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## **Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board**

### Minutes

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility on May 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Jim Evans, Raymond Hodson, Lester Porter, and Brad Heyen  
(arrived at 6:20 p.m.)

Members not Present: Dale Hornickel

Others Present: Jake Tibbitts-Eureka County Natural Resources Manager, Mike Podborny-Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) Wildlife Biologist, Cody McKinney-NDOW, Chad Bliss-Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner, and Jessica Santoyo-Eureka County Natural Resources Asst./CAB Secretary

#### **Call to order**

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m. A quorum was determined to be present.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **Board Business**

##### *Elect Vice-Chairman for 2014-*

Chairman Porter motioned that Raymond Hodson be the vice-chairman for 2014 and seconded by Jim Evans. Motion passed unanimously.

##### *Review and approval of minutes-*

The minutes of the January 23, 2014 and February 24, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Hodson and seconded by Mr. Porter. Motion passed unanimously.

##### *Correspondence and Member Reports-*

No Member Reports.

#### **Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Projects-**

*Update on pinyon-juniper (PJ) thinning project and other potential projects and consider further efforts to move forward for successful implementation of projects.*

Jake Tibbitts stated the PJ cutting will be starting up again on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Tibbitts stated there has been some problems getting more acreage signed up for cutting. Fitzwater's went ahead and did their own cutting and that acreage was lost. Shaffer Ranch is interested but they do not want to much cut off. Mr. Tibbitts stated what needs to be done in June is spend the Heritage funding on the acreage that is already committing and then work from there.

Mr. Hodson asked is there any way that they can put in any of the tanks that they have in the existing spots that are already permitted.

Mike Podburny answered he is not sure they could do that. He would have to contact the BLM and see what was written and how they wrote it in the permit.

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Mr. Hodson moved that Mr. Podburny follow up with the BLM to find out if they can use their extra tanks and place them in the already existing permitted areas and seconded by Mr. Porter. Motion passed unanimously.

\*This item will be an agenda item at the following meeting.

### **Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting Agenda and Support Material**

#### **Action Item 7:**

#### **2015 Nevada Department of Wildlife Legislative Concepts – Management Analyst 3 Kim Jolly –**

The Department will provide its draft legislative concepts for review and the Commission may vote to support, oppose or remain neutral or provide suggestions on the Department's proposals.

After brief discussion, Mr. Evans moved that there will be no recommendation from the Eureka CAB for the Elk Fees for the Elk Damage Program, Vessel Numbers Compliance, and Electronic Duck Stamp. Brad Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item 8B:**

#### **Wild Horse Issues Update – Division Administrator Habitat Alan Jenne and Chairman Robb-Discussion of Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Wild Horse Lawsuit– Chairman Robb –**

The Commission will discuss the NACO wild horse lawsuit and lawsuit and may take action to develop a letter of support for those portions of the lawsuit that are consistent with Commission Policy #67 regarding Federal Horse and Burros.

Mr. Tibbitts stated NACO has filed a lawsuit against the BLM to force the BLM to follow the Wild Horse and Burro Act of 1971 as amended. Which is to follow the act to keep the horses at appropriate levels and when they exceed appropriate levels that they gather them right away.

After brief discussion, Mr. Evans moved to support the NACO wild horse lawsuit. Mr. Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

After brief discussion, Mr. Evans moved to support the letter of support of the NACO wild horse lawsuit and that the letter be mailed forward right away. Mr. Heyen seconded motion carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item 9:**

**Fiscal Year 2015 Final Draft Predation Management Plan – Commissioner McBeath** –The final draft off the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Predator Management Plan will be presented and the Commission may take action to provide final recommendations for modification off the Final Draft Plan.

Chad Bliss stated at the last meeting they approved the projects that are in front of them they only thing that they didn't approve is the money to be allocated for the projects.

Mr. Tibbitts recommends that the Eureka CAB work with the County Commissioners to come up with a cost share on the project.

After brief discussion, Mr. Hodson moved to support project number 22-14 from the proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Predator Management Plan and commit to bring funding forward for cost

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share to be anticipated at an upwards of \$20,000 towards the project. Mr. Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

After brief discussion, Mr. Hodson moved that there will be no recommendations on the rest of the proposed Fiscal year 2014 Predator Management Plan. Mr. Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item 10:**

**Commission Policy #50, Duck Stamp Procedure, Second Reading — Conservation Education Division Administrator Teresa Moiola** — The Department will conduct a second reading off Commission Policy #50 with the proposed updates from the March 21, 20014, first reading. The Commission may take action to approve the policy.

Mr. Evans moved to support the Commission Policy #50, Duck Stamp Procedure. Mr. Hodson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item 11:**

**Duck Stamp Contest Sponsor – Division Administrator Conservation Education Teresa Moiola** – In accordance with Commission Policy #50 the Commission will be asked to select a sponsor for the 2015 and 2016 duck stamp contests.

Mr. Evans moved to support Duck Stamp Contest Sponsor Selection from the NV Water Fowl. Mr. Hodson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item 12:**

**Commission Meeting Videoconferencing – Deputy Director Patrick Cates – For Possible Action**  
The Commission will discuss videoconferencing for the remaining calendar year 2014 and 2015 Commission meetings. The Commission has set its meeting locations for 2014 and 2015 and if the Commission's decides to videoconference those Commission meetings, the Department is requesting direction and the possible change of some 2014 and 2015 meeting sites to accommodate videoconferencing.

Mr. Evans moved to support the Commission Meeting Videoconferencing when available but they also support the rotating meeting location schedule and to look into other options for videoconferencing locations. Mr. Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item 13/19A:**

**Commission General Regulation 445 – Black Powder Definition, LCB File No. R045-14 – Acting Chief Game Warden Paul Dankowski**

The Commission will consider the adoption of a regulation relating to hunting; revising provisions relating to hunting a big game mammal with a muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. Note: See support material for agenda item #13. The current regulation refers to two specific "name brand" black powder substitutes for muzzleloader only big game mammal hunts. There are over 100 "name brand" black powder substitutes. Having only two specific "name brands" within the language is confusing to sportsmen. Removing "name brand" black powder substitutes should reduce confusion on the type of powders allowed during muzzle-loader only big game mammal hunts

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Mr. Hodson moved to approve regulation 445 black powder definition. Mr. Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item 19B:**

**Commission Regulation 13 - 14 Amendment #1, Wildhorse, Wilson Sink and Willow Creek Reservoirs – Division Administrator Fisheries Jon Sjöberg – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider a regulation authorizing unlimited take of game fish species from Wildhorse, Wilson Sink and Willow Creek Reservoirs in Elko County through Feb. 28, 2015. Due to extremely poor winter precipitation, drought conditions and irrigation demands, Wildhorse, Wilson Sink and Willow Creek Reservoirs are expected to decline to 20 percent or less of capacity by late summer. Based on past history of these conditions in the reservoirs a significant to possibly near total die-off of trout populations is likely, with significant impacts also possible to warm-water game fish species. This regulation will maximize the opportunity for angler harvest of trout and other game fish species in the reservoirs prior to conditions likely to cause the fish kills. Public comment allowed.

Mr. Evans moved to accept to accept the Commission Regulation 13-14 Amendment #1, Wild horse, Wilson Sink, and Willow Creek Reservoirs. Seconded by Mr. Hodson, motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item 19C:**

**Commission Regulation 14 – 10, 2014 Big Game Quotas for the 2014 - 2015 Seasons - Wildlife Staff Specialists Mike Cox and Cody Schroeder – For Possible Action**

The Commission will establish regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats and black bears for the 2014-2015 seasons. Note: Support material sent separately.

Chairman Porter recommended that this board only vote on the hunt areas that are pertinent to Eureka County.

After brief discussion, Mr. Heyen moved to vote only on the hunt areas pertinent to Eureka County. Mr. Hodson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

After brief discussion, Mr. Hodson moved to approve all of the decisions on The 2014 Big Game Quota Recommendation form. Mr. Heyen seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**ECABMW Meeting Start Times**

*Review alternatives to accommodate meeting attendance by all board members. Establish a standard acceptable meeting start time that will facilitate the board members participation/schedules and minimize administrative duties requiring the ECABMW secretary to contact all members prior to each meeting to determine if a quorum will be present.*

Chairman Porter stated the ECABMW Meeting Start Times agenda item will be placed on the following meeting agenda.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date was scheduled for June 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**

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None

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Hodson and seconded by Mr. Evans. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jessica Santoyo

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman  
Lester Porter