

Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB)

Minutes

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility (Annex) on April 26, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jim Evans, Chairman, Lester Porter, and Trent Gordon

Others Present: Jake Tibbitts, Eureka County Natural Resources Manager, Clint Garrett, Biologist NV Department of Wildlife (NDOW), and Jessica Santoyo, CAB Secretary

Call to order

Chairman Evans called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. a quorum was determined to be present.

Public Comment

None.

Board Business

Approval of the agenda notice with addition of any emergency item and/or deletion of any item.
Lester Porter moved to approve the agenda as written. Chairman Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Review and approval of minutes-

Chairman Evans moved to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2018 meeting as written. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence and Member Reports-

None.

Review and approve State Fiscal Year 2019 County Advisory Board Budget Request due May 1 to NDOW.

Jessica Santoyo stated that their current balance on hand is \$6,337.00 due to no board members attending the NV Board of Wildlife Commissioners (NBWC) meetings. The state requires that a full budget request be submitted to show that one board member will attend the meetings throughout the year regardless of the balance on hand. This year the budget request will be for \$5,652.00 which covers mileage, lodging, and per diems. The board will most likely not receive the requested funds due to their large balance on hand.

Mr. Porter moved to approve the State Fiscal Year 2019 County Advisory Board Budget Request. Chairman Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Projects

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

Jake Tibbitts stated that back in February he informed the board about applying for the Conservation District Grant. The grant only had \$90,000.00 available for disbursement and the conservation district received \$320,000.00 in requests. The conservation district also had multiple entities that were shorted on their original request and those funds were used up to fill

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those request therefore their request was not funded. The board does have \$40,000.00 budgeted for wildlife habitat projects that they can use for tree cutting or other projects.

Clint Garrett stated that he heard from the guzzler crew and they are planning to rebuild the Table Mountain Sulphur Springs guzzler soon. The details are still not set in stone but he just wanted them to be aware. They also have other projects in the works such as rebuilding the Indian Garden guzzler and the Wells Station guzzle. Over the last weekend they planted 2,000-2,500 shrubs up on Newark in the Pinto Burn so now there are 4,500 shrubs that were planted there between this year and last year, therefore that project is now complete.

Shed Antler Gathering

Discuss and consider response to letters and petitions requesting the repeal of regulation R134-17A related to shed antler gathering on public lands.

Chairman Evans stated that the board is aware of all of the public correspondence that was received regarding shed antler gathering. Mr. Evans stated that when this board provided their recommendation they were under the impression that they would have an opportunity to gather antlers during the daylight hours

Mr. Porter stated that he doesn't agree with that, he doesn't believe that they included split times in their recommendation.

Mr. Tibbitts read the board's previous recommendation regarding Shed Antler Gathering from October 2017. He explained that their recommendation was more restrictive than what was approved by the commission and legislation. The recommendation is as follows: Mr. Porter made a motion to 1) support the dates outlined in the draft regulations, 2) require shed antler collectors to hold a current NV hunting license, 3) require shed antler collectors to complete an indoctrination course for shed antler collection ethics and outlining "best management practices" for shed antler collection and be required to print out and carry a certificate of completion when collecting, 4) exempt private property owners from all shed antler collection regulations when they are on their own property; however, others accessing private property for shed antler collection should still be required to have a NV hunting license, have completed an indoctrination course online, and have documented permission from the landowner. Chairman Evans seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Evans stated that he thought they had discussed a gather window after early morning.

Mr. Garrett stated that it was recommendation in the early April workshop to have a closure on an early April date and after that it would sunrise to 10:00 a.m. timeframe where they can't collect shed antlers due to sage grouse lekking.

Mr. Tibbitts stated that the petitions and letters are asking that the NBWC follow what Utah does with shed antler gathering. In Utah, shed antler gathering is strictly discretionary because one year they can set up certain restrictions and in following year they may not set the same restrictions. Mr. Tibbitts stated that at this point it has gone all the way through the Legislative Commission which is the legal body and it has been adopted. To get this repealed it will have to go through litigation.

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After brief discussion, the board decided not to pursue sending any response to the individuals in the letters or petitions due to the fact that they are asking for a repeal and that can only be accomplished through litigation from the NBWC. If the NBWC decides to pursue litigation on the subject matter then the gameboard weigh in at that point.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting Agenda and Support Material

Agenda Item #6 – Petition – Mr. Ryan Bronson, Federal Premium Ammunition

No Recommendation.

Agenda Item # 7- Presentation of Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Predation Management Plan (Final Draft)

Mr. Porter moved to support the Presentation of Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Predation Management Plan. Chairman Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #8A- Commission General Regulation 470, Miscellaneous Petitions, LCB File No. R095-16

Mr. Porter moved to continue to support Commission General Regulation 470, Miscellaneous Petitions. Trent Gordon seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Item #8A- Commission General Regulation 474, Trap Registration, LCB File No. R038-18

Mr. Garrett stated that before Senate Bill 364 went into effect last June 2017, trappers only had to pay \$10.00 to register themselves and the traps. Now trappers have to pay to register and pay \$5.00 per trap that they set out due to SB 364 law changes. This is all a little vague right now, the NRS' do not incorporate this kind of language, and everything needs to be clarified.

Mr. Tibbitts stated that its now the law, the bill stated that they have to develop regulations and they have to charge the \$5.00.

Chairman Evans stated that he thinks they will probably try to lower the fee.

Mr. Porter stated that they could make a recommendation that this board doesn't support the \$5.00 per trap fee and they still support the trapper one time registration fee.

Mr. Porter moved to support Commission General Regulation 474, Trap Registration but they do not support the \$5.00 registration per trap fee. Mr. Gordon seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #16- Commission Regulation 18-11 Big Game Quotas for the 2018-2019 Season

Chairman Evans stated that for the last several years, this board has made a recommendation to the NBWC requesting to make Unit 14 an alternative management unit and promote a four point or better class in that area. The bucks that are being shot are in the three point or less category so obviously many bucks are being shot. They have a good population in the area but the dynamics are a bit amiss. Mr. Evans stated that he would like to get all of this going with this hunt year 2018-2019 with Unit 14 classified as an alternative management unit. Mr. Evans recommends that they act on it, make a motion, approve it, contact the Chief of Game and the NBWC to notify them of the direction that they want to go in.

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Mr. Porter stated that he has come to understand that if they label a unit an alternative management unit it means that it is a trophy hunt. Then you get all of these locations advertising/selling tags for \$40.00 and the draw odds go down. The chance that any local will ever draw that unit again go down drastically. Mr. Porter stated that this could happen and their chances of drawing will go down a lot. Their other option would be to not label it an alternative hunt and with the help of the local biologist, they can work out a 35 buck to 5 doe ratio.

After brief discussion, the board decided not to pursue an alternative management unit label for Unit 14.

The board started reviewing the 2018 Big Game Quotas.

Mr. Garrett provided a comment to the board regarding specific unit typos. Mr. Garrett let the board now that there was a typo at the State Reno office with his numbers on hunt units 132, 134, and 245.

**The CAB agreed with all the quotas but noted that there is a typo or inconsistency with the local NDOW biologist number for Unit Group 132-134, 245 and the quota should be 4, not 6. The CAB recommendation is to change to 4 for this Unit Group.*

**The board agrees with all hunt units and quotas other than the alternative recommendations made for specific units. Please see all of the alternative recommendations in the 2018 Big Game Quota Recommendations form.*

Next Meeting

The board should get any other desired agenda items to the secretary for the next meeting. **The next meeting date is scheduled for June 14, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.**

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Gordon and seconded by Mr. Porter. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____ 2018.

Respectfully submitted: _____, Secretary
Jessica Santoyo

Approved: _____, Chairman
Jim Evans