

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the August 16, 2016 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 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
 Robert Rittenhouse
 Chad Foster

OTHERS PRESENT: Travis Hawks, NDOW, Regional Fisheries
 Biologist

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm and determined a quorum was present.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Burnside noted all members were in attendance and thanked Travis Hawks for attending.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Member Foster suggested the Commission provide the digital supporting material as a single document instead of providing individual documents. This would make printing the information much easier. Chairman Burnside stated he would make that recommendation at the upcoming Commission meeting.

Chairman Burnside talked about the cold, windy, rainy night he and his wife spent boating on the Ruby Marsh. Lessons learned: be prepared, always carry an extra boat motor battery and be at pole 3 by dark.

Public comment closed.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to approve the agenda as presented; carried

unanimously.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **June 21, 2016**

No public comment.

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

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

The group has not meet so there was no report.

2. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO MAKE SHOTGUN A LEGAL WEAPON FOR BEAR.

Chairman Burnside pointed out this discussion has been had at the DCABMW level and at the Commission level.

Member Rittenhouse thought a shotgun properly loaded for bear would be a safer weapon to use in the urban interface areas in the Tahoe basin.

Chairman Burnside clarified that bear hunting is not allowed in the Tahoe basin.

Beside allowing shotguns, Member Foster wants to see bear hunting allowed down to the Lake, as is the case with other big game hunts.

Vice Chairman Cook agreed and reiterated his desire to see the number of tags increased to 51 to allow for a Heritage Tag but he does not want to see a change in the limits.

Chairman Burnside asked if it is the Board's desire to take action on this item now or wait to see if there is a more appropriate time to bring all three items forward.

The consensus of the Board was to expand the agenda item to include an increase in tags to 51 without an increase in limits, allow shotgun as a legal weapon for bear, and to allow bear hunting down to the Lake and to keep the item on the agenda until the Commission discussion on this occurs.

3. The following items, 3a through 3k, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meeting, August 12, 2016, at the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, Center for

Molecular Medicine, Whittmore Peterson Institute Room CMM111, & August 13 at the Nevada Department of Wildlife Main Conference Room 6980 Sierra Center Pkwy, 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.

3a–3k. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON ELECTION OF OFFICERS. In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a chairman and vice chairman. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 2*)

Chairman Burnside stated he received an email from the Southern Nevada Wildlife Coalition advocating for Commissioner Johnson to be the next Chairman of the Commission. He stated his support for Commissioner Johnson as he sees him as level headed and an advocate for sportsmen.

Vice Chairman Cook agreed.

No public comment.

MOTION by Burnside/Turnipseed for the Douglas County Advisory Board to support Commissioner Johnson as the Chairman for the upcoming year; carried with Foster abstaining.

Member Foster stated he abstained as he is not familiar enough with the Commission members to vote on this item.

3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON REGULATION UPDATE. A report will be provided on outstanding, pending and future regulations that may require Commission consideration over the next year. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7*)

No public comment.

No action was taken on this item as there was no supporting documentation included in the packet.

3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE COMMISSION WILDLIFE CONTEST POLICY, FIRST READING. The Commission will have a first reading of a draft Commission Wildlife Contest Policy for review and change. The Commission may advance the policy to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 10*)

Chairman Burnside stated support for this because it essentially respects the wildlife. This will also help avoid turning non-hunters into anti-hunters.

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to support; carried unanimously.

3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-09, AMENDMENT #3, BIG GAME SEASONS. The Commission will consider Amendment #3 of the 2016 – 2017 hunting seasons and dates to specifically address inconsistent fall 2016 season dates established previously for the interstate antlered elk hunt in Unit 091 shared with Utah. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 11A*)

Chairman Burnside stated the language clean-up is needed to ensure Utah's and Nevada's season start and end dates match up.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to support; carried unanimously.

3e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 16-03, AMENDMENT #2, 2017 HERITAGE WILD TURKEY TAG SEASON AND HOURS ADJUSTMENT. The Commission will consider Amendment #2 of the 2017 Heritage wild turkey tag season and hours to adjust the season and hours. Pursuant to direction from the June 2016 Commission meeting the Department is proposing an amendment to the Heritage wild turkey season to have the season open the Saturday before the earliest date in Commission Regulation 16 - 13 for wild turkey, and to align the hunting hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 11B*)

Member Foster believes the language clean-up matches their intent.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Cook to recommend approval of Commission Regulation 16-03 as written; carried unanimously.

3f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 464, APPEALS, LCB FILE NO. R074-16. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation revises provisions relating to practice before the Commission. It provides more efficiency in scheduling appeals, will define that "calendar" days are used for calculation of deadlines, and more clearly notify the appellant in advance of a hearing that the Commission has limited jurisdiction, there will not be a rehearing, but is confined to the record on review. Provide for two, separate Attorneys General (one for the commission, one for the agency) to avoid conflicts with one advising two sides of the appeal. It also requires appellants to give the agency advance notice of legal representation to improve scheduling for a separate lengthier time needed on agendas.

These changes were approved by the Wildlife Commission's Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Policy Committee (APRPC) after several public meetings, and they incorporate relevant suggestions from the public and legal

counsel. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 12A. This item is agendaized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda.*)

Chairman Burnside is glad to see the efforts being made to make the language clearer.

No public comment.

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

3g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 467, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PERMIT, LCB FILE NO. R105-16. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Through Assembly Bill 136 of the 2015 legislative session, the Nevada State Legislature mandated the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the circumstances under which a person may assist a licensed hunter with certain disabilities in the killing and retrieval of a big game mammal. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 12B. This item is agendaized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda.*)

Member Rittenhouse asked for a clarification of whether the "license assistant" could carry a weapon.

Chairman Burnside thought they could as long as the weapon matched the hunt.

No public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Turnipseed to accept Commission General Regulation 467 as written; carried unanimously.

3h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 468, BONUS POINT TRANSFER, LCB FILE NO. R104-16. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Existing regulation provides for the accumulation of bonus points by a person who applies for certain drawings for tags required for hunting certain species. Such bonus points accumulate and give the person a mathematical advantage in subsequent drawings for a tag. Under existing regulations, a person who changes his or her state of residence may request a transfer of any accumulated bonus points to himself or herself as a resident or nonresident of this State, as appropriate. This regulation change provides the authority to the Department to make such a transfer automatic upon the person's change of residence. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 12C. This item is agendaized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda.*)

A discussion took place on the advantages and disadvantages of transferring bonus points.

No public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Turnipseed to support Commission General Regulation 468 as written; carried unanimously.

3i. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 469, TRUCKEE RIVER TACKLE RESTRICTION, LCB FILE NO. R094-16. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The change revises NAC 503.504 to require the use of certain types of fishing tackle in portions of the Truckee River. Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used on the Truckee River from 1,000 feet downstream of Derby Dam to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation boundary from Feb. 1 through May 31 each year, to reduce incidental mortality of spawning adult Lahontan cutthroat trout. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 12D*). *This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda.*)

Travis Hawks, NDOW, Regional Fisheries Biologist, stated this is the first step being done as the LCT are anticipated to move up to Derby Dam. The Department is beginning with the tackle restriction and the catch and release restriction. The fish ladder at Derby is not currently operational but will be once the Truckee River Canal outtake is screened. The 1,000' restriction will remain in place. In the next few years the regulation could move up river or be removed altogether; in essence this is a fluid regulation.

A heavy signage effort will take place on the lower river to help inform people.

As the fish continue to move upstream, Member Foster asked if the tackle restrictions will remain. Mr. Hawks responded it was possible. Member Foster wondered at what point there would be enough fish in the river and far enough up that the tackle restrictions could be lifted in favor of limit restrictions.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to support Commission General Regulation 469; carried unanimously.

3j. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FIRST READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 10, WILDLIFE HERITAGE TAGS AND VENDORS. The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 10, Wildlife Heritage Tags and Vendors, and may take action as recommended by the Wildlife Heritage Committee. Recommendations include language requiring the Department to post the vendor solicitation packets on the Department's website in addition to mailing the packets and clarification on considering vendor proposals received after the deadline. Recommendations also include fiscal clean-up and editorial changes from the June committee meeting. The Commission may advance Policy 10 to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 8*).

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Foster to support; carried unanimously.

3k. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FIRST READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 11, WILDLIFE HERITAGE GRANTS. The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 11, Wildlife Heritage Grants, and may take action as recommended by the Wildlife Heritage Committee. Recommendations include fiscal clean-up and editorial changes from the June committee meeting. The Commission may advance Policy 11 to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9*).

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Cook to recommend approval of Commission Policy 11 as written; carried unanimously.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO PROVIDE CAB AND PUBLIC INPUT TO THE TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE REGARDING DEPARTMENT PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES WITH SPECIALTY TAG HOLDERS AND BIGHORN SHEEP UNIT CLOSURES.

Chairman Burnside reviewed the request, rationale behind the request, and options. He feels they are looking for a solution to a problem they are having meeting management objectives. He cannot support option 3 at all.

The Board weighed the options presented.

Member Rittenhouse stated he sent this out to the Carson Valley Chukar Club and received one response, which favors the current practice over any of the options.

Chairman Burnside pointed out that this will come back before the CABs.

In an effort to gain a better understanding of this issue, Member Rittenhouse offered to attend the August 11th TAAHC meeting and report back.

As this is a confusing issue and pending more information, the consensus was to take no action at this time.

5. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

Chairman Burnside reported he received correspondence from the Southern Nevada Wildlife Coalition regarding support for Commissioner Johnson as Chairman of the Commission. In June he received correspondence from Joel Blakeslee about the bobcat season.

Member Rittenhouse received an email from John Hillenbrand relating to the TAAHC options.

Randy Stockstill, a member of the public, provided a raptor sighting log for July.

6. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 24 & 25, 2016 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS.

Member Rittenhouse distributed a detailed summary of the June meetings and briefly reviewed it. That summary remains part of the record.

7. 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.

Chairman Burnside will attend the Reno meetings and Member Foster will attend the Las Vegas meetings. Member Rittenhouse will attend the TAAHC August 11th meeting.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2016.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Tri County Wildlife Working Group
- Making shotgun a legal weapon for bear, increase the tag numbers to 51, and allowing bear hunting down to the Lake.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

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

There being no further business to come before the DCABMW, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

The minutes of the August 16, 2016 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 20th day of September, 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig Burnside, Chairman