

LYON COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

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

Monday, June 25, 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
 - Members Absent: None
 - Guests Present: Joe Crawford
 - Staff Present: Jessica Smith

2. Pledge of Allegiance
 - No action taken.

3. For Possible Action: Approval of minutes
 - Jessie moved to approve the minutes of April 26, 2018; Rob 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.
 - Joe requested to know if there were any updates on Project 36; Jessie advised he had not received any updates and would follow up on the topic. Rob is planning to attend the next Commission meeting and ask for updates. Rob stated he asked a Department member who advised the pictures are public domain once they are turned into the Department. Jessie stated the concern is that Project 36 is on the sportsman's dime and then being used against them.

5. Update by Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area (No action will be taken)
 - Isaac stated they have planted 150 acres of weed millets and sunflowers and Saroni 4 & 5 are almost done being rebuilt. Ducks Unlimited are coming out to level ponds; Bufflehead was dry last year and will be leveled out this year prior to September 7. Future plans are to level out Skaup with the next NOCA grant. MVWMA put in for funding for leveling Ringneck. Hopefully Skaup down to Ringneck will be leveled out within a year. The WMA received a laser level and a scraper donated by Walker Basin Conservancy and that helped with the maintenance this year. Other than regular maintenance, 2 food plots were leveled and next year will be the milled plots. Isaac reported that Westergard in Tulon is full. There is still some water coming out of the Army drain but it is slowing down. Walt questioned what is meant by leveling

off the different ponds. Isaac advised the 10-foot water sections are now going to be 2-foot sections, so the pond will be 2 feet across the ponds. With the decree decreasing, the intent is to spread water out more. Rob questioned whether there was trouble with white top; Isaac stated white top is the primary assignment for the seasonal employee. Jessie questioned the state of the goose ponds; Isaac stated the pits are good. The Bolster unit is good as well. Fields 11, 14 and 15 have onions right now but after harvest will be new wheat; Field 12 is corn and then wheat after the harvest. Jessie questioned the draw process; Isaac stated it is a first come first serve basis. The current lease holder is trying to work with the hunters by planting corn even though he has no use for it. The hunt should be good this year. Isaac stated the west ponds are difficult to keep full as the decree ceases. Isaac would like to do a meeting regarding water rights and hunts possibly the second week of August to inform the public. Jessie questioned the fishing; Isaac stated its not too great.

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

- Walt stated he attended the last meeting. The turkey ammunition topic passed. The \$5 per trap topic was liked at the Commission. Walt stated the fee is too much, especially if a youth wants to go out and trap muskrats. Jessie stated that topic is on the agenda again and we can talk about it under the agenda item.
- Jessie stated we were approved for approximately half of what was requested for the budget; requested \$2700 and were preliminarily recommended \$1300. It is enough to be reimbursed for our meetings.
- Jessie stated the new draw system and website went smoothly. He has heard mostly positive comments.

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

- Walt advised NDOW is requesting a lot of money in the budget.
- #10 Regulation 474, Trap Registration: Walt stated he would like to see a set fee for a trapper to register his/her traps; not a fee per trap, but a fee per trapper. The trapper would be given a number that would need to be on each of the traps. Jessie stated that is how it currently is. Rob questioned if he would have to register a live trap to catch feral cats; the way the registration reads, the traps would need to be registered. Jessie states it seems to be a money grab. Rob stated the regulation is against the simplification effort the Department is trying to achieve. Wes stated it is an administrative issue; in the past it was required by the individual to stamp or directly attach the number to the trap or snare. The Department is now issuing a metallic tag with the number on it. Jessie stated it should be the trapper's responsibility to attach the number to each trap. Wes disagrees with the \$5 per trap tax. Jessie questioned whether the Department inspects the trap or just charges the \$5 per emblem. Walt stated the Game Warden will check each trap; Rob advised the process does not seem feasible- will a Game Warden have to check each and every trap if a trapper has 200 traps? Joe questioned if the fee is a one-time fee or a permanent fee. Joe stated it is an unfair regulation and is biased against trappers. Joe advised he believes it is not science based but opinion based in effort to

- eliminate traps. Wes agrees; dogs are being walked in the trapping areas and are getting caught in the traps and the Department wants to track who the trapper is. Jessie advised it will be like any other regulation- there will be the ones who follow the rules and are punished for it, and there will continually be the ones who refuse to follow the rules and get away with it. Walt made a motion that the Lyon County Wildlife Advisory Board does not support Commission Regulation 474 \$5 per trap fee; Wes offered a second. The vote was called for and all were in favor. The motion passed.
- #8b Heritage Project Extension: Rob stated it is ironic that the Department is wanting to charge extra fees when they have to ask for extensions on projects that they already have money for. Jessie suggested to Isaac that heritage money should be looked into for the big game at the WMA. Isaac stated he receives duck stamp and upland game money. Rob thought the WMA could benefit from the Heritage money for updated machinery. Isaac stated he does receive donated guzzlers from old projects.
 - #18 Duck Stamp Procedure: Rob stated the Department is doing away with the art contest. Jessie advised NDOW wants to go with an electronic stamp and the actual stamp is going away.
 - #8 Heritage Committee Report: Jessie advised it appears the Department is eliminating a few sage grouse areas and are shortening seasons. Rob stated the changes are due to fires and lower approved numbers. Jessie agrees with the biologists on the subject. The limit is being lifted for trout on the Reese River; Rob advised they are going to plant cutthroat. Joe questioned whether there are native fish in the river such as brown trout. Jessie advised browns, brooks, and rainbows are not native. Rob believes the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout are endangered and are being reintroduced into the river.
 - Jessie stated he does not like to see money left in projects and extensions being requested year after year. If the money is in the account, the project needs to progress. Joe questioned whether the Department is waiting for contractor bids; Jessie advised some of the projects are as simple as getting seed into the ground.
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- Joe reiterated that the \$5 per trap fee is biased against trappers; they are already paying a fee to access public lands and harvest animals. Additional funds should not be needed. The fee would create a burden and shows an opening for other species. Rob stated anything a tag is put on something, it makes it so the tag can be easily removed. Joe's concern is how the information is going to be distributed to the public; are there going to be protestors in front of houses? Jessie questioned whether there is a sealing process in place; Joe stated there is a sealing process and the sportsman is already paying for sealing.

9. Adjourn.

- The next Commission meeting is in Dyer; Rob will be attending on Friday.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.
- Next meeting scheduled for August 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. – Silver Springs Community Center.

Approved: _____
Chair

Date: _____

