced his concern over funding of Project 25, wondering what benefit is anticipated.
- John Hiatt shared that research is the way to learn what is not known. He supports funding this project.
- Chairman Paul Dixon expects this will provide info on the impact of drought conditions on the predator-prey habits of coyotes.

- Bill Stanley stated that he has an issue with paying an out of state university for the study.
- John Sullivan stated that he feels the coyote has been studied extensively. He objects to funding this project.
- John Hiatt feels this is a unique study and should be funded.
- Carmen Rhoda asked where she can see the proposed plan. She was referred to the NDOW website.
- Commissioner McBeath shared insight behind coyote research studies. This is the 4th year of 5 year study of predator-prey relationships. Commissioner McBeath urges following through on the commitments made.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept the Plan as written. Motion passed Yeas: 5 Nays: 1 Vice Chair Reese objecting to Project 25, Abstain: 1 John Sullivan

D. Duck Stamp Committee Report and First Reading of Commission Policy #50, Duck Stamp Procedure - (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about proposed updates to Commission Policy #50.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic.
- Commissioner Karen Layne shared insight from the Duck Stamp Committee.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the proposed updates to Commission Policy #50 as written. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Black Bear Committee Report - (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about recommendations from the Black Bear Committee meeting held on February 21, 2014.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic noting that due to lack of minutes from the Black Bear Committee, this would be an informational item only. No action can be taken.
- This topic was tabled.

12. Public Comment: Members of the public who wish to address the Board may speak on matters within the jurisdiction of the Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. No action may be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Any item requiring Board action not on this agenda may be scheduled on a future agenda. Public comments on posted agenda items will be allowed at the time the agenda item is considered before the Board takes any action on the item. Comments will be limited to three minutes. **NOTE: Please complete the Public Comment Interest Card and submit to Chairman Dixon.**

- Salme Armijo voiced her objections to the way trapping is regulated. Her issue is with 96 hour visitation regulation. She feels that animals need to be allowed to live in wilderness without chance of being trapped. Most states have 24 hour visitation requirements. Most trappers are not doing it for livelihood.
- Melody Hendry stated she is also opposed to trapping. She suggested making public more aware of trapping and regulations. Use of small signs alerting hikers, etc. to the presence of traps and potentially trapped animals. She feels the State needs stronger regulations. She has hiked all of the trails in the Spring Mountains and Red Rocks area and has not seen a trap.
- Ryan Anderson commented that as Melody has hiked nearly every trail in the Spring Mountains and not seen a trap or been aware of trapping, then perhaps trapping is not as big an issue.
- Chairman Paul Dixon interjected that the Board should refrain from addressing statements made during Public Comment.

- Carlo Gagliaro noted that he lives in Cold Creek, and that 4 miles downhill is campground with frequent visitors who are unaware of trapping. He asked to increase the offset from residences and public facilities.
- Carmen Rhoda stated that she lives in Cold Creek, and has observed spotlight hunting of wildlife. She wants to outlaw spotlight hunting. She also objects to trapping.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Carmen Rhoda for an email to request adding this topic to an upcoming agenda.
- Ryan Anderson apologized for his inappropriate action earlier.
- Janet Rhea Little noted as a resident of Cold Creek, she recounted the activities on the day her dog was trapped February 16th, 2014.
- Stephanie Meyers, a resident of Lee Canyon, discussed her dog being trapped and the fact that when she brought the matter to the CCABMW, she was laughed at and derided. She also read and refuted some facts that had been noted in a newspaper letter to the editors: trapping reduces spread of diseases, but diseases are carried by mice and rodents, and trapping predators would allow the rodent population to grow dramatically; there are 35 game wardens in Nevada but only 3 on duty at any one time; there are no veterinarians in Las Vegas who have treated dogs caught in traps.
- Trudy Lawrence shared that she once lived on a cattle ranch in California, unaware of trapping until a trapper was hired to remove coyotes. She found and freed a couple of bobcats that had been trapped, but the worst was a coyote that was trapped but struggled to free itself.
- Carmen Rhoda asked if California abolishes trapping will that cause influx of trappers into Nevada.
- Commissioner Karen Layne noted that the Trapping Regulation Committee will meet in Las Vegas on April 5th.

13. Authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Commission for its consideration at its March 21st meeting in Reno, Nevada. (For Possible Action)

- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit recommendations from this meeting to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

14. The next Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is scheduled for May 6th, 2014 Clark County Government Center to support the scheduled Wildlife Commission meeting on May 9th and 10th, 2014 in Reno, Nevada.

15. Adjournment

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:11PM.