

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the August 4, 2015 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Burnside, Chairman
 Bob Cook, Vice Chairman
 Mike Turnipseed (*arrived at 5:38 p.m.*)
 Wes Emery
 Robert Rittenhouse

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm and determined a quorum was present.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Burnside introduced Rex Flowers, Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) member.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Pohlman talked about his efforts to have the Intermountain West Joint Venture Management Board's Field Tour stop in Douglas County on the way to the Buckskins to help the people planning to attend from this area from having to travel to Reno only to have to come back by this way. He was unsure about the outcome of the bill in Congress to delay the decision on the Greater Sage Grouse.

Public comment closed.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Emery to approve the agenda as presented; carried unanimously.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **May 12, 2015**

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Burnside

and Cook abstaining.

- **June 16, 2015**

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Rittenhouse abstaining.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

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

The group has not met therefore no update was available.

Chairman Burnside stated his belief that the group has value and he would like to see its activities continued.

Rex Flowers, TAAHC, suggested Sean Shea as a contact for the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife.

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

Bob Pohlman stated planning is being done for the upcoming year and projects are continuing.

3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE PRESENTATION BY THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON AND THE U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE ON THE COOPERATIVE STUDY ON THE BASELINE ASSESSMENT AND FOODWEB OF LAKE TAHOE.

This item was continued to a date uncertain.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS REGARDING THE TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE (TAAHC) TOPIC LIST. The TAAHC is seeking public comment on the open items on the TAAHC Topic List. This list is used to capture County Advisory Board, agency, and public recommendations regarding big game tag application processes and big game tag allocation methodologies. The list is also used to monitor the status of such recommendations.

Chairman Burnside stated the TAAHC Committee recently met in Eureka and there is a desire to reactivate the committee as it has been inactive for some time. The Topic List was provided and reviewed by the DCABMW.

Rex Flowers, TAAHC Committee member, stated recommendations received from the Advisory Boards and the public will be reviewed during their September meeting. He explained

TAAHC recommendations with a 1 have been completed and items with a 2 or 3 should be looked at by the Advisory Boards to determine if their priority should be changed. He added that items on the closed list could be reexamined if a justification is made for doing so. The TAAHC is also seeking new ideas and new recommendations. Once all the recommendations are gathered, they will go through the numbering process and the 1s and critical items will get immediate attention.

Chairman Burnside stated the DCABMW's desire to have a Governor's tag for bear. He would like to see that topic added to this list and reviewed by the TAAHC.

Vice Chairman Cook thought the bear tags would have to be increased before that could happen. He asked what level would be needed in order to allow a sportsman to apply for all the bear tags.

Mr. Flowers explained the Dream Tag is separate category because it is a lottery tag and is regulated by NRS; there must be 50 tags available for the public and then an additional tag would go to the Dream Tag program. Governor's Tags, PIWs, and Silver State Tags are also regulated by NRS but there is no base requirement for a quota.

Member Turnipseed asked if it would be statutory or regulatory for the money to stay in the bear program and Mr. Flowers responded the money would go into the Heritage Program.

Member Emery would like to see a Silver State Tag, a Dream Tag, a Governor's Tag, and a PIW Tag for bear.

Mr. Flowers stated a Dream Tag would be added once the quota for black bear reaches 50.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to recommend the TAAHC consider having a Silver State Tag, PIW Tag, and Governor's Tag for black bear;

No public comment.

MOTION; carried unanimously.

MOTION by Cook/Emery to recommend the TAAHC increase the bear tags from 45 to 50 and to include a Dream Tag;

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rex Flowers, TAAHC, stated the TAAHC does not have the ability/authority to set quotas. In order to get the tags to 50 or 55, discussion will have to take place with other CABs.

Chairman Burnside thought this would be an excellent topic for the Tri County Wildlife Working Group to take on.

Public comment closed.

MOTION; carried unanimously.

Discussing the Antelope Waiting Period (Ref. # A.6.2.5), Member Rittenhouse asked for an explanation on what is trying to be achieved with this recommendation. Chairman Burnside stated it would result in a shorter wait for another antelope tag.

A brief discussion took place on the current successful/unsuccessful eligibility requirements.

Citing Ref. # A.5.3. Selection of Hunter Choices, Member Emery stated his frustration with the statistics on unit draw odds that are being provided on the NDOW website. He believes the statistics are very misleading because there are five choices on the applications for all the species and only the first choice is being considered. The statistics are not even close and should not be provided. Mr. Flowers responded the first choice only statistic is meant to give an idea of what a person is up against in terms of the number of tags available. The draw is completely separate; the draw number indicates where a person falls in the draw. Member Emery likes what is being proposed but he feels the current information on NDOW's website is not accurate given the number of choices available. A modification could be to reduce the number of choices from five to two or three. Mr. Flowers reminded the Board that this is meant to allow the CABs to provide input and suggested a recommendation could be submitted to the TAAHC to move this up from a three to a one or two using Member Emery's justification that the ability to apply in all weapons classes makes it no longer necessary to have five choices. When this program was started, there was only three but it was changed to five to give more opportunity. It may be time to change it back.

Chairman Burnside called attention to Ref. # T.2.2, Two tags per year, and stated he would like the language to read ".....a maximum of two tags....." and not a "minimum". Mr. Flowers thought the intent was for a maximum. It would give the hunter the ability to apply for all species but then they would have to select the order they would accept. Chairman Burnside talked about a fellow hunter who drew a buck tag, a cow elk tag, a spike elk tag, a muzzleloader bull tag, and a sheep tag; this hunter will not be able to take part in all those hunts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Pohlman supports having a maximum of two tags because it provides more people opportunity.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Emery/Turnipseed to ask the TAAHC to review T.2.2 and to require it say "maximum" of two tags per year and not "minimum"; 1 deer tag and 1 trophy tag (to include only mountain goat, bear, antelope, any sheep species, and bull elk); carried unanimously.

Member Emery expressed support for T.8.10, Hunting Hours; extending hunting hours by ½ hour is a good idea.

5. The following items, 5a through 5h, are items that will be heard before the Nevada

Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meeting, August 7 & 8, 2015, at the Churchill County Chambers, 155 North Taylor Street, Fallon, 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–5h. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

5a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS. In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a chairman and vice chairman.

Chairman Burnside feels Jeremy Drew has done a great job as Chairman of the Commission and he would like to see him continue in that role.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed//Emery to recommend they maintain the Chair and Vice Chair that are currently in place; carried unanimously.

5b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 454, FIREARM CARRY DURING MUZZLELOADER AND ARCHERY HUNTS, LCB FILE NO. R007-15. The Commission will consider permanent adoption of the temporary regulation which expires November 1, 2015, relating to the carry of a firearm in the field while hunting under archery and muzzleloader regulations, including language changes from Assembly Bill 136 of the 78th Legislative Session. The regulation will change NAC 503.142 and 503.144 to allow the carry of personal protection handguns while archery and muzzleloader hunting. The regulation was in response to input from sportsmen and AB 136 sponsored by Nevada Assemblyman John Ellison to allow the carry of firearms while archery and muzzleloader hunting, for protection from criminal activity and wildlife attacks. The temporary regulation was workshopped on November 14, 2014, and adopted on February 7, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings. The Commission discussed different alternatives at the workshop to handgun carry restrictions and the needs for archers to carry a handgun during archery only season. The language was updated to reflect the changes requested by the Commission by allowing a person to carry any handgun that is not scoped and has a barrel length less than 8". The language change clarified the type of handgun to be carried in the field during archery only season. Further language changes were added as a result of AB 136 to also allow handgun carry during muzzleloader season. *(This item is agendaized as a Workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda)*

Member Turnipseed recalled DCABMW's past support of this for archers. This will make a temporary regulation permanent.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to recommend approval; carried unanimously.

5c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 455, TRAPPING QUESTIONNAIRE DEADLINE AND TRAPPING LICENSE VALID DATES, LCB FILE NO. R008-15. The Commission will consider permanent adoption of the temporary regulation which expires November 1, 2015, relating to trapping questionnaires and trapping license valid periods. The regulation will add language to specify the valid period of a trapping license as July 1 – June 30. The regulation amendment will also update the trapping questionnaire deadline language, changing the deadline from April 30 to May 31, making it consistent with other Department questionnaire language. The amendment includes having the Department be responsible for prohibiting the purchase of a subsequent trapping license, instead of the Commission, when a trapper fails to return a questionnaire. This amendment will allow the Department to administer the trapping questionnaire processes effectively in regard to the trapping seasons as established by the Commission, prohibiting sale of a trapping license until the previous years' questionnaire is provided. The regulation is intended to give trappers ample time to return their questionnaires but also provide an efficient license denial procedure if they fail to return their questionnaire. The temporary regulation was discussed in a workshop session on Nov. 14, 2014, and the temporary regulation was adopted on Feb. 7, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meeting. *(This item is agendaized as a Workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda)*

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to recommend approval; carried unanimously.

5d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 456, SPECIAL INCENTIVE ELK ARBITRATION PANEL, LCB FILE NO. R030-15. The Commission will consider permanent adoption of the temporary regulation which expires November 1, 2015, relating to amending NAC 502.42283 by which the Commission may facilitate decisions by appointing or serving as the arbitration panel should arbitration of elk incentive tag awards become necessary; and other matters relating thereto. The temporary regulation was workshopped on March 20, 2015 and the temporary regulation was adopted on May 15, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings. *(This item is agendaized as a Workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda)*

Member Turnipseed reviewed the genesis of this item.

Chairman Burnside talked about the Commission sitting as the Arbitration Panel for an appeal at the June Commission meeting and he found the process interesting. He recapped that discussion and the decision on the appeal.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to recommend approval; carried unanimously.

5e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 457, AWARDS, ISSUANCE, AND USE OF TAGS, LCB FILE NO. R031-15. The Commission will consider a permanent adoption of the temporary regulation which expires November 1, 2015, amending license issuance and use clarification for elk incentive tags. Elk incentive tags were designed to be issued in association with "bull" hunts and seasons. Subsequent to initial

NRS and NAC adoption, "spike" hunts have been developed, and "antlered" tags do not clearly denote the appropriate quota or season for which the incentive tags are intended. The amended formula will account for the harvest of "spike" elk, but identify seasons for incentive tag use; and other matters relating thereto. The temporary regulation was workshopped on March 20, 2015 and the temporary regulation was adopted on May 15, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings. *(This item is agendaized as a Workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda)*

Chairman Burnside said the language is being modified to accommodate the spike hunt.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to recommend approval; carried unanimously.

5f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 16-01 MIGRATORY WATERFOWL AND WEBLESS BIRD SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR WATERFOWL AND WEBLESS BIRDS, PUBLIC HUNTING LIMITED ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND DESIGNATED STATE LANDS 2015-2016 SEASON. The Commission will consider recommendations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for migratory waterfowl and webless game birds for the 2015 – 2016 season and adopt regulations that comply with the proposed regulatory framework for the 2015 – 2016 late and early hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Commission may also consider changes to rules regulating public hunting on Wildlife Management Areas and designated state lands.

The Board reviewed the changes being proposed.

No public comment.

MOTION by Emery/Rittenhouse to follow NDOW's recommendations for the 2015-2016 season; carried unanimously

5g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE ANNUAL BIG GAME RELEASE PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016. The Commission will review and may take action to approve the Department's proposed annual big game release plan for fiscal year 2016.

The Board reviewed the annual big game release plan.

No public comment.

MOTION by Emery/Rittenhouse to support NDOW's recommendations; carried unanimously.

5h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED PROCESS FOR INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN ESTABLISHING HARVEST MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES. The Commission will be briefed on a process to identify all harvest management objectives in a single document, seek public input on those objectives, and obtain comparative data from other states, and corroborate with scientific literature on harvest. This process does not intend to change harvest objectives, but place them in a single

document so that biologists, CABMWs, Commissioners, and the public have the ability to review. Where clear guidance may be lacking, appropriate harvest management objectives may be developed to guide future management. *(This item is agendaized as Informational only on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda)*

This item was tabled because no supporting material was provided on this item.

No action was taken.

6. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

Vice Chairman Cook disclosed emails he received from Stephanie Byers on the LCT presentation scheduled for tonight's meeting. He also provided information he received from Doug Martin on the deer public education program.

Member Turnipseed talked about an incident a neighbor had with a dead deer in the yard.

7. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 19 & 20, 2015 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

Chairman Burnside attended both days of the meeting and both committee meetings (TAAHC and Heritage). He reported on the:

- Landowner appeal/arbitration panel
- Heritage Tag Vendors-some of the tags were reallocated to WHIN.
- Duck Stamp Projects and Upland Game Stamp Projects-Chairman Burnside brought up the difference between project costs and operational costs and their effect on the fund balance.
- Upland Game Release Plan-Chairman Burnside put forward the suggestions made by Member Rittenhouse.
- CAB budget requests-DCABMW budget request was approved.

8. 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.

Members Turnipseed and Rittenhouse will attend the Fallon meeting.

Member Emery will attend the Las Vegas meeting.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 25 & 26, 2015, 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 as necessary at this meeting.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2015.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Tri County Wildlife Working Group
- Bi-State Sage Grouse
- Reintroduction of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to adjourn the meeting; carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the DCABMW, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

The minutes of the August 4, 2015 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 22nd day of September, 2015.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig Burnside, Chairman