

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the May 1, 2018 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday May 1, 2018 in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Burnside, Chairman
 Mike Turnipseed
 Chad Foster

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Cook, Vice Chairman
 Robert Rittenhouse

OTHERS PRESENT: Carl Lackey, NDOW Biologist
 Deanna Ackerman, NDOW Game Warden

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Deanna Ackerman led the Pledge.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm and determined a quorum was present. Noted was the absences of Members Cook and Rittenhouse. Introductions of those in attendance were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Member Foster commented on the Department’s licensing website. While he likes the process and thinks the system has a lot more potential, he feels the party application process could be made more efficient by sending participants an email notification of the party’s hunt(s). Additionally, he likes the map but would like to see more information provided on data such as the success rate, the number of tags distributed, etc. so one does not have to search for it. The information is available in the database and should be made visible.

Chairman Burnside discussed the number of attempts it took him to renew a boat registration, but he acknowledged that the process was still young at that point. However, he had no trouble completing his big game tag applications.

Public comment closed.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Burnside suggested moving item 3d before item 3a in consideration of NDOW staff’s time.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Foster to approve the agenda with the stated suggestion; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **March 13, 2018**

No public comment.

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

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

Member Rittenhouse sent an email stating he has attempted to get the group together but has had no luck in doing so.

Chairman Burnside stated he will try to further this effort when he attends this weekend's Commission meeting.

Chairman Burnside talked about the importance of migration corridors and feels any remaining corridors should be preserved.

2. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE RATIFICATION OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE'S BUDGET. The deadline for the submission of the budget was May 1, 2018.

Chairman Burnside reviewed the budget worksheet including the current balance, anticipated expenses, and the final budget request of \$2361.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Foster to ratify the budget; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

3. The following items, 3a through 3d, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, May 4 & 5, 2018, at the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 E. 9th 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.

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

3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 18-11, 2018 BIG GAME QUOTAS FOR THE 2018-2019 SEASON. The Commission will establish regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, black bear, and mountain goats for the 2018 - 2019 seasons. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 16*)

On behalf of Vice Chairman Cook, Member Turnipseed relayed his objection to the reduction in muzzleloader and archery tags and the increase in any legal weapon tags.

Chairman Burnside said he noticed that in other areas and species.

Carl Lackey, NDOW Biologist, said the quotas are based on demand/success and the effects of number rounding. The goal is to hit a target ratio of bucks to does. The model determines the number of bucks that need to be killed to reach that ratio and that number is spread over all the hunts for the units.

Rounding is an internal policy so anything over 10 is rounded to the nearest 5.

Member Foster thought the science behind the surveys plays a part too. Mr. Lackey agreed that it does. That along with staff's professional expertise could result in minor adjustments.

Chairman Burnside asked how youth tags are factored into demand/success. Mr. Lackey referred Chairman Burnside to Mike Cox to get a more detailed explanation but said it is a percentage of overall tags throughout the state. Citing the 15% increase in buck tags statewide in the general hunt, Chairman Burnside said youth tags only went up 5%. Recruitment of hunters is what will sustain the sport and the lifestyle over time. Mr. Lackey suggested youth tags could have been left over last year as a reason for the smaller increase.

Member Foster felt there would be no sense in setting youth tags aside if the demand for them is not there; the goal is to get to the desired buck to doe ratios.

Chairman Burnside stated opposition to having the same number of resident and non-resident tags for muzzleloader in Unit 291.

Member Foster agreed and added he never likes seeing a decrease in resident and an increase in non-resident tags.

Mr. Lackey talked about the bear tags and said 2% of the population is being harvested; the number of bears being killed in the hunt is sustainable and conservative. A brief discussion took place on the study done on the expansion of the bear population both geographically and numerically and the genetic connection between the bears in the Carson Range and the California portion of the Sierra Nevada. He provided locations where bear sightings have occurred.

Mr. Lackey stated Unit 203, which is largely shotguns only, was opened for the bear season but shotguns are not a legal weapon for bear. The Washoe County Advisory Board would like shotguns to be legal for bears in Unit 203.

Chairman Burnside added Member Rittenhouse favors retaining any weapon, black powder, and archery deer tag quotas in Units 192 & 194 at 2017 levels.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Foster to recommend approval of all the big game quotas as recommended;

When the number of tags increase, Chairman Burnside would like to see the number of youth tags increase proportionately at the same time.

Member Foster would like to see the formula used to determine the number of youth tags.

MOTION; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2019 DRAFT PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN (FINAL DRAFT). The Commission will review the final draft of the Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Predation Management Plan with the Department. The Commission may take action to modify or endorse the plan. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7)*

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Turnipseed to recommend approval of the 2019 Draft Predation Management Plan as written; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 470, MISCELLANEOUS PETITIONS, LCB FILE NO. R095-16. The Commission will consider adopting amendments to Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The regulation was developed by the Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Policy Committee after several public meetings incorporating relevant suggestions from the public, legal counsel, the Department and the Committee. The amendments will simplify petition form requirements and the petition process overall. Three workshops have been held on this regulation, Nov. 18, 2016, Aug. 11, 2017, and Mar. 16, 2018.*(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 8A)*

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Foster to recommend approval of Commission General Regulation 470, Miscellaneous Petitions; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 474, TRAP REGISTRATION, LCB FILE NO. R038-18. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.150. This regulation revises provisions relating to the registration of traps as mandated by Senate Bill (SB) 364 of the 79th Legislative Session. SB 364 states that with certain exceptions, each trap, snare, or similar device used by a person in the taking of wild mammals must be registered with the Department

before it is used. SB 364 also states that for each trap, snare, or similar device registered with the Department, the person registering the device shall pay a registration fee of \$5. This proposed regulation provides a mechanism for the Department to register traps and charge \$5 per trap registered. *(This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda)(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 8B)*

Member Turnipseed pointed out this is being done to comply with SB 364.

The Members discussed the \$5 per trap fee and questioned whether it was a one-time or a yearly fee. Carl Lackey, NDOW Biologist, said the fee has raised some ire among trappers who have many traps. He clarified the fee is set in stone by SB 364 and is a one-time fee. To avoid having to obtain a trap registration number and the trap fee, trappers can put their name and address on each trap. If the trapper pays the Department \$5 per trap, the tag will have their trap registration number on it and it can be transferred to a new trap if a trap has to be replaced. Government agencies are exempt as is anyone trapping on private property with the owner's permission.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Turnipseed to recommend approval of Commission General Regulation 474, Trap Registration, as written; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 18-11, 2018 BIG GAME QUOTAS FOR THE 2018-2019 SEASON. The Commission will establish regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, black bear, and mountain goats for the 2018 - 2019 seasons. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 16)*

This item was heard earlier in the meeting.

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

Chairman Burnside received an email from Tom Smith on the upcoming Nevada Sporting Community and Conservation Round Table.

Member Foster received an email from Bob Pohlman on the Bi-State Sage Grouse.

Member Turnipseed talked about the bear killing in the Pine Nuts.

5. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE MARCH 16 & 17, 2018 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

Member Foster updated the Members on the discussion that took place on:

- The approval of the Draft Predation Management Plan.
- Wayne Kirch Conservation Award with information on Mr. Kirch.
- Duck Stamp Program and the viability of it.

- The report on the sheep remains and bones found in a cave and the results of the carbon dating done on them.
- Safe Hunting Distance and the need to have a statewide regulation for enforcement purposes.
- Game Bird Seasons. The chukar and duck season dates will be fixed.
- Landowner Deer and Antelope Tag Program and the discussion to consider banking unused tags and the need to mitigate future damage.
- Pitfall traps and the number removed.
- Tours taken relating to boater safety.

6. 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 meeting. Member(s) Burnside and/or Turnipseed will attend the Dyer meeting.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING. The next Commission meeting is June 29 and 30, 2018, in Dyer, Esmeralda County. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change meeting dates and locations 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 Tuesday, June 19, 2018. The recording secretary will work on trying to reschedule the next meeting to June 26, 2018 dependent on room availability.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Wildlife Working Group

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Turnipseed/Foster to adjourn the meeting; carried with Cook and Rittenhouse absent.

There being no further business to come before the DCABMW, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The minutes of the May 1, 2018 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 26th day of June 2018.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig Burnside, Chairman