

**DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**  
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Minutes of April 30, 2019 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 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:** Carl Lackey, Biologist, Nevada Department of Wildlife

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:39 pm and determined a quorum was present. Carl Lackey, Biologist, Nevada Department of Wildlife, joined the meeting shortly after it was convened.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Member Rittenhouse led the Pledge.

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

There were no introductions to be made.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nickoli Kallmon talked about his desire to learn more about county wildlife advisory boards and feels the best way to do so is to attend the meetings.

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:**

- **March 12, 2019**

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Foster to approve the minutes as presented; carried unanimously.

- 1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE'S (DCABMW) BUDGET SUBMISSION TO THE STATE OF NEVADA. The DCABMW will review the budget prepared by the Chairman and may take action to modify or endorse prior to submission to the State.**

Chairman Burnside reviewed the contents of the request and requested Board member input.

The members agreed with the budget as presented.

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Foster to endorse submission of the budget as presented; carried unanimously.

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

Member Rittenhouse explained the group did not meet this month however they plan to meet in the coming month.

By way of explanation to the public, Member Foster talked about the purpose of the group.

- 3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE OUTDOOR ADVENTURE EDUCATION PROGRAM. Member Rittenhouse will provide information on the program and the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may take action to support or recommend support, not support, or take no position on the program.**

Member Rittenhouse would like to keep the program on the radar but he feels it involves a complex change to scheduling, training, and transportation as it relates to schools. He suggested a list be compiled of all the current providers of youth activities and what programs they offer so the general public would have a reference for what opportunities are available. Programs that may be missing, such as orienteering, could be offered in the schools as classroom activities without the burden of transporting the students. Doing that would help the program get off the ground without relying solely on the schools. Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) could serve as a coordination resource. He feels it is imperative that young people get out and take part in these types of activities.

Chairman Burnside feels success of this program will be a grass roots effort and he suggested Member Rittenhouse take the opportunity to talk to other like-minded people about this idea. NDOW should be a resource but not responsible for coordination.

Member Foster wondered if trying it in a private school first might be a successful answer since the student population is smaller and the curriculum is more flexible. Also, private schools may not have implemented some of the bigger outdoor programs.

No public comment.

The consensus of the Board was to leave this on the agenda but take no action today.

**4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE WILL DISCUSS AND MAY TAKE ACTION ON THE MERITS AND DRAWBACKS OF THE ONLINE HUNTER SAFETY PROGRAM.**

Member Rittenhouse took the online course and feels the content of the program is great. He provided his understanding of how the online course plays into completion of the program for people under 21.

The members and Carl Lackey, Biologist, Nevada Department of Wildlife, discussed the requirements of the course and testing for people under 21 versus over 21.

Member Rittenhouse will get some clarification on what is required of people under 21. He took the whole online course and did not think the kids had the option of using a workbook.

Member Foster supports having the option of a workbook too because it gives kids another method to learn. He believes the internet can provide good instruction in some cases however he talked about the value of learning in the field as situations occur.

Chairman Burnside agreed and feels either the online course or the workbook in conjunction with hands on instruction is great.

Member Rittenhouse pointed out that an adult that only takes the online course does not have field experience to draw on. He feels the hunter education program has been watered down over the years; some of the classes do not have structured hunter safety. He feels communication with hunter safety instructors would enhance the course and engage the kids.

Chairman Burnside thought the kids could get more out of the structured online course than they could out of courses with varying focuses. Either way the kids are still required to have hands on instruction.

No public comment.

There was consensus of the Board to take no action.

**5. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE MARCH 15 & 16, 2019 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.**

Member Foster attended. Provided was an update on:

- Lack of youth fishing licenses; the only option being purchase of a youth hunting/fishing license. In this case, hunter safety is only required if the hunting license is used to apply for a big game tag. The question that arises is what the hunting/fishing license allows the youth to do and should hunter safety be required?
- There is no recent update on the meeting with FEMA and whether habitat is being viewed as a natural resource.
- Committee reports-opposition to the desert wildlife refuge in the Fallon naval expansion, opposition to all water bills, opposition to SB265, and support for BDR902.

- Discussion on confidentiality of personal information and possible language changes.
- Urban wildlife program.
- Boulder City bypass design/build presentation.
- Big Game seasons and quotas and the Department's strategy.
- Conservation partner profile: Tortoise group from Las Vegas.
- Migratory game bird seasons.

This was a discussion only.

- 6. The following items, 6a through 6e, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, May 3 & 4, 2019, at the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> 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.**

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

**6a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 DRAFT PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN (FINAL DRAFT).** The Commission will review the final draft of the Fiscal Year 2020 Draft Predation Management Plan with the Department. The Commission may take action to modify or endorse the plan. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 6)*

The members felt the changes were not substantive.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of final draft of the fiscal year 2020 Draft Predation Management Plan as written; carried unanimously.

**6b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT.** A report will be presented on the committee's recent meetings. The Commission may review bills of interest, consider legislative committee recommendations and may take official positions on those bills. The Commission may also choose to develop platforms on bills by supporting or opposing general concepts contained within bills or discuss specific language as well as anything else regarding the current Legislative Session. (Support material is as of the Legislative Committee meeting held on March 16, 2019. Bill and BDR language may be viewed online at: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bills/List>) *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7A)*

Chairman Burnside stated the support material indicates that all water bills should include a provision concerning the protection of wildlife and habitat.

Member Turnipseed pointed out that all the water bills have died except the one creating the Division of Water Planning. There was only opposition to those water bills; no one testified in support of them.

The members reviewed the list of bills of interest highlighting SB85.

No public comment.

This was a discussion only.

**6c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 19-14, BIG GAME QUOTAS FOR THE 2019-2020 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 2019-2020 seasons. (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 16A)**

The members reviewed the recommendations highlighting the changes to youth tags. They feel the reductions in youth tags is proportionate to the reductions being recommended for all tags. They pointed out that there are areas where youth tags were available but not applied for. The members reviewed the ratio of resident versus non-resident tags and felt it was appropriate.

Vice Chairman Cook questioned whether the Dream Tag was available for Black Bear. Carl Lackey, Biologist, Nevada Department of Wildlife, answered it is. He explained the bear quotas remained the same. The University of Nevada (UNR) population estimate has recently been completed and is in line with what it was four years ago. The statewide estimate is the spreadsheet model used but it mirrors the UNR MARK estimates for the earmarked years. He added more bears are being seen in the central and eastern part of the state.

Mr. Lackey explained how the demand-success formula and the population estimates are used to adjust quotas.

Chairman Burnside feels having electronic applications should allow the hunter to be aware of the quota for the coming season instead of referencing the quota for the previous season. Mr. Lackey explained that there is some lag time before all the data is available.

Mr. Lackey talked about an ongoing issue with a pack of 17 feral dogs tormenting the bighorn sheep located east of the USA Parkway.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nickoli Kallmon asked for the location of this dog/sheep issue.

Mr. Lackey responded it was close to Derby Dam.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Foster/Cook to recommend approval of the Big Game Quotas for the 2019-2020 season as recommended by the Department; carried unanimously.

**6d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SILVER STATE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES (OHV) TRAIL UPDATE. The Commission will receive an update on the Silver State Trail in White Pine County, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, and the associated planning timeline. (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 17)**

Member Foster explained that a discussion took place on this during the Las Vegas meeting and there is an effort to route the trail through areas that are not species sensitive.

No public comment.

Chairman Burnside pointed out that the Public Lands Committee will meet on this just prior to the Commission meeting. Any recommendations coming from the Public Lands Committee will be presented to the Commission on Saturday.

There was consensus of the Board to take no action.

**6e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OFFICE IN THE LAS VEGAS VALLEY.** A report will be provided by Deputy Director Jack Robb on the potential acquisition of a new Department office building in the Las Vegas Valley. Cost analysis, unique office needs, and potential location will be discussed. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18*)

The members questioned the need for this new office and Carl Lackey, Biologist, Nevada Department of Wildlife, answered that the current office is undersized and outdated. This will be a relocation of the office.

Member Foster asked how many locations Nevada Department of Wildlife has in the Las Vegas area and Mr. Lackey responded there are several area satellite offices but only one regional headquarters in Las Vegas.

No public comment.

There was consensus of the Board to take no action.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.**

There was no public correspondence to report.

**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.**

Chairman Burnside will attend both days of the upcoming meeting and the August meeting.

Member Turnipseed will attend the Hawthorne meeting.

Vice Chairman Cook will attend the September meeting.

No public comment.

No action was taken.

**9. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.** The next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 21 & 22, 2019, in Hawthorne 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 and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated meeting 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 18, 2019.

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

- Tri-County Wildlife Working Group
- Outdoor Adventures Education Program
- Online Hunter Safety Program
- Simplification of the one day fishing license for youth, making it available online

**CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.**

No closing public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to come before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

The minutes of the April 30, 2019 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 18th day of June 2019.

Respectfully submitted:

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Craig Burnside, Chairman