

## **LYON COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

Hillyard Hall  
2945 Ft. Churchill Street  
Silver Springs, NV 89429

**Monday, January 22, 2018**  
**MINUTES**

1. Call to order
  - Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.
  - Members Present: Jessie Weller, Rob Jacobson, Walt Mandeville, Wes Clyde
  - Staff Present: Jessica Smith
  - Guests: Isaac Metcalf, MVWMA Kris Bragg, NDOW Jason Salisbury, NDOW
2. Pledge of Allegiance
  - No action taken.
3. For Possible Action: Approval of minutes
  - Jessie moved to approve the minutes of October 30, 2017; Walt offered a second. The vote was called for and passed; 4-0 unanimous.
4. Public participation: It is anticipated that public participation will be held at this time, though it may be returned to at any time during the agenda. Citizens wishing to speak during public participation are asked to state their name for the record and will be limited to 3 minutes. The Board will conduct public comment after discussion of each agenda action item, but before the Board takes any action.
  - Rob stated his wife had a Desert Bighorn Sheep tag in Area 211 and it was the most fun hunt he has been on. Rob thanked the guzzler crew, NDOW, and the sportsman groups for the work they do.
5. Update by Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area (No action will be taken)
  - Update by Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area: Isaac provided an update on what is planted. For the 2017 waterfowl season, there were roughly 320 acres of wheat including standing, new planting, and harvested; 440 acres of alfalfa which the farmer lost most of due to high water; 100 acres were fallow including B13-15. For the 2018 waterfowl season, there will be over 50% of wheat. Fields NV11, B2, B12-13, and Sceirine 6 & 7 will be harvested wheat. Fields B11 and B14-15 will be onions then new wheat for waterfowl season. Harvested wheat fields in NV10 and B1 with B4&5 needing work still. Aquatic vegetation included planting millets and smart weed in Goldeneye but neither took and alkali bull rush grew naturally. Bufferhead and Pintail were awesome ponds in 2017, and won't be planted with millets this year but will be allowed to grow native then will be mowed. Sceirine and Upper Pintail will be planted with aquatic millets. Woodduck, Muskrat and Sceirine are hard to keep full of water after the irrigation season; they are fed by the Little SAB. Mallard will stay the same with native alkali bull rush and swamp timothy. 2018 grazing will be from Mallard to Diver this year. Food plots are being changed up this year; more wheat will be incorporated instead of planting millet in the middle with sunflower and

sorghum around the edges. Ducks Unlimited will be out this summer doing pond leveling. The SAB ditch is done except one culvert; it took every day for three months and with the help of David Little's helpers and Ed Moreda, it is completed. All of the roads north of Miller are passable; with the exception of a few possible side roads. All gates will be open on February 5<sup>th</sup> and on February 15<sup>th</sup> the east side pond area will close. Jason Salisbury confirmed that some alfalfa fields died; Isaac advised Sceirine 6 & 7 were lost due to the water going over Miller Lane. Isaac mentioned that he would like to have a public meeting to explain how the water system works within the WMA, what to expect in the upcoming season, and how to find the wildlife.

6. Advisory Board Items for discussion (No action will be taken)

- Jessie has talked to multiple hunters regarding elk hunts in Area 6 & 7. He stated he has heard negative feedback regarding the amount of tags, amount of hunters and the lack of bulls. Kris stated he had heard the opposite; there were lots of bulls and no cows. Jason stated the biggest issue in the Elko area is the caps and until the numbers are adjusted to a higher number, there isn't much anyone can do. Walt stated they are locked into specific population size. Jason explained there is a carrying capacity in each area and it is opening a can of worms if the Commission were to reassess the plans. Jessie questioned how the unit capacity is calculated; Jason advised it has to do with when the elk were initially established and agreements were made with ranchers. Rob stated a person contacted him with frustration regarding the Santa Rosas. Jason stated based on the collared data, the elk are moving all over the place. Jason stated NDOW is creating subcommittees for elk plans to bring people together to discuss options. Walt questioned whether the reintroduction of elk on the West Walker has been discussed. Jason stated Mineral County discussed the option in 2016, but nothing came to fruition.

7. For Possible Action: on any/all Nevada Wildlife Commission Agenda items for their meeting in August (Action may be taken).

- #13B Commission General Legislation 440, Trail Cameras and Other Devices: Rob had a couple people chat with him regarding the 200' & 300' distance and questioned what the purpose was as if you are within 200', the animals wouldn't stay around anyway. The people thought that if the cameras were not allowed during the season, it would help to avoid harassing wildlife and messing with a hunt. Rob questioned Kris on how the enforcement would work and if it would be difficult. Kris stated he was not sure what impact it would have on enforcement and he recalled that the Commission was trying to prohibit the cameras during the hunting season last time. Jason stated Arizona is trying to implement a rule that says the camera has to be either 200' or 200 yards from a water hole, but he is not sure of the progress. Kris stated the regulation would add more for them to look at. Jason asked for clarification on the language; Jessie stated they held a workshop and are currently at prohibiting use within 300' from January 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> and prohibiting use of any trail cameras from August 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. The Commission is considering adoption and/or amending the regulation to 200' during the hunting season and prohibiting the use of transmitting. Rob questioned if the penalty would include

- demerits; Kris was not aware of any enforcement information so far. Jessie stated he was in support of restricting the use of trail cameras during the hunting season and does not care to see them within 200' of the water hole; they should be restricted entirely during the hunting season. Walt clarified that there are two different types of cameras being considered. He stated there are people who enjoy going out and viewing wildlife, but the ones that are not following the rules are ruining it for everyone. Jason stated the majority of the problem is on the East side of the state where people from other states are inundating the areas with cameras. Walt stated the regulation is not intended to restrict professionals; Jason stated the perception of who has a right to have a camera set up will create problems and will make the regulation harder to enforce. Jessie stated the regulation would allow for cameras to be set up at 300' during the off season but that would create problems too; there would be posts at 300' and multiple cameras will be set at that line. The distance requirement would not necessarily reduce harassing wildlife because people will still go to the water hole on foot to look for tracks and those who have multiple cameras will set them all around the location at the exact distance allowed. Jessie made a motion to advise the Commission to prohibit trail cameras regardless of the distance during the hunting season and be allowed on a water hole during the off season of January 1<sup>st</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>; Wes offered a second. The vote was called for and passed unanimously 4-0.
- #13A Commission General Regulation 475, Shed Antlers: Rob stated he was at the last meeting where the question was raised on whether there was a problem with just letting the sheds dissolve into the ground and no one gets them. Jason stated that regardless of the regulation, there will always be people who disobey; there is big money in sheds and people line up looking for them. Rob stated there is a lot of support for the regulation from White Pine, Lincoln and the west side of the state; especially since people from out of state are showing up more and more. Jessie questioned what kind of punishment would be enforced; Kris stated it is already hard to find someone in the act of harassing wildlife, so he is not certain how the enforcement would go. The Forest Service is up for helping the game wardens and they reciprocate the help, but it is still hard to enforce if no one is in the right spot at the right time. Jessie stated something needs to be done, especially in Lincoln and White Pine counties, but instead of starting more restrictive, he would like to see fewer restrictions to start and increase as needed. Jessie advised he is more in support of the April 1<sup>st</sup> date rather than April 15<sup>th</sup> and would like to see no time restriction for hiking. Jason questioned the time restriction; Jessie advised he believed it was because of the Sage Hen. Jason stated the time restriction would be hard to enforce because people will get far away from their vehicle and may be on the way back after sunset. Wes questioned whether he could pick up a shed while chukar hunting in January; Rob clarified that if it is after December 31<sup>st</sup> or before April 1<sup>st</sup>, no sheds could be picked up. Jessie made a motion to advise the Commission that the Lyon County Wildlife Advisory Board would like to see the seasons and restrictions be less restrictive and instead of April 15<sup>th</sup> as the opener, would like to see the opener as April 1<sup>st</sup> and not include hours of limitation; Walt offered a second. The vote was called for and passed unanimously 4-0.

8. Public participation: It is anticipated that public participation will be held at this time, though it may be returned to at any time during the agenda. Citizens wishing to speak during public participation are asked to state their name for the record and will be limited to 3 minutes. The Board will conduct public comment after discussion of each agenda action item, but before the Board takes any action.

- Rob requested clarification on the license simplification; is someone from out of state required to get an upland game stamp? Kris advised his understanding is that all stamps have been done away with. Isaac stated his understanding is the stamps are not required until next season. Jason questioned whether a license was still needed for trapping; Kris confirmed a license is needed. Jason confirmed that federal duck stamps are still required. Walt questioned whether a license was still needed for a big game draw; Kris confirmed a license is needed.

9. Adjourn.

- Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.
- Next meeting scheduled for February 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. – Silver Springs Community Center.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_