Meeting Minutes May 9th, Monday, 2016

THE CHAIR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA AND IF THE AGENDA IS NOT COMPLETED TO RECESS THE MEETING AND CONTINUE ON ANOTHER SPECIFIED DATE AND TIME. THE PUBLIC CAN COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEM BY BEING ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE CHAIRPERSON WHILE THE ADVISORY BOARD CONSIDERS THAT AGENDA ITEM.

THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS (NBOWC) WILL RECEIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THIS MEETING ALONG WITH THE ELKO COUNTY COMMISSION.

6:00 P.M. -- CALL TO ORDER-Bert Gurr

-- PLEDGE-Jim Cooney

-- ROLL CALL-Wyatt Mesna, Furn Winder, Bert Gurr, Mitch Buzzetti, Jim Cooney

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board approved minutes.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

2. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

Pursuant to advice from the Nevada Attorney General’s Office, this time is devoted to comments by Board Members for general information or update purposes. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified to be an action item. Any correspondence received by a Board member may be read and attached for the record.

No Comments.

3. COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:

Pursuant to N.R.S. 241.020, 2(c) (3), this time is devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified to be an action item.

No Comments.

4. Nevada Department of Wildlife Project Updates

State Agenda item #8

No Update.

NON-ACTION ITEM

5. Humboldt County Elk Sub-plan (Second Reading)-

State Agenda Item #7

No Action Taken.

NON-ACTION ITEM
6. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2017 Draft Predation Management Plan (Final Draft)
The Commission will review with the Department the third and final draft of the Fiscal Year 2017 Draft Predation Management Plan. The Commission may take action to modify or endorse the plan.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

State agenda item #9
Moved and approved.

The Commission will hold a workshop on the temporary regulation which expired Nov. 1, 2015, relating to amending Nevada Administrative Code (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.

During adoption of the permanent NAC, the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) and the Legislative Commission have questioned specific language choices recommended by the Department that directly influence the application of the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). The primary concern expressed by the Legislative Commission deals with the ability of an arbitration panel to issue a final and binding decision without providing a means for appeal. In short, an appointed panel may be able to provide such a decision, yet when the Commission acts in this capacity it may be deemed an administrative act that must be consistent with the provisions of the APA. The LCB suggested the Department add “subject to judicial review” to clarify the appeals process.

State Agenda Item #14
No action taken.

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider regulation changes relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). It revises provisions relating to artificial industrial ponds; adds a provision on the purpose of permits; adds definitions for permanent closure and stabilized; adds new provisions and revises existing provisions relating to application, compliance, modification, renewal, and transfer of permits; and modifies provisions relating to assessment fee structure and payment tiers.

The regulation change regarding application, compliance, modification, renewal and transfer of permits will provide clarity on how to manage permits when certain operational or administrative changes occur. The regulation change regarding assessment fee structures and payment tiers will expand the number of active permit holders required to pay an annual assessment and will increase certain payment tiers. Existing NAC language results in only 55 percent of active IAP permit holders paying an annual assessment, yet NDOW is responsible for managing permits and conducting inspections at all facilities with an IAP permit. The proposed regulation change will eliminate this shortfall, which is currently offset with sportsman dollars, and will create an industry-funded permitting program.

State Agenda Item #15
NON-ACTION ITEM
No Comments.

9. Reports – Informational
A Black Bear Hunt Status Report – A report will be provided on the status of the black bear hunt and ongoing population and harvest monitoring.

B Big Game Hunt Status Report – A summary report will be provided on the status of big game.

C* Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) – A report will be provided on the committee’s recent meeting.

D* Wildlife Heritage Committee – A report will be provided on the recent Wildlife Heritage Committee meeting.

E* Wildlife Trust Fund Semi-Annual Report – A report will be provided on the investment and expenditure of the money in the Wildlife Trust Fund for the periods of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, and July 1, 2015, to Dec. 31, 2015, pursuant to NRS 501.3585.

F Sage-grouse Update – will provide an update on the status of sage-grouse.

G Department Activity Report – will provide a report on recent Department activities.

State Agenda Item #17 State
No Comments.

10. Commission General Regulation 460, Definition of "Spike Elk," LCB File No. R013-16 – The Commission will consider amending NAC 502.104 and 502.1045 to define "Spike Elk" in a manner that limits inadvertent errors in the field. The intent is to consider and possibly broaden the definition of spike in a manner that is consistent with the management objective of defining a spike while reducing the likelihood of errors in harvest identification.

A workshop was held in Yerington on March 25, 2016. The Commission directed the Department to contact Utah to identify if they have had any issues with enforcement regarding the way that their language is written, which is similar to the Department’s proposed language. Alternative language, including whether to use the number of branches or antlered points in the definition was also discussed.

State Agenda Item #23 FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
Darren Elmore-Recommends changing wording of spike elk to “no more than two points above the ear either antler.”

Walt Gardner-Supports wording of “no more than two points above the ear either antler.”

Keri Huebner-Supports wording of “no more than two points above the ear on either antler.”

Henry Krenka- Supports wording of “no more than two points above the ear on either antler.”

Motioned and approved to the wording of “no more than two points above the ear on either antler.”


State Agenda Item #25 FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
Keri Huebner NDOW-Presented on antelope and Elk in her areas.
Walt Gardner-Does not want the number of tags for Antelope increased in area 10. Does not want the number of Bull Elk tags increased. Recommend decrease in doe tags in area 10. Recommend non-resident tags be 10% of resident tags. 

Mitch Buzzetti-Recommend lowering doe quotas. Recommend non-resident tags be 10% of resident tags. 

Wyatt Mesna-Recommend lowering doe quotas. 

Jim Cooney-Recommend lowering doe quotas in 10. 

Joel McConnell-Does not want number of Bull Elk tags increased. Recommends increasing Spike tags to help control population. 

Tony Buzzetti-Does not want Bull Elk tags increased. 

Henry Krenka-Does not want Bull Elk tags increased. Recommend decrease in doe tags in 101-109. Recommend non-resident tags be 10% of resident tags. 

Tom Donham NDOW-Presented on area 10 Antelope. Presented on Mountain Goats in 10. 

John Carpenter-Against shooting does and doe tag increase. 

See attached for ECWAB recommendations on tag quotas—all motioned and approved as stated on the attached quota recommendations.

12. Military exemption for licensure for bonus points only. 

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION 

Furn Winder made comments about concern. Would like for veterans to be able to apply for bonus points when on active duty for no charge. 

Pete Mori recommends presenting this to the tag committee to move this item forward. 

Voted and agreed to present to the TAAH committee at Wednesdays meeting.


FOR POSSIBLE ACTION 

Mitch Buzzetti presented his reasons for wanting this to be a requirement. Jim Cooney asked what the cost would be to implement this policy. 

Tom Donham NDOW-Stated this would be a large expense for this to be implemented. 

Walt Gardner-Would like this to be implemented. 

Henry Krenka-Would like this to be implemented. 

Gary Elmore-Would like this to be implanted maybe to start as a smaller project with one are. 

Mitch motioned for mandatory teeth sampling in Elko county. Motion seconded. Bert recommends amending motion. Mitch amended motion to area 6,7,10 and 065. Jim seconded. All in favor. 

Amend motion to remove mandatory and enforce like Elk teeth sampling.

15. Discuss any other State agenda items –

16. Future Commission Meeting: 

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION 

The next Commission meetings are scheduled for May 13th and 14th 2016, in Reno and June 24th and 25th, 2016, in Elko; 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.
Elko County Wildlife Board’s future meeting date will be Monday prior to the next state meeting.

17. COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC: NON-ACTION ITEM
Pursuant to N.R.S. 241.020, 2(c) (3), this time is devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified to be an action item.

ADJOURNMENT

SUPPORT MATERIAL PROVIDED AT WWW.NDOW.ORG