

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the June 21, 2016 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Turnipseed
Robert Rittenhouse
Chad Foster

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Cook, Vice Chairman
Craig Burnside, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeremy Drew, Chairman, Nevada Board of
Wildlife Commissioners

CALL TO ORDER

Member Turnipseed called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm and determined a quorum was present. Noted was the absence of Chairman Burnside and Vice Chairman Cook.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Member Turnipseed introduced Jeremy Drew, Chairman, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No public comment.

Since items 2 and 3i address the same subject, the Board agreed to combine the discussion of both items into one.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to approve the agenda with the stated change; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **May 10, 2016**

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRI-COUNTY WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP.

No meeting has been held.

Member Rittenhouse feels there are many activities the group could be addressing.

2. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROCESSES FOR LICENSE SIMPLIFICATION AND HARVEST MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.

3i. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE LICENSE SIMPLIFICATION STRATEGY UPDATE. The Department will provide the Commission with an update on the comparative, qualitative, and quantitative data collected regarding the formulation of the License Simplification Strategy that the Department plans to implement through the upcoming legislative session. The Department's consultant, Chase and Chase Consulting, will provide a detailed briefing on the data obtained through comparisons of license structures with other states, qualitative data collected through focus groups, and quantitative data collected through a phone survey. The Commission may choose to provide the Department with guidance on license structure, strategy, and associated costs. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18*)

Jeremy Drew, Chairman, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, explained focal groups have been established around the state to discuss license consolidation and simplification and phone surveys are taking place. The Commission is slated to receive an update at the next meeting.

Member Foster compared Arizona's license structure with Nevada's current license structure. He requested information on the amount of revenue being generated under the current Nevada license structure. With a restructuring he would like to keep the revenues as close to where they are now or perhaps raised a little without outpricing any sportsman.

Chairman Jeremy Drew offered to provide the handouts he has received to Member Foster. Each of the categories will be assessed to see how much interest there is in each category and how much revenue is made off each of the stamps. The recommendations that will be developed will be as revenue neutral as possible, similar to what was done in Arizona.

Member Foster asked if lifetime fishing and hunting licenses are being considered and Chairman Jeremy Drew stated it has probably come up at the focal groups but no recommendations have been made at this time. Member Foster feels lifetime licenses could result in a large revenue increase. Chairman Jeremy Drew wondered if that would truly be revenue neutral because it frontloads and you would not want to spend all the frontloaded money and cost yourself more money on the back end.

Member Foster does not want to see changes that would bring the revenues down but fee structure changes could result in decreased administrative costs. Chairman Jeremy Drew said the Arizona changes were revenue neutral; their price came down slightly but sales volume increased. Member Foster would like to see Nevada's youth tags lowered so it gives the youth the opportunity to become interested in hunting and hopefully they will continue to hunt as adults.

Member Rittenhouse asked if the stamps would be affected and Chairman Jeremy Drew stated state stamps will be discussed. He pointed out that any fee schedule changes or license simplification will require a legislative bill.

No public comment.

The Board decided to take no action and let the process continue to unfold.

3. **The following items, 3a through 3r, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meeting, June 24 & 25, 2016, at the Great Basin College, 1500 College Parkway, Greenhaw Technical Arts (GTA) Building, Room 130, Elko, Nevada. The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may take the following action, or a variation thereof, on each item: support the item, not support the item or not take a position on the item. Public Comment will be allowed on each item.**

3a–3r. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON DUCK STAMP REQUEST. The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from duck stamp funds. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 6*)

The projects submitted were reviewed.

Member Rittenhouse questioned the transfer of \$6780 from Upland Game Stamp to Duck Stamp. He encouraged the Commission to leave the monies generated by each stamp in the fund for which the sportsman paid and not reallocate them to other funds. Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, explained how the food plots projects benefit quail and dove so the use of that funding source is appropriate.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of item 3a; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON UPLAND GAME BIRD STAMP REQUEST. The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for upland game bird stamp funds. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7*)

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, noted the significant contributions made by the Carson Valley Chukar Club.

Member Foster was glad to see that grants are aggressively being pursued and the outcome has been successful.

No public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Foster to accept the recommendations as stated for the Upland Game Stamp; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S FISCAL YEAR 2017 COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD BUDGET REQUESTS. The Commission may approve budgets for County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife for fiscal year 2017. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 8B*)

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, explained the process used for budget approval.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval for 3c as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 NDOW BIENNIAL BUDGET. The Commission may make recommendations to the Department for the biennial budget request. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 8C*)

No public comment.

Since there was no supporting material provided, the Board opted to take no action.

3e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE WILDLIFE HERITAGE COMMITTEE'S HERITAGE PROJECT EXTENSION REQUESTS. Pursuant to NAC 501.340, the Commission will review committee recommendations and may approve requests for extension of projects approved in previous years. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9A 1*)

No public comment.

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, explained that projects sometimes take longer than expected to complete so an extension is provided as long as the project is still active.

Since there was no supporting material provided, the Board opted to take no action.

3f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE WILDLIFE HERITAGE COMMITTEE'S HERITAGE FUNDING REALLOCATION. The Commission will review committee recommendations and may approve reallocation of unused Heritage funds from previously approved projects to any other previously approved projects from the same fiscal year. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9A 2*)

No public comment.

Since there was no supporting material provided, the Board opted to take no action.

3g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE HERITAGE COMMITTEE'S FISCAL YEAR 2017 HERITAGE PROJECT PROPOSALS. The Commission will hear the recommendations from the Heritage Committee and may take action to approve 2017 project applications for funding. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9A 3*)

The Board reviewed the project proposals.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of 3g as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 1, GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMISSION. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 1, General Guidelines for the Commission, and may take action as recommended by the APRP Committee. Recommendations include editorial changes from the May committee and Commission meetings, changes to reflect current practices and standards, including a section on Commission record-keeping, and spacing the number of a Commission Policy's "first and second readings" from one meeting to the next before a change to a policy is adopted. This is the final reading to adopt revisions to Commission Policy 1. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 17*)

No public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Foster to support 3h; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3i. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE LICENSE SIMPLIFICATION STRATEGY UPDATE. The Department will provide the Commission with an update on the comparative, qualitative, and quantitative data collected regarding the formulation of the

License Simplification Strategy that the Department plans to implement through the upcoming legislative session. The Department's consultant, Chase and Chase Consulting, will provide a detailed briefing on the data obtained through comparisons of license structures with other states, qualitative data collected through focus groups, and quantitative data collected through a phone survey. The Commission may choose to provide the Department with guidance on license structure, strategy, and associated costs. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18*)

This item was heard in conjunction with Item 2 on this agenda. Please refer to the discussion under item 2.

3j. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON SUSTAINING AMERICA'S DIVERSE FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES. The Commission will consider and may approve a resolution of support for the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel that Congress dedicate reliable annual funding from existing revenue towards implementation of the State's Wildlife Action Plan and state delivered conservation. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 19*)

Member Rittenhouse expressed support for this concept but he questioned the funding source. Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, said the panel is looking to the federal level for funding instead of taxing the sportsmen. A federal excise tax was considered but is not the preferred option. An energy and mineral resource royalty fund was identified as a potential source for funding the state's Wildlife Action Plans and the companies that pay this royalty support using the monies for the conservation of wildlife. If that fund is used, the state would have to come up with the match. The panel has suggested the match could be tiered over the years until the 25% match is reached. The Commission drafted the Resolution to convey their support of the findings of the Blue Ribbon Panel.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of 3j as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3k. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT OF BIENNIAL FISCAL YEARS 2016 AND 2017 UPLAND GAME RELEASE PLAN. The Commission will hear a request to amend the Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 to consider additional release locations for wild turkeys. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 20*)

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, talked about the success of the turkey population in the Great Basin National Park. Since hunting is not allowed in the Park, the proposal is capture the excess population and place them in the Snake Mountain Range since they are already acclimated to local conditions.

No public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Foster to accept item 3k as written; carried with Burnside and

Cook absent.

3l. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 16-13, 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS. The Commission will establish regulations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for upland game birds, rabbits, wild turkey, furbearers, and falconry seasons for 2016 – 2017 and 2017– 2018 seasons. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 21)*

Member Foster supports the youth age and youth season proposals.

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, explained the summary sheet is missing the additional seasons being proposed for the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area and the closure of the turkey in 192.

Member Rittenhouse asked if the habitat will support the changes and Member Turnipseed thought so since NDOW makes conservative decisions. Chairman Jeremy Drew said the changes are based on good production last year and anticipated good production this year.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of 3l as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3m. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 16-03 AMENDMENT #1, 2017 HERITAGE TAG SEASONS AND QUOTAS, HERITAGE TAGS ORGANIZATION/VENDOR SELECTION. The Commission will consider selection of the 2017 Heritage Tag vendors/organization recommendations; and will also consider language changes associated with the sealed bid process to potentially address any outstanding Heritage tags not allocated to vendors. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 22)*

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, explained the sealed bid process and the vendor allocation process.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of 3m as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3n. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 458, ELECTRONIC RIFLE TRIGGERS, CALIBER AND CARTRIDGE LENGTH, AND SMOKELESS POWDER RESTRICTIONS, LCB FILE NO. R144-15. The Commission will consider amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code. The proposed regulation amendment contains several changes. The first change will clarify the use of black powder substitutes that are considered smokeless powder. The second change would make it legal to hunt big game mammals with a handgun if the handgun uses a centerfire cartridge of .22 or larger [and has a barrel length of 4 inches or more]. The third

change would make it unlawful to hunt a big game mammal with a rifle using a centerfire cartridge of caliber .50 or larger or case length longer than 3 inches. The amendment would also make it unlawful to hunt a big game mammal with any firearm equipped with any sighting system using a computer or electronically controlled firing mechanism.

Two workshops have been held on this regulation change; one on January 29, 2016 and one on March 25, 2016. The Commission directed the Department to change “3.8 inches overall loaded length” to “3 inches case length”, change “.46 caliber” to “.50 caliber”, change the minimum legal handgun cartridge to “caliber .22 or larger”, and change “electronic or computer controlled trigger” to “sighting system using a computer or electronically controlled firing mechanism.” (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 23*)

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, pointed out the inconsistency between the agenda description and the actual regulation language regarding caliber and cartridge length. The correct language” a rifle centerfire cartridge that is not smaller than .22 or larger than .50.”

Member Foster talked about a scenario where a person who does not have any motor functions to move limbs but likes to hunt and he asked if there would be exceptions available for the electronic triggering systems for those persons. Chairman Jeremy Drew said a member of the public has proposed language to exempt any handicapped systems that are typically used and discussion to consider that should occur. While Member Foster wants to ensure people who are able do not use triggering systems, he does not want to exclude them for the people who need them in order to be able to hunt. If a person is not capable of pulling the trigger, then they need to be able to use something else. He would like to see a mechanism in place to be able to apply for a complete exemption or special circumstances.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to accept the recommendation of 3n as written in the regulation and not as written in the agenda description; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3o. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 459, UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES (DRONES), LCB FILE NO. R145-15. The Commission will consider amending Chapters 501 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code. The proposed regulation amendment contains several changes. The first change would make the prohibition of using aerial devices for the purpose of hunting and scouting from July 1 to the last day of February each calendar year rather than the current prohibition of 48-hours prior to and during any open season. The second change is to clarify existing language that prohibits the use of unmanned aerial vehicles for the purpose of hunting, locating, or observing big game animals. The changes would extend aerial scouting prohibitions and clarify the existing regulation by explicitly listing unmanned aerial vehicles. The third change is to clarify real-time satellite images. The proposed amendment would also add game birds and fur-bearing mammals to the aerial scouting and hunting prohibition.

Two workshops have been held on this regulation change; one on January 29, 2016 and one on March 25, 2016. The Commission directed the Department to add “game birds and fur-bearing mammals” to the season closure on aerial scouting and hunting, change the closure dates to say July 1 to the last day of February each calendar year, and to add and define the term “real-time” to clarify satellite imagery. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 24*)

Member Rittenhouse asked about enforcement for “casual information.” Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, stated the ranching and agriculture representative expressed concerns about inventorying/monitoring cattle and LCB has stated that as long as the private property owner is not flying for the purposes of hunting then they are exempt.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval for 3o as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3p. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 460, DEFINITION OF “SPIKE ELK”, LCB FILE NO. R013-16. The Commission will consider adopting amendments to 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 and further discussion on the proposed amendment occurred in Reno on May 14, 2016. The Commission amended the version of language for consideration at the June meeting that defines "spike" as any antlered elk having no more than two points above the top of the ear on either antler. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 25*)

Member Rittenhouse feels this is very clear.

No public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Foster to approve 3p as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3q. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 461, INDUSTRIAL ARTIFICIAL POND PERMITS (IAP), LCB FILE NO. R014-16. The Commission will consider adopting regulation changes relating to 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.

A workshop was held in Reno on May 13, 2016, where the Commission asked that

the following language be added to Section 8 "...specifications for the design of any facility associated with the artificial or artificially created body of water according to the highest applicable payment tier within any of the following schedules:" This language was added to provide clarity that only the maximum amount found in any one of the applicable tiers will be assessed and that calculation will not be additive. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 26*)

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, stated a representative from the mining industry has reviewed this and is comfortable with it. A discussion took place on the fee schedule.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of 3q as written; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

3r. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 462, ISSUING AND VERIFYING HULL NUMBERS OF VESSELS, LCB FILE NO. R015-16. The Commission will consider the adoption of regulation changes to address federal regulatory changes the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has requested states to implement pertaining to hull numbers for vessels and the verification and issuance of these numbers; the processing of certificate of number applications for vessels to include language definitions, standardization of terminology regarding vessels and personal identification information of owners.

In order to receive federal matching funds associated with the Dingle Johnson Act, all states report vessel information annually to the USCG. In an effort to modernize and standardize their vessel database information, which the USCG collects from all of the states, the USCG amended federal law. This federal change standardizes terminology across all of the states and provides direction regarding the method that states assign and verify hull numbers. Ultimately, these federal changes are expected to improve state reporting. As a result the Department must amend state regulation to implement this standardization effort in order to meet the USCG reporting requirements. These changes must be implemented by Jan. 1, 2017. A workshop was held in Reno on March 13, 2016. The Department provided several cleanup language changes, which were accepted by the Commission. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 27*)

Member Foster asked if the Coast Guard provided input on this. Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, said they had reviewed the original draft but the Department made changes to it and those were provided to the Coast Guard for comment.

No public comment.

MOTION by Foster/Rittenhouse to recommend approval of 3r as written with the changes; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

Member Turnipseed stated he provided input on the regulation being written regarding trail cameras.

Member Rittenhouse would like to see a better effort made to encourage citizens to attend and participate in CAB meetings. A suggestion was made to publish a notice in the local paper prior to each meeting and Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, stated he would look into whether the CAB budget monies could be used to pay for that. Chairman Jeremy Drew talked about the efforts made by the Commission to encourage people to attend the CAB meetings.

5. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE MAY 13 &14, 2016 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, updated the Board on the actions taken on:

- Approval of annual predation management plan
- Approval of Humboldt County Elk Plan
- Quotas-there were no changes to Douglas County

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO ATTEND UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS AND TO REPRESENT THE FINDINGS OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD. ONE MEMBER WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD.

Member Rittenhouse will attend the Elko meeting.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 9, 2016.

Chairman Jeremy Drew, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, asked the CABs to provide input on topics that could be discussed at the upcoming CAB Workshop.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Tri County Wildlife Working Group

- Making shotgun a legal weapon for bear

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

MOTION by Rittenhouse/Foster to adjourn the meeting; carried with Burnside and Cook absent.

There being no further business to come before the DCABMW, the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

The minutes of the June 21, 2016 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 9th day of August, 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig Burnside, Chairman