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Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB)

Minutes

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility (Annex) on January 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Raymond Hodson, Lester Porter, and Jim Evans

Others Present: Mike Podborny-NV Department of Wildlife (NDOW), Jake Tibbitts-Eureka County Natural Resources Manager, and Jessica Santoyo-CAB Secretary

Call to order

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. a quorum was determined to be present.

Public Comment

None

Election of Officers

Elect Officers – Chair and Vice-Chair – for 2016.

Lester Porter moved that Raymond Hodson be the Chairman for 2016. Jim Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Porter moved that Mr. Evans be the Vice-Chairman for 2016. Mr. Hodson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Board Business

Review and approval of minutes-

Mr. Evans moved to approve the minutes as written from the September 14, 2015 meeting. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence and Member Reports-

None

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Projects-

Update on pinyon-juniper thinning project, wildlife guzzler installation, and other potential projects, and consider further efforts to move forward for successful implementation of projects.

Mr. Porter stated that he has been working with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on the spring projects. The BLM informed him that they can't use a Categorical Exclusion (CX) for the spring project and that they have to do an Environmental Assessment (EA). Mr. Porter stated that he is trying to find other ways to get this done and he provided BLM with EA's to other spring locations to see if that would work but he hasn't heard back since Christmas.

Jake Tibbitts stated that they have \$35,000 remaining from the Heritage Funding which needs to be spent before June 30, 2016. Mr. Tibbitts stated that he went out to Lenny Fiorenzi's place and there is more acreage available out there that is covered with little trees which could use up some of the funding.

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Mr. Porter stated down in the valley there was a chaining done by Black Point and maybe under a maintenance deal with the BLM they could get something done. Rumor has it that the chaining is coming up again.

Mr. Tibbitts state they have some options for spending the funding, in the proposal they included language on building brush fences around the springs. They could pay the contractor to take some of the cut down trees and have them build the brush fences. Mr. Tibbitts stated that he doesn't think that they could spend all of the funds on Mr. Fiorenzi's acreage.

The board agreed that the installing brush fences was a good idea to pursue and use up some of their available funds.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting Agenda and Support Material

Action Item #6:

Draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Predation Management Plan – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson-

The draft FY 2017 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review and input for submission to the Stated Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee.

Mr. Tibbitts stated the predator plan includes a Eureka County project which is Project #40: Coyote Removal to Complement Multi-faceted Management in Eureka County. Mr. Tibbitts stated that he didn't see any issues with the project. The project description just needs some language corrections such as the years that Eureka County conducted their projects. Mr. Tibbitts stated that he can submit the corrections on behalf of the board.

Mr. Porter moved to support Project #40: Coyote Removal to Complement Multi-faceted Management in Eureka County with language corrections that will be submitted by Mr. Tibbitts. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Item #7:

Commission General Regulation 456, Special Incentive Elk Arbitration Panel, LCB File No. R031-15 – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling-The Commission will consider permanent adoption of a regulation relating to amending Nevada Administrative Code 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; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. A workshop on the temporary regulation was held on March 20, 2015, and the temporary regulation was adopted on May 15, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings. An additional workshop was held on August 7, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' meeting and no further changes were made. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners adopted this regulation as a permanent regulation on September 26, 2015; however on October 27, 2015 the Legislative Commission deferred the regulation.

Mr. Porter moved to continue supporting Commission General Regulation 456, Special Incentive Elk Arbitration Panel. Mr. Evans Seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Item #8:

Commission General Regulation 458, Electronic Rifle Triggers, Caliber and cartridge length, and Smokeless Powder Restrictions, LCB File No. R144-15 – Chief Game Warden Tyler

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Turnipseed-The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code. It revise provisions relating to hunting; deleting the prohibition against using smokeless powder in a muzzle-loading firearm while hunting a big game mammal under certain circumstances; making it unlawful to use certain firearms and cartridges while hunting a big game mammal; and proving other matters properly relating thereto.

Mr. Porter moved to continue supporting Commission General Regulation 458, Electronic Rifle Triggers, Caliber and cartridge length, and Smokeless Powder Restrictions. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Item #9:

Commission General Regulation 459, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones), LCB File No. R145-15

- **Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed**-The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapters 501 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code. It revises provisions governing the use of aircraft, hot air balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles, satellites or certain other devices to locate or observe, for the purpose of hunting, a big game mammal; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Mr. Evans moved to continue supporting Commission General Regulation 459, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones). Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #18:

Commission Regulation 15 – 09 - Amendment #2 – Big Game Seasons – Division Administrator

Brian F. Wakeling-The Commission will consider Amendment #2 of the 2016 – 2017 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, specials hunt, eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics and legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quotas.

Mike Podborny stated this is the off year for season setting and they have very minimal changes. Mr. Porter asked is NDOW opening the tags up to non-residents for the money because if they are they should just let the residents have the tags.

Mr. Podborny stated that is a valid question but he doesn't know why they are doing it.

Mr. Hodson asked if they had killed more elk last year.

Mr. Podborny stated he wasn't sure because he hasn't received the data yet.

Mr. Porter stated that if the current plan isn't working he has a proposal on changing the season dates.

Mr. Podborny stated elk were killed but they don't know how many yet. It is very frustrating to set seasons without the data.

Mr. Porter moved to support Commission Regulation 15 – 09, Amendment #2, Big Game Seasons. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

*The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board would like the record to reflect that it would be good to have the harvest data available before/by the January/adjusting big game seasons meeting.

Action Item #19:

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Commission Regulation 16 – 09, Big Game Mountain Lion Harvest Limits for 2016 – 2017 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson-The commission will consider the adoption of 2016 – 2017 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission Regulation 16 – 09, Big Game Mountain Lion Harvest Limits for 2016 – 2017. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #20:

Commission Regulation 16 – 10, 2016 Black Bear Seasons – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson-The Commission will consider the adoption of 2016 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear. The Department will provide the annual hunt and population status report following the 2015 bear season.

Mr. Porter moved to approve Commission Regulation 16 – 10, Black Bears Seasons. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #21:

Commission Regulation, 16 – 03, 2017 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger-The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2017 Heritage Tag Hunt species, seasons, and quotas.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission Regulation 16 – 03, 2017 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas. Mr. Evans Seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #22:

Commission Regulation, 16 – 04, Dream Tag 2016 Seasons – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger-The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 Dream Tag seasons.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission General Regulation 16 – 04, Dream Tag 2016 Seasons. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #23:

Commission Regulation, 16 – 05, Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) 2016 Season and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger-The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 Silver State Tag Hunt Species, seasons and quotas.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission regulation 16 – 05, Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) 2016 Seasons and Quotas. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #24:

Commission Regulation, 16 – 06, Silver State Tag 2016 Season and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger-The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 Silver State Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission Regulation 16 – 06, Silver State Tag 2016 Season and Quotas. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

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Action Item #25:

Commission Regulation 16 -07, 2016 Big Game Application Deadline Information - Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger- The Commission will consider adopting language regarding the 2016 big game tag application deadline information.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission Regulation 16 – 07, 2016 Big Game Application Deadline information. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #26:

Commission Regulation 16 – 08, 2016 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger-The Commission will consider adopting language regarding the 2016 big game tag application eligibility.

Mr. Porter moved to accept Commission Regulation 16 – 08, 2016 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action item #27:

Commission General Regulation 456, Special Incentive Elk Arbitration Panel, LCB File No. R031-15 – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling-The Commissions will consider permanent adoption of a regulation relating to amending 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; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. A workshop on the temporary regulation was held on March 20, 2015, and the temporary regulation was adopted on May 15, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission meetings. An additional workshop was held on August 7, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission meeting and no further changes were made. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ adopted this regulation as a permanent regulation on September 26, 2015; however on October 27, 2015 the Legislative Commission deferred the regulation. A workshop was held yesterday, January 29, 2015, and subsection 3 on page 3 was suggested for removal by the Department. Note: See agenda item #7 for support material.

Mr. Porter moved to continue supporting Commission General Regulation 456, Special Incentive Elk Arbitration Panel. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item #28:

Potential Congressional Land Transfer to the Moapa Band of Paiutes in Southern Nevada – Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne-The Department will present a brief overview of a potential congressional land transfer and discuss possible issues with the wildlife management and public access in and around lands being considered for transfer. The Commission may choose to develop correspondence and provide input to the Congressional delegation as part of their consideration of Senate bill S. 1986.

No Recommendation.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was scheduled for March 17, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

None

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Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Porter and seconded by Mr. Evans There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____ 2016.

Respectfully submitted: _____, Secretary
Jessica Santoyo

Approved: _____, Chairman
Raymond Hodson