

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the May 5, 2014 Meeting

The DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2014 in the CVIC HALL 1602 ESMERALDA AVE, MINDEN, NEVADA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Cook, Vice Chairman
 Michael Turnipseed
 Bob Pohlman
 Wes Emery

MEMBER ABSENT: Craig Burnside, Chairman

NDOW STAFF PRESENT: Carl Lackey, NDOW Biologist

STAFF: Lorraine Diedrichsen, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chairman Cook thanked the public present for their attendance at the meeting and noted the absence of Chairman Burnside.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Pohlman/Emery to approve the agenda as presented;

No public comment.

MOTION; carried with Burnside absent.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 18, 2014

MOTION by Turnipseed/Pohlman to approve the minutes as presented;

No public comment.

MOTION; carried with Burnside absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE RATIFICATION OF THE BUDGET SUBMITTAL FOR THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE TO THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE'S FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Vice Chairman Cook stated the budget was submitted with no request for funding since the balance in the fund is sufficient for this year. He noted members have attended the majority of the meetings and he reminded them to submit their expenses when they do attend.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to ratify the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife budget submittal; carried with Burnside absent.

2. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRI-COUNTY WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP.

The group has not met so there was no report. Vice Chairman Cook stated Mr. Rex Flowers thought the group was more productive as the mule deer working group and Mr. Flowers thought the group should consider going back to that focus.

Member Turnipseed asked for update on the mule deer migratory study. Mr. Carl Lackey, NDOW biologist, stated they did not increase the sample size this year. They are continuing the monthly flights and are continuing to monitor the timing and pattern of the seasonal migration of the deer through the GPS and VHF collars. The mortality studies are also ongoing. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the total deer collared still have collars.

No public comment.

This was a discussion only and no action was taken.

3. UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ONLY) ON THE BI-STATE SAGE GROUSE.

Member Pohlman stated the comment period has been extended again. The last meeting was postponed but hopefully they will be holding a public meeting soon. The Eastern Landscape Coalition will hold a workshop July 15-17, 2014 in Reno/Sparks and will have a field trip to the Pine Nuts.

This was an update only and no action was taken.

4. UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ONLY) ON THE REINTRODUCTION OF LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT INTO LAKE TAHOE.

Vice Chairman Cook stated he is still awaiting the results of the mapping and the mysid and other

sampling done. He has once again requested this information and is hoping to have the information soon.

This was an update only and no action was taken.

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SOLICIT NOMINATIONS FROM THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE FOR THE UPCOMING VACANCIES ON THE WILDLIFE COMMISSION, ONE POSITION IN CLARK COUNTY AND ONE POSITION IN WASHOE COUNTY.

Vice Chairman Cook stated there are two vacancies. He provided the names of the candidates. He requested input from the other members.

MOTION by Cook/Emery to nominate all three of the candidates for consideration;

No public comment.

MOTION; carried with Burnside absent.

6. The following items, 6a through 6h, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meeting, May 9 & 10, 2014 at the Truckee Meadows Community College, 7000 Dandini Boulevard, Sierra Building-Room 108, 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.

6a–6h. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

6a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS. The Department will provide its legislative proposals for review and the Commission may vote to support, oppose or remain neutral on the Department's proposals.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees does not support increasing the application fees for elk. He feels sportsmen already spend enough money.

Marshall Goldy agreed. He thinks hunting is becoming a rich man's sport. A lot of people are on fixed incomes. \$5 on one application is not much but it will add up if an increase is applied to other applications or tags. They should keep it where it is or roll it back a little. If they are having problems getting rid of the elk, lower the cost and more hunters will go out. They are making enough money now.

Public comment closed.

Regarding the electronic duck stamp, Vice Chairman Cook said they only give you a month after the season is over to get the stamp if you want the stamp you paid for. He has a problem with that.

MOTION by Pohlman/Emery to take no position on this item; carried with Burnside absent.

6b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 FINAL DRAFT PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN. The final draft of the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Predator Management Plan will be presented and the Commission may take action to provide final recommendations for modification of the Final Draft Plan.

No public comment.

The members indicated they all reviewed the plan and liked what was in it.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support the final draft predation management plan; carried with Burnside absent.

6c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE ERRATA SHEET FOR THE 2013 PREDATION MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT. The Department will review the errata sheet for the 2013 Predation Management Status Report and request Commission approval.

The members indicated they did not receive any supporting material on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marshall Goldy thought this was another example of the Commission asking the CABs to make a determination or finding on something where no supporting material was provided. The CABs need to address this issue with them. At times even their final agenda comes late so the CABs cannot change their agenda in a timely manner.

Public comment closed.

The consensus of the Board was to take no action on this item since no supporting materials were provided.

6d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION POLICY #50, DUCK STAMP PROCEDURE, SECOND READING. The Department will conduct a second reading of Commission Policy #50 with the proposed updates from the March 21, 2014, first reading. The Commission may take action to approve the policy.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support the Commission Policy #50, Duck Stamp Procedure; carried with Burnside absent.

6e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION MEETING VIDEOCONFERENCING. The Commission will discuss videoconferencing the remaining calendar year 2014 and 2015 Commission meetings. The Commission has set its meeting locations for 2014 and 2015 and if the Commission's decides to videoconference those Commission meetings, the Department is requesting direction and the possible change of some 2014 and 2015 meeting sites to accommodate videoconferencing.

Member Turnipseed thought the more the public is aware of what the Commission and the Department do, the better the procedure is. If videoconferencing can be done effectively, he can support it.

Member Pohlman talked about the value of videoconferencing and how it allows people to be part of a meeting without having to do a lot of travelling.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support Commission meeting videoconferencing; carried with Burnside absent.

6f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 445-BLACK POWDER DEFINITION, LCB FILE NO. R045-14. The Commission will consider the adoption of a regulation relating to hunting; revising provisions relating to hunting a big game mammal with a muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marshall Goldy asked what change is being proposed. From an explosive standpoint, black powder is classified by its burn rate. Any black powder substitute that has the same burn rate as the standard black powders should be okay. If it has a faster burn rate, it is getting closer to smokeless. Maybe the burn rate should be the criteria.

Jerad Lees said the name brands have been eliminated. He cited Section 2 of the regulations and said he does not want to be told what type of firearm he can possess.

Public comment closed.

Vice Chairman Cook believes this regulation is a language clean up to remove the brand names.

MOTION by Emery/Turnipseed to take no action on this item; carried with Burnside absent.

6g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 13-14 AMENDMENT #1, WILDHORSE, WILSON SINK AND WILLOW CREEK RESERVOIRS. The Commission will consider a temporary regulation authorizing unlimited take of game fish species from Wildhorse, Wilson Sink and Willow Creek Reservoirs in Elko County through Feb. 28, 2015. Due to extremely poor winter precipitation, drought conditions and irrigation demands, Wildhorse, Wilson Sink and Willow Creek Reservoirs are expected to decline to 20 percent or less of capacity by late summer. Based on past history of these conditions in the reservoirs a significant to possibly near total die-off of trout populations is likely, with significant impacts also possible to warm-water game fish species. This temporary regulation will maximize the opportunity for angler harvest of trout and other game fish species in the reservoirs prior to conditions likely to cause the fish kills.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support Commission Regulation 13-14, Amendment #1, Wildhorse, Wilson Sink, and Willow Creek Reservoirs; carried with Burnside absent.

6h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 14-10, BIG GAME QUOTAS FOR THE 2014-2015 SEASONS. The Commission will establish regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats and black bears for the 2014-2015 seasons.

ALL BEAR HUNTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees would like to increase the tags in order to get closer to the objective.

Jason Nixon asked if the quota was met last year. Member Emery said the quota has never been met. Mr. Nixon believes the tag quota should be increased.

Public comment closed.

Member Emery would like to see a combined total of more than 50 tags.

Vice Chairman Cook would like to see the tags be above 50 so there can be a Heritage or Silver State Tag. He would also like to see the boundary moved back to where it used to be and there be no limitations on the use of dogs. He would like to see a minimum of 55 tags.

MOTION by Emery/Cook to increase the quota to total resident and nonresident quota of 55 total tags for the bear hunt;

Member Turnipseed discussed how the boundaries have changed. Mr. Lackey provided the boundary restrictions that were enacted after the first year of the hunt.

Member Emery said the area on the north side of Mount Rose should be open to hunters to hunt bear. Deer hunting is allowed there. There is good bear habitat in Unit 192, which is on the west side of the Rim Trail and there are not a lot of people there. It is a good place to hunt.

Vice Chairman Cook pointed out he can hunt everything in his area except bears.

Member Pohlman would like to be able to use shotguns.

MOTION by Emery/Cook to increase the resident and nonresident to 55 total, remove boundary restrictions, no conditions on the use of dogs, and include shotguns; carried with Burnside absent.

ALL ANTELOPE HUNTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees addressed Hunt 2181, HC 471, and said he covered much ground in that area and could not find a doe to shoot. There are too many tags in that hunt.

Public comment closed.

Member Turnipseed said he had a similar thought in Hunt 2151, HC 388. 263 is a lot of tags.

Member Emery indicated he had spent some time in that area looking for sheep and antelope. Good bucks could be found there in the past. He believes the number is too high and has heard other hunters say the same thing.

MOTION by Emery/Turnipseed to support the game quotas set by the Division of Wildlife in all the other units except for 2151 and 2181; carried with Burnside absent.

ALL ELK HUNTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees called attention to Hunt 4151, HC 488 and 489, and said there are a lot of elk in there, lots of bulls and cows. He thinks there should be more tags in there. Hunter congestion was not bad there.

Talking about Hunt 4151, HC 486 and 487, Jason Nixon asked if there had been ever been a discussion on a Jarbridge Wilderness Tag. He talked about the hunter congestion he experienced in that area last year and he got out of the congestion as he got into the wilderness area. He thought splitting some of the tags out of 072 and making them wilderness only would help to alleviate the hunter congestion. He would like the number of tags reduced in these areas.

Public comment closed.

Member Emery noticed the increase in elk tags from year to year. While that is good, it could become a problem before too long.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support the elk hunts with the stated changes to Hunt 4151; carried with Burnside absent.

ALL NELSON (DESERT) BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees would like to see a quota of one for each area. He said the ewe hunt is not popular at all with the sportsmen.

Public comment closed.

Member Turnipseed said the CABs were opposed to it at the Commission meeting except a few stated they could support it but only as a last resort management tool. Member Turnipseed thinks yearling rams will be taken by hunters thinking they are ewes.

Mr. Lackey explained the sheep cannot be moved to certain ranges because of current drought conditions and/or microplasma showing up in a lot of the herds that are at high density levels. NBU has met with some of the biologists on the ewe hunt and they are in agreement with the need to have the ewe hunts.

Member Emery said even though the hunt is not popular, it is not a good thing to crowd the animals.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support the nelson (desert) bighorn sheep with the recommended changes; carried with Burnside absent.

ALL CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees would like to see a quota of one for the ewes.

Public comment closed.

Member Emery asked if there are a lot of sheep in Unit 068. Mr. Nixon stated he has seen a lot of sheep in there. Member Emery thought there must be a good sheep herd in 068 since it has a quota of 15 ewes. Maybe it is a good idea to reduce the ewe numbers in order to keep the herd healthy.

MOTION by Emery/Turnipseed to follow the NDOW quotas on these hunts; carried with Burnside absent.

ALL ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTS

No public comment.

Member Turnipseed asked why 091 was taken out of this group. Mr. Lackey answered there was no recruitment in the population and the testing done showed all having the antibodies for microplasma. The short term outlook for the herd is poor.

MOTION by Emery/Turnipseed to follow NDOW's quota on the Rocky Mountain Sheep; carried with Burnside absent.

MOUNTAIN GOAT HUNT

No public comment.

MOTION by Pohlman/Emery to approve the recommended quotas; carried with Burnside absent.

ALL MULE DEER HUNTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees referenced Hunt 1331, Units 141-145, early, and stated he would like to see 350 tags. 394 tags are too many.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Pohlman/Turnipseed to accept the department's recommendations; carried with Burnside absent.

LANDOWNER COMPENSATION TAGS

No public comment.

Member Emery would like this to be similar to elk hunt where you have to pick a weapon if you buy a landowner tag. Lots of ranchers are ranching for deer and making lots of money on these tags. If you had to pick a weapon, the price would be reduced on some of the tags.

MOTION by Emery/Turnipseed to make the deer and antelope tag similar to the elk tag where you have to pick a weapon to hunt with and you have to choose your hunt individually; carried with Burnside absent.

7. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED. This is an opportunity for Board members to discuss any correspondence or communication they may have received regarding matters over which the Board has jurisdiction and control. No action will be taken other than to possibly have an item placed on the next agenda.

Vice Chairman Cook said he has spoken with Jason Nixon and has referred him to the tag allocation committee and invited him to tonight's meeting to express his concerns.

Jason Nixon thinks it is ridiculous that a person can only get one tag whether they draw or not. If there is a leftover first come first served tag, he should be able to purchase it. He said he has spoken to many people about this. He has yet to get a good answer as to why he cannot do this. Mike Cox and Caleb McAdoo both think this is a good idea. 306 deer tags went unclaimed in the Rubies last year. The same problem exists in the Toiyabes. The department is missing out on the revenue and sportsmen are missing out on an opportunity. It would also help get the deer herd back in check.

Vice Chairman Cook suggested Mr. Nixon put something in writing and it could be agendaized for a future DCABMW meeting. Mr. Nixon could also make public comment at a Commission meeting.

Most members received letters from Marshall Goldy and Nevada Jim Ornellas, Nevada Big Game Restoration Group.

Vice Chairman Cook also received a letter from Jerad Lees regarding a resignation from the Washoe County Advisory Board. He also received a communication from the Nature Conservancy. He read a letter from Scott Bishop into the record regarding the sealing dates of bobcat pellets.

Mr. Lackey addressed the sealing dates and stated he is aware of Mr. Bishop's concerns.

8. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE MARCH 21 & 22, 2014 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

Member Turnipseed attended and reported on the black powder discussion and the ewe hunt discussion.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. 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.

Vice Chairman Cook will attend the Friday portion of the meeting.

- 10. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.** The next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 20 & 21, 2014, in Tonopah, 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 as necessary at this meeting.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, 2014.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Tri County Wildlife Working Group
- Bi-state sage grouse
- Reintroduction of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.; carried with Burnside absent.

The minutes of the May 5, 2014 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 17th day June, 2014.

Craig Burnside, Chairman