

Meeting of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Wednesday – March 18, 2015

6:00 PM MEETING ROOM, HAWTHORNE FIRE HOUSE

Present: Glenn Bunch, Chairman
Billie Williams Jr.
Wayne Larson
Johnny Peterson
Darren Hamrey

Marlene Bunch, Recording Secretary

Absent: None

Also Present: No public members in attendance

Meeting was called to order at the duly stated time of 6:00 PM.

Petition – Don Molde and Fred Voltz – The Board will discuss for recommendation to the commission relative to the petition submitted by Don Molde and Fred Voltz requesting that the Commission take action to ban coyote killing contests in Nevada. The Commission may accept the petition and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition.

Chairman Bunch gave an update as to the process the Wildlife Commission takes in regards to a petition submitted to them. Discussion of the subject was entertained by the Board. There have been a couple of the coyote contest in the County and therefore it concerns the local enthusiasts that the hunts may be discontinued.

The petition was read into record.

Darren Hamrey: Has two considerations. 1. They are an unprotected species. And 2. we pay into a predator control on our license. Why do we need to outlaw a species that is already in the predator control.

Johnny Peterson: It's like mother nature. You take more out they will produce more. If the food is available mother nature puts it into their system and they make more pups.

One thing they would mess up is the tamarisk, they have the larvae grow in them and the cocoon forms and develops, then mice dig them up and eat them and Coyotes eat the mice. It's the way nature works and we shouldn't interfere with the food chain.

Billie Williams: It's the same as a fishing derby. They have a contest to go take the fish out of the water. The fish are there and we catch them. The coyotes are there and we hunt them.

Johnny Peterson, stated they took the pelts and turned over the people with trappers license. They weren't wasted.

Board concurs to take a stand against the petition.

Commission General Regulation 453 – LCB File No. R113-14 – First Come First Serve Bonus Point Program The Board will make recommendation to the Commission to consider a regulation relating to wildlife; regarding making an exception in the bonus point program and not have the loss of bonus points occur in the bonus point categories if the applicant is successful in the “first come, first serve” draw for a tag; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Chairman Bunch explains the drawing first come first serve.

Discussion of elk tags the DELK tags and first come first serve tags.

Consensus of the Board is that if they get an elk they should lose their bonus point and we are **Not** in support of the regulation. The tag is a tag whether you draw it first round or not.

Any further discussion on the March 20 & 21 Department of Wildlife Commission Agenda

SJR 11 Right to hunt and fish in Nevada was discussed. No decision.

SB130 The one where they want to make it a Division of Natural Resources instead of a Dept of Wildlife. Chairman Bunch gave an update of when this was tried in 1997 to 2003. The Division took the helicopters and drove them until there was nothing left of them. They needed repairs and the Division did not have the money to keep the up. The Department had to build up the money to purchase them again. Now the Division wants the money and the resources that the Department has at the hunters expense.

Also a change in the Advisory board to be appointed by the Governor instead of by the County Commissioners. And that won't work either. All the Division sees is the money. The money that is generated by the hunters should be left to maintain the Department of Wildlife and not the Division of Natural Resources. Bad move. Do not support. Tried once and it failed. Not in support of it again.

Johnny Peterson – What happened with the bow hunters carrying pistols? He was advised it passed. Chairman Bunch gave an update on how and why it is to the hunters favor.

Public Comment

Discussion of water development for guzzlers in south part of county.

Johnny Peterson: Reported on a recent visit to Rose Creek by NDOW staff. They counted 400 fry and 400 tagged in Rose Creek Reservoir. Went up the next day and never caught one from the day before. Counted total of 2,610. Comes under urban pond. The base will open Rose Creek Reservoir to the public. He will be meeting with plant manager next week. When we get an SOP we will go over it with those (NDOW) people. Once approved it will open up to the public.

Glenn Bunch: NFWF update from a meeting last week. Right now as of last week, they have enough money to buy enough water to bring the lake back. If the judge will ever move on the bill it will be back in 10 years. It's tied up in court. Judge Jones must get in gear and make the decision.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM