

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of September 18, 2018 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

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

MEMBER ABSENT: Chad Foster
 Craig Burnside, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT: Kris Urquhart, NDOW Fisheries Biologist

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Kris Urquhart led the Pledge.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and determined a quorum was present. Noted was the absences of Members Burnside and Foster. Kris Urquhart was introduced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chairman Cook asked for an update on the trouble bear and her three cubs that had broken into a woman's home three times. A bear trap was placed close by and he was wondering if the bear had been trapped but no update was available. He also talked about a buck that was stuck in the emergency overflow pond and the rescue effort that took place.

Member Rittenhouse said he attended the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting and they held a discussion on the wild horses. A representative of BLM was present and a lively discussion took place.

Member Rittenhouse talked about the petition process used to get items on the Commission agenda and suggested the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife use that process to bring shotguns as a legal weapon for bears and allowing bear hunting down to the Lake to their attention.

Public comment closed.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No public comment.

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

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **August 7, 2018**

No public comment.

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

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

Member Rittenhouse stated the group met on August 30th in Carson City and determined common issues are: horses, bears, the overall decline of mule deer herds, increase in town deer populations, difficulty in recruiting Advisory Board replacements in Carson and Washoe Counties, lack of public participation in Advisory Board meetings, public feeding of wild animals, and the increase in the rabbit population and the role coyotes have in controlling it.

Member Rittenhouse felt it was a successful gathering and there were representatives from Douglas, Washoe, and Carson City County Advisory Boards. He feels it is a cohesive group. Their next scheduled get together is slated for January.

Vice Chairman Cook finds it interesting that Nevada Department of Wildlife issues the same amount of tags even though there is a decline in the mule deer herds.

This was an update only.

2. FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ONLY. DISCUSSION ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES ASSOCIATED WITH HOLDING A DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEETING.

Due to the absence of the Chairman, this item was postponed to the October meeting.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 29 & 30 AND AUGUST 10 & 11, 2018 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

Due to the absence of the Chairman, this item was postponed to the October meeting.

4. The following items, 4a through 4g, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, September 21 & 22, 2018, at the Clark County Government Center, Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, 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.

4a–4g. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

4a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE UPDATE OF RECOVERING AMERICA’S WILDLIFE ACT (RAWA). An update will be provided on the progress of the pending RAWA federal legislation. The Commission may take action in connection with the pending RAWA federal legislation. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7)*

No public comment.

No supporting material was provided for this item so the consensus of the members was to take no action at this time. If this item comes back before this Advisory Board, a recommendation may be made at that time.

4b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATON 477, LANDOWNER DEER AND ANTELOPE COMPENSATION TAG PROGRAM, LCB FILE NO. 096-18. 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 allocating landowner deer and antelope compensation tags if owner applicants cumulatively qualify for compensation tags in excess of the statutory limit. The Commission considered this regulation during a workshop at their meeting on June 29, 2018. The Commission directed the Department to provide specific language to improve the clarity of the proposed regulation. The Commission also considered the regulation during a workshop on Aug. 10, 2018. The Commission directed the Department to provide a mathematical description of the process for tag allocation to improve the precision of the description. *(This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 10A)*

Member Turnipseed recapped the DCABMW’s previous discussions and questions on this item.

The members reviewed the proposed formula and the number of workshops held on this item.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to recommend the Commission vote to approve the language in LCB File No. 096-18; carried with Burnside and Foster absent.

4c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 480, SHOTGUN GAUGES LEGAL FOR TURKEY HUNTING, LCB FILE NO. R194-18. The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.187. This regulation would remove the prohibition against using a shotgun smaller than 20 gauge to hunt wild turkey. It would also clean up unnecessary language regarding shot size used on a wildlife management area. *(This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 10B)*

The members reviewed the language as it related to the size of the shotgun.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Rittenhouse to recommend the Commission support Commission General Regulation 480, Shotgun Gauges Legal for Turkey Hunting; carried with Burnside and Foster absent.

4d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION REGULATION 478, BIGHORN SHEEP EWE AND MOUNTAIN GOAT ONLINE COURSE, LCB FILE NO. R151-18. The Commission will consider adopting a regulation relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would require all bighorn ewe and mountain goat tag holders to complete an online course. This regulation would eliminate the need for a physical inspection for hunters that harvest a ewe. It would also require the tag holder for ram bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and mountain lion or bear to provide questionnaire information during the already required post-harvest physical inspection and eliminate the subsequent need for successful tag holders to also submit a questionnaire. The Commission held a workshop on Aug. 10, 2018, and the Commission directed the Department to move forward with an adoption hearing. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18A*)

Vice Chairman Cook believes this is an online course versus a physical course, which will save staff and sportsmen time. He summarized the intent of this item.

Member Turnipseed thought a simpler solution would be to eliminate the ewe hunt. Some put in for the ewe hunt so they can have a life sized ram and ewe mounted side by side.

Vice Chairman Cook feels the hunt is necessary to keep the sexes in balance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaking as a member of the public, Kris Urquhart said he has a ewe mounted next to a bighorn.

Public comment closed.

Member Turnipseed pointed out the difficulty in telling a male from a female mountain goat from 300 yards or greater, unless the female has a kid.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Rittenhouse to recommend adoption of the language in Commission Regulation 478, pending legislative commission approval; carried with Burnside and Foster absent.

4e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 479, ROSY BOA REPTILE, LCB FILE NO. R152-18. The Commission will consider adopting a regulation relating to amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This amendment would revise the scientific name of the rosy boa, which is classified as a protected reptile, from *Lichanura trivirgata* to *Lichanura orcutti*. This name change is needed due to new

scientific studies that have split the species into two distinct entities, one that occurs in Nevada and one that occurs outside the state. Current NAC protects the species outside Nevada rather than the species that occurs within Nevada. The Commission held a workshop on Aug. 10, 2018, and the Commission directed the Department to move forward with an adoption hearing. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18B*)

The members reviewed the amendment to the regulation.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of Commission General Regulation 479; carried with Burnside and Foster absent.

4f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 18-01, AMENDMENT #2, FISHING SEASONS, BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS, AND REGULATIONS FOR MARCH 1, 2018 THROUGH FEBRUARY 29, 2020. The Commission will consider amending Commission Regulation 18 - 01 to modify the harvest limits for Lahontan Reservoir to allow the harvest of white bass or white bass hybrids under 15 inches to be included in the 15 game fish limit, in Churchill and Lyon Counties; to modify the general harvest limit for Pershing County to remove the reference to white bass and white bass hybrids; and to adopt a limit of three game fish for the James Kinney Pond in Humboldt County. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18C*)

Kris Urquhart, NDOW Fisheries Biologist, provided the location of the James Kinney pond, a new urban fishery for Winnemucca, and the establishment of seasons and harvest limits for this water. He explained the addition of language for Lahontan Reservoir is because the intent of the existing game fish limit regulation was not clear to the public. Also, there was a duplicate regulation for white bass hybrids in Rye Patch as well as Pershing County and this will remove that unnecessary language from Pershing County.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of Commission Regulation 18-01, Amendment #2, Fishing Seasons, Bag and Possession Limits, and Regulations for March 1, 2018 through February 29, 2020; carried with Burnside and Foster absent.

4g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE YAKAMA TRIBE PRONGHORN TRANSLOCATION UPDATE. The Department will provide an update regarding the translocation of pronghorn to fulfill the original request from the Yakama Tribe in Washington for 100 pronghorn originally approved by the Commission for Fiscal Year 2018. In Fiscal Year 2018, only 50 of the original 100 were provided to the Yakama Tribe in Washington. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 19*)

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to recommend the Commission affirm the prior motion to provide pronghorn to the Yakama Tribe in Washington, and continue with the translocation of up to 50 more pronghorn; carried with Burnside and Foster absent.

5. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

Member Rittenhouse talked about an outdoor program designed to be used as a physical education credit in the schools. He believes this is a good program and is in line with needed youth education. He requested this be placed on the next DCABMW agenda for discussion and possible support.

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.

Vice Chairman Cook will attend the Las Vegas meeting.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Nov. 2 and 3, 2018, in Reno. 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, October 30, 2018.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Wildlife Working Group
- Changes to the meeting process
- Results of the June 29 & 30, 2018 and August 10 & 11, 2018 meetings
- Consider filing a petition with the Commission for shotguns as a legal weapon for bear and the ability to hunt bear to the Lake.
- Outdoor Adventures Education Program

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

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

There being no further business to come before the DCABMW, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

The minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 30th day of October 2018.

Respectfully submitted:

Bob Cook, Vice Chairman