

**DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**  
**Minutes of October 28, 2019 Meeting**

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Monday, October 28, 2019 in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Cook, Vice Chairman  
Robert Rittenhouse  
Mike Turnipseed  
JT Chevallier

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Craig Burnside, Chairman

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm and determined a quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Member Chevallier led the Pledge.

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Vice Chairman Cook noted the absence of Chairman Burnside. He introduced Travis Hawks, Nevada Department of Wildlife Fisheries Biologist.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No public comment.

MOTION by Chevallier/Turnipseed to approve the agenda as presented; carried with Burnside absent.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **September 17, 2019**

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Chevallier to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Burnside absent and Turnipseed abstaining.

**1. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRI-COUNTY WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP.**

Member Rittenhouse attempted to reach out to both the Washoe County and Carson City members, but he received no response from either. He would like to discuss the recent changes to the Open Meeting Law and to suggest the group use telephonic means to meet to make it easier to get the group together. He feels there are important regional wildlife issues, such as the effect of growth

on wildlife habitat, that should be addressed by the group. He stated he will continue to try to get the group together.

The members briefly discussed the slaughterhouse project, the Park Ranch proposal, and new housing under development in Minden.

No public comment.

This was a discussion only.

**2. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE WILL DISCUSS AND MAY TAKE ACTION TO RECOMMEND SIMPLIFICATION OF THE ONE DAY FISHING LICENSE FOR YOUTH INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO RECOMMENDING MAKING THE LICENSE AVAILABLE ONLINE.**

Vice Chairman Cook was unable to attend the Las Vegas meeting, where he intended to help move this item forward, so he requested the item be removed from future agendas unless there is a request by a member of the public to bring it back for discussion.

No public comment.

No action was taken.

**3. DISCUSSION ONLY ON THE PROCEDURAL PROCESS USED BY THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AS IT RELATES TO THEIR HUNTER SAFETY PROGRAM. Member Robert Rittenhouse will provide information on the requirements of the Nevada Department of Wildlife's approved hunter safety education course. No action will be taken.**

Member Rittenhouse recapped the process used by the Department for youth versus adult hunter safety programs.

Member Chevallier talked about a recent experience with completion of the online hunter safety program and the resulting issuance of certification for a hunting license. He added this certification is recognized by California Department of Fish & Wildlife also.

Member Rittenhouse does not agree with the online hunter safety program. He feels the training is not sufficient for gun safety, survival issues, and ethical responsibilities to make a person qualified to buy a hunting license.

Member Chevallier recognizes the online program is not an active form of learning; the retention of the information is in question. His personal experience with testing was quite different in that he spent two days in the classroom prior to taking the test.

Member Rittenhouse feels the online version allows anyone to take the test under the guise of being someone else.

No public comment.

This was a discussion only.

**4. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 20 & 21, 2019 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.**

No one was able to attend the meeting therefore an update was not provided.

No public comment.

**5. The following items, 5a through 5f, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, November 1 & 2, 2019, at the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Building A, Reno, Nevada. The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may take the following action, or a variation thereof, on each item: support the item, not support the item or not take a position on the item. Public Comment will be allowed on each item.**

**5a–5f. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:**

**5a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 485, TAG TRANSFER, DEFERENCE, AND RETURN PROGRAM, LCB FILE NO. R022-19.** The Commission will hold a third workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would provide direction for allowing the transfer, deference or return of tags under certain extenuating circumstances after the passage of Assembly Bill 404 of the 80<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. At the first workshop, the Commission directed the Department to narrow the options for the transfer or deference of a tag. At the second workshop, the Commission directed the Department to draft changes to the regulation encompassing the description of “extenuating circumstances” and a timeline to return the tag to the Department. (This item is agendaized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ agenda) (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9A*)

Member Turnipseed has reviewed this item several times and asked if he would have the ability to give his tag to his son or someone else if he wanted to.

Member Rittenhouse explained it could be transferred if a doctor’s note was provided. He would like to see language included that the tag could be transferred to family or friends with a doctor’s excuse. However, he does not support allowing the tag to be sold.

Vice Chairman Cook questioned whether it would be fair to put in for a tag with the intention of giving it to someone else especially when that person already knows they physically could not take part in the hunt.

Member Turnipseed pointed out people who are waiting in line for a tag in the event someone drops out would not get one if people are allowed to give their tag to whoever they want.

Member Chevallier feels the bigger question is the definition of “extenuating circumstances.” He would like to table this item until the “extenuating circumstances” description comes from the Commission.

Vice Chairman Cook agreed because there are too many loopholes and ways to take advantage of the situation right now.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Travis Hawks agreed and compared this to the issues faced with party tags. He would like to see the definition first because the potential to take advantage of this is great.

Public comment closed.

The consensus of the Board was to table this item until the definition is made available.

**5b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 486, VETERAN AND ACTIVE MILITARY WATERFOWL SEASON, LCB FILE NO. R027-19.** The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider a regulation to amend Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Federal statute was adopted in 2019 which would allow for veterans and active military to exclusively hunt waterfowl for a period of two days within the maximum allowable days of the existing season. If adopted, this regulation would provide authority to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners may establish such a season at some future point if they choose. The Commission held a workshop on September 20, 2019 and has requested that the Department bring the regulation back for a second workshop and provide an example of how waterfowl seasons could be structured if this NAC were adopted and if the Commission chose to implement the veteran and military waterfowl season. (This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' agenda) (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9B*)

All members expressed support for veterans and military personnel and feel this is one way to thank them for their service.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Chevallier to recommend approval of the two-day season for veterans; carried with Burnside absent.

**5c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 487, USE OF LIVE BAIT FISH AND TACKLE RESTRICTIONS, LCB FILE NO. R060-19.** The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider and recommend amendments to Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation is intended to update and simplify the use of live bait fish and other bait and fishing tackle in NDOW's Western Region and Southern Region. (This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' agenda as *Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9C and is agendized later for possible adoption*)

The title was read into the record.

This item was taken in conjunction with item 5d. Please see the discussion under that item.

**5d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 487, USE OF LIVE BAIT FISH AND TACKLE RESTRICTIONS, LCB FILE NO. R060-19.** The Commission will consider adopting a regulation relating to amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This

**regulation would update and simplify the use of live bait fish and other bait and fishing tackle in NDOW's Western and Southern regions. The Commission held a workshop on the proposed regulation on September 20, 2019 and the Commission directed the Department to revise language for proposed changes in NAC 503.504 regarding areas of use for live bait fish in the Western Region and other minor cleanup changes. A second workshop was held on November 1, 2019. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18A*)**

Travis Hawks, Nevada Department of Wildlife Fisheries Biologist, explained that changes were requested by the Legislative Counsel Bureau. The changes made were language cleanup and not substantive. He highlighted the proposed changes to prohibit moving fish from one basin to another, no use of commercially prepared and preserved bait in the eastern region, changes to the use of bait in some southern waters, and changes to the lower section of the Truckee River.

Member Chevallier feels this will help mitigate invasive species transfer and he supports doing that.

No public comment.

MOTION by Chevallier/Turnipseed to recommend support of the possible adoption of Commission General Regulation 487 as presented in agenda items 5c and 5d, carried with Burnside absent.

**5e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 488, LANDOWNER COMPENSATION TAGS, LCB FILE NO. R083-19. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would provide direction for allocating landowner deer and antelope compensation tags if owner applicants cumulatively qualify for compensation tags in excess of the statutory limit. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18B*)**

No public comment.

The consensus was to take no action since the outcome of the workshop is unknown at this time.

**5f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 489, SHED ANTLER REGULATION, LCB FILE NO. R082-19. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would amend the current shed antler regulation to increase penalties, change season dates, and provide for an educational program for shed antler hunters. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18C*)**

No public comment.

The explanation of this item indicates a workshop will be held but it is not clear when that will take place.

Member Rittenhouse said he tried to obtain a copy of the film that will be used to certify the shed hunters, but he was told it was not done. He feels too many questions remain to vote on it tonight.

Member Chevallier thought the instructional course should be required for those caught with sheds outside the legal shed hunting period.

Vice Chairman Cook reviewed the support material provided.

Since there is not enough information to make an informed decision, the consensus was to take no action at this time.

**6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.**

Member Turnipseed asked what action was taken RS 2477, requiring the private landowner to provide access to public lands/property.

A brief discussion took place on littering, tearing up roads, and the need for recorded easements with private partners for public access.

Vice Chairman Cook received a letter from the Lake Village Homeowners' Association asking what role the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife plays for them.

**7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO ATTEND UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS AND TO REPRESENT THE FINDINGS OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD. ONE MEMBER WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD.**

Member Chevallier will attend the Reno meeting.

**8. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.** The next Commission meeting is scheduled for January 24 and 25, 2020, in Las Vegas and 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 and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, January 22, 2020.**

**9. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

- Tri-County Wildlife Working Group

**CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

MOTION by Turnipseed/Chevallier to adjourn the meeting; carried with Burnside absent.

There being no further business to come before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

The minutes of the October 28, 2019 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 22nd day of January 2020.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Bob Cook, Vice Chairman