

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife
Thursday, April 14, 2016, 7:00 PM

MEETING ROOM, HAWTHORNE FIRE HOUSE

Present: Glenn Bunch, Chairman
Billie Williams Jr., Johnny Peterson, Wayne Larson
Marlene Bunch, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Jason Salisbury NDOW
Dennis Bunch

Absent: Darren Hamrey

1. Discussion and Appropriate action relative to supporting the initiative for the introduction of Elk to Mineral County.

Glenn Bunch gave update of history of what has happened to date relative to the introduction of elk to Mineral County. He also informed those present with the request needed by NDOW. Through discussion he felt we should have an official action from this board.

In a meeting Glenn was at 2 weeks ago it was mentioned that there is a plan for Humboldt County. However, the ranchers in Humboldt County don't want them there. Jason stated though that they (Humboldt County Ranchers) have not proven that they have not lost any AUM's because of the elk.

Glenn spoke with the Lt. Col. Gregory Gibbons of the Hawthorne Army Depot about signing on to obtaining elk in Mineral County. Not necessarily just Mt. Grant, but Mineral County in general. The Colonel stated he is all for the introduction.

Jason stated that he would be supportive of it. Jason brought a copy of the environmental assessment from 1992, Rocky Mountain Elk Release Plan of 1992 and copy of Ltr from Dept of the Army dated 8-18-1994. Most of the work has already been done once and can use it to help complete the required process for a new release. We would first have to get a sub-plan going. There was discussion of where the elk will move once in the county. You have to start somewhere.

Glenn said we need an official action from the Advisory Board to forward a letter to the Commissioners at their meeting next week, April 20, 2016. Glenn read into record a draft of a letter he proposes to forward to the Board of Commissioners for their backup documentation.

Discussion of elk in other areas of the State and the numbers present in those areas.

Discussion of 1994 when Mineral County was pursuing elk introduction.

**Johnny Peterson moved and Wayne Larson seconded to approve the letter to go to the Commissioners in support of elk in Mineral County. Motion Carried unanimous.
1 member, Darren Hamrey absent.**

Public Comment: Jason Salisbury brought maps to show those present of Sheep for the Gillis Range. Discussion only of the maps and areas the sheep have moved to.

Meeting Adjourned 7:34 PM