



**ELKO COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD
COUNTY OF ELKO, STATE OF NEVADA
Will meet in the Mike Nannini Building, Suite102
(Hearing Room) of the Elko County Courthouse,
540 Court Street, Elko, Nevada.**

Meeting Minutes August 7th, 2017

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.

Public comment will be taken on every action item after discussion but before action on each item, and is limited to three minutes per person. The chairman may allow persons representing groups to speak for six minutes. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items or attend and make comment during the meeting and are asked to complete a speaker card and present it to the Recording Secretary. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments in order to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda.

Forum restrictions and orderly business: The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place and manner of speech.

Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks that antagonize or incite others are examples of public comment that may be reasonably limited.

NOTE: Public comment allowed on each action item and regulation workshop items and at the end of the meeting

Monday August 7th, 2017 6:00 pm

1. **Call to order, Pledge, Roll Call**
Jim Cooney, Mitch Buzzetti, Bert Gurr, Furn Winder, Wyatt Mesna
2. **Approval of the Agenda** **For Possible Action**
Jim Cooney Moves to accept and Furn Winder seconds-Approved
3. **Board Member Announcements :** **Non-Action 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.
None

4. **Approval of the Minutes** **For Possible Action**
Furn Winder moves to accept, Jim Cooney seconds-Approved
5. **Nevada Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan –** **For Possible Action**
 The Nevada Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan (AIS Plan) is intended to provide guidance to AIS control and prevention programs in the State of Nevada and enhance coordination and effectiveness of AIS control efforts in Nevada and regionally through establishment of an inter-agency Nevada AIS Working Group. The Commission may take action to approve the final AIS Plan which will address any recommendations for modification of the draft AIS Plan from the Commission's June 23 and 24 meeting and other comments received from the public. These changes will be presented during the meeting. (Please view plan online at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Commission/Agenda/)
State Agenda #8
Jim Cooney moves not taking a stance. Furn Winder seconds. No Action Taken. Unable to compare new draft to old draft.
6. **Administrative Procedures Regulation Policy (APRP) Committee –**
 A* APRP Committee Report –The Commission will hear a report from the committee's July 17, 2017, meeting.
 B* Commission Policy 9, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) – First Reading **For Possible Action**
 The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 9, ADA, and may take action to repeal or revise the policy. The Commission may advance the policy to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.
 C* Commission Policy 29, Draft Arbitration Process for Applicants Dissatisfied with Elk Incentive Tag Awards, First Reading– **For Possible Action**
 The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 29, Draft Arbitration Process for Applicants Dissatisfied with Elk Incentive Tag Awards, and may take action to implement the policy. The Commission may advance the policy to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.
 a-Update from Ken Wellington. **Non-Action Item**
 D* Commission Policy 63, Protecting Wildlife from Toxic Ponds, First Reading – **For Possible Action**
 The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 63, Protecting Wildlife from Toxic Ponds, and may take action to repeal or revise the policy. The Commission may advance the policy to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.
State Agenda #9
No Public Comments.
Bert Gurr read email from Rex (No last name) regarding policy 27 grey wolf policy.
Bert Gurr read email from Ken Wellington on update of where his group is.
Jim Cooney states it is hard to take a stance without proper information provided to the board.
Kari Huebner NDOW-states the compensation and incentive tags are two different programs and have different rules.
Item B No Action Taken.
7. **Commission General Regulation – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed**

Commission General Regulation 470, Miscellaneous Petitions, LCB File No. R095-16– Workshop/Public Comment Allowed For Possible Action

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The regulation was developed by the APRP 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.

A workshop was held on November 18, 2016. The Commission had questions regarding the 30 day limit and the timing with the Commission meetings, what initiates rulemaking, and the appeal process for a petitioner who's petition was denied. The regulation was referred back to the APRP committee for further discussion and resolution.

State Agenda #10

No Public Comments.

Bert Gurr on Item 4a what does rule making mean?

Pete Mori states that rule making most likely means it starts the process.

Wyatt Mesna states this is just a proposed recommendation no action.

Jim Cooney recommends no action.

Furn Winder seconds.

No Action Taken.

8. Commercial Reptile Collection – For Possible Action

The Department will present the Commission with background information regarding commercial collection of reptiles in Nevada along with numerous potential alternatives for consideration. The Commission may choose to provide direction to the Department regarding commercial collection of reptiles.

State Agenda #11

No Public Comments

No Action Taken.

9. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Public Land Parcel Disposal–

For Possible Action

The Commission will receive comment on maps depicting lands identified by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as potentially suitable for disposal in BLM's existing Resource Management Plans (RMPs) across various BLM districts in Northern Nevada. Critical habitat or important hunting areas will be identified as conflicts with any future land transfer proposals. The Commission will review and finalize correspondence 5 to provide its position on the land transfer/disposal proposals. (Please view maps online at:

http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Commission/Agenda/)

State Agenda #18

Bert Gurr states the North Central and North East would be hard to dispose of due to hunting value. Anything outside of the I80 Corridor is out and anything in the West and North and West and South of Montello, South End of Wood Hills.

Jim Cooney also states the areas around Montello have hunting value.

Wyatt Mesna states he likes the idea of land exchange better than disposing of land. Bert Gurr states that he was told the cost of land exchange is very high and lengthy and is hard to complete.

Jim Cooney states any of these spots are going to potentially back up to these lands.

Bert Gurr states he would support the land exchange if costs could go down and process was easier.

Furn Winder thinks that whoever purchases the land will lock everyone out. He thinks that it should not be sold until they come up with rules and what can be done with the land.

Jim Cooney states this boils down to hunter access. He thinks that the disposal of this land what is written in that guarantees access to sportsman? BLM can write into contract that whoever purchases this land has to provide access.

Wyatt Mesna states that if this is written into the contracts from the BLM to require access. Language needs to be proposed that general public has access for hunters but also the public needs to understand that they need to respect the land and not throw trash, tear up roads, cut down gates, etc.

Bert Gurr also states who takes on the liability and road maintenance of these roads? So that private owners cant be held liable for the negligence of the general public?

Any critical wildlife habitat stated by NDOW that it is critical habitat should not be disposed of.

Pete Mori states that maybe it is a non issue because there might not be any hunter access already.

Bert Gurr states we should disagree unless we have access.

Wyatt Mesna states they are looking for public response and the letter is in response to this.

Tom Barnes states that what Wyatt is correct that all they are looking to do right now is to talk about the letter and public comments.

Wyatt Mesna states he likes the way this letter is written and supports this.

10. **County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife Workshop Opening Comments – Informational**

A* Mule Deer Management – **Non-Action Item**

The Department will provide an in depth briefing concerning the processes used to monitor herds and derive quotas. The Department will share feedback received through a recent professional peer-review evaluation. The Department will provide a description of how scientific data is used to meet harvest objectives.

B* Evaluation and Review of the Landowner Deer and Antelope Compensation Tag Program- **For Possible Action**

The Department will provide an overview concerning the current Landowner Deer and Antelope Compensation Program, recent updates to statutes, share current practices, identify areas of necessary improvement, and provide a potential revision process for the Commission's consideration. The Commission may provide the Department with direction following consideration of this proposal.

State Agenda #19

Kari Huebner NDOW provided clarification on this item.

Mitch Buzzetti states that NDOW is priming the pump to change something when it comes to Mule Deer management.

Mitch Buzzetti asks that since Bert is attending the meeting to take notes and report back on what they are proposing to do.

11. **Reports – Non-Action Item**

A Wildfire Update-Provide an update on wildfires that have occurred in Nevada this fire season.

B Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies 2017 Annual Conference – Reports from the 2017 conference hosted by Colorado Parks and Wildlife will be provided.

C Department of Wildlife License Simplification and Vendor Request for Proposal Process Update – An update will be provided to the Commission on the status of amendments to the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to comply with Senate Bill 511 of the 2017 Legislative Session.

D Department Activity Report –Provide a report on recent Department activities.

E* Litigation Report

State Agenda #20

Bert Gurr and Wyatt Mesna states that this is not right that we have no say on the updated state agenda with emergency hunts.

Kari Huebner NDOW-Provided wildfire update. Also stated there is a need for area 6 emergency hunts. Tabor Flats, Oilwell, Pole Creek fires took out land that Antelope winter range. States Antelope are moving into subdivisions, crossing interstate and getting hit by trains. Recommending 071,073 horns shorter than the ears Pronghorn emergency hunts with a quota around 300. Also, area 062,067,068 horns shorter than the ear Pronghorn 400 tag quota. Season would be 9/25-10/9. Area 062,067,068 Mule Deer Antlerless early 350 tag quota and 350 late season. Would run at the same time of the current antlerless deer hunts.

No Public Comments.

Bert Gurr understands where NDOW is coming from. This year has been a catastrophic fire year. Speaking for himself he has no problem with the hunts as proposed.

Wyatt Mesna states he is a proponent of being proactive instead of reactive. Speaking for himself he is ok with these hunts as recommended. He trusts NDOW on their recommendations.

Furn Winder speaking for himself he does not have a problem with these hunts as recommended.

Mitch Buzzetti states Antelope are grazers and thinks if we get rain in September Antelope will be ok.

Jim Cooney states as far as the Antelope they are out in the burns now and seem to be doing fine. In area 6 he is very cautious about supporting a doe hunt when the area 6 herd is struggling.

12. **Future Commission Meeting:** **For Possible Action**
The next Commission meetings are scheduled September 22nd and 23rd, 2017, in Las Vegas and November 3rd and 4th in Reno; 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.

13. **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.

Pete Mori-States we can watch things burn and start some adaptive management to target some areas with grazing so we can curtail these fires. We seen the fires and they were there fighting it. We were trying to save habitat for wildlife and livestock.

Bert Gurr states he agrees with Pete Mori on putting more grazing animals out. He also states that enough people have to start making noise and recommendations for this. Has to be cooperative effort between ranchers, sportsman, and general public.

Mitch Buzzetti-States NDOW should know we cant have critical habitat if we burn it every 5 years there is no habitat for anything except for maybe Elk.

ADJOURNMENT

*** SUPPORT MATERIAL PROVIDED AT WWW.NDOW.ORG**