

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife
Monday, September 19, 2016, 6:30 PM

MEETING ROOM, HAWTHORNE FIRE HOUSE

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

Also Present: Dennis Bunch

Absent: None

Meeting opened and noted that the meeting was properly noticed

Correspondence

Glenn Bunch read into record the letter from Mineral County Sportsman's Club relative to Item 1 on the Agenda, "NDOW Guidelines for Harvest Management in Nevada" dated September 5, 2016. This will be taken into consideration during the agenda item # 1.

1. **Nevada Department of Wildlife, Guidelines for Harvest Management in Nevada.** The Board will provide the Department their suggestions for discussions of the updates on the status and process of refining the draft harvest guide lines for consideration by the commission. The Department will provide a briefing on feedback received at public meetings held on August 24 – 26 and September 6 – 7, 2016 in Ely, Elko, Winnemucca, Las Vegas, and Reno. The Commission may provide the Department with direction regarding further development. The Department intends to provide the commission with a final briefing on the Harvest Guidelines at their meeting in November.

The following information was supplied by e-mail to the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife and was not provided in the support material packet for the September 23, September 24, 2016 Commission Meeting.

Glenn reported to the board that there was a group from the Department that went to meetings around the state. From that they compiled data to present to the board. He Shared the information with the Board and with the Mineral County Sportsman's Club. They, in turn, provided a letter in opposition to the proposed changes.

Glenn also reported on the Reno meeting on September 7 and gave a report of the actions that evening.

Any Legal Weapon Hunt # 2151

- a. Pronghorn Antelope Page 7 Standard Season
Area 202 & 204 For 2017 They recommend change to Aug 26 – Sep 7
We recommend no change of our Oct 15 to Oct 30-
Does not want the changed date and wants to stay same as 2016

Our Late Season they recommend Sep 25 – Oct 4

We recommend no change of our Oct 15 to Oct 30-
Does not want the changed date and wants to stay same as 2016

Area 205 to 208 Recommended Aug 26 to Sept 7
We recommend staying with the current Aug 22 to Sept 7
They chopped off 4 days and we do not concur with their recommendation.

Resident Archery Antelope # 2161
They recommend Aug 1 to Sept 17
We feel this is a typo. A season 1 ½ months long is too long.
We recommend no change of our 2016 dates : Aug 1 to Aug 20

Muzzleloader Season # 2171
They recommend Aug 18 to Aug 25
We recommend no change from the Sept 25 to Oct 4 season. This is too big a change.

Horns shorter than ears #2181
They recommend Sep 8 to Sept 20
It presently is Sept 8 to Sept 20 with no change. This does not conform with any of the above season they were trying to “Standardize” WHY? Maybe just leave all of them the way they are now and don’t change. If you don’t change one, then don’t change them all.

No Recommendation for Big Horn Sheep or Bear.

NO Recommendation on elk as there are none in Mineral County.

Deer Page 16 & 17

Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1331
They recommend Standard Oct 5 through Oct 31
We have a migratory herd in Mineral County. The deer are not here in October, that’s why it was set for November to begin with. What is the reason for the change? Does the committee know something more about upcoming winters then the locals?

We recommend Early/Late Split Oct 5 through Oct 24 & Oct 25 to Nov 5
Unit 20 NOT LISTED IN EXCEPTIONS!
We recommend no change from the current 2016 Seasons
Area 202, 205, 208 Season from Nov 5 to Nov 30

Hunt 1371 Muzzleloader
Area 20 They recommend Dec 11 to Dec 20
Presently the season runs Dec 1 to Dec 15

Hunt 1341 Archery
Area 20 They recommend Dec 1 to Dec 10
Presently the season runs:
Area 201, 202, 204, 205 thru 208 Early season Aug 10 to Sept 9
Late Season Dec 16 to Jan 1

It's apparent they have not taken into consideration the split season in Archery and have *flip flopped* the Archery and Muzzleloader seasons. *The archery hunters in Mineral County do not like this change.*

The Board Recommends No Change from the 2016 seasons for deer.

In Summary, NRS 501.297 "The Boards shall solicit and evaluate local opinion and advise the Wildlife Commission on matters relating to the management of wildlife within their respective counties" At no time has this committee contacted the Mineral County Advisory Board for input or recommendations relating to the Big Game in Mineral County. "Public Meetings" were held in 5 locations: Ely, Elko, Winnemucca, Las Vegas and Reno. Circumventing the NRS requirement for the Advisory Boards.

The State of Nevada is a large state with many varying terrain, climate, and migratory conditions. It seems senseless to try to "Standardize" the state, when the state is not standard to begin with. The North is nothing like the South, the East is nothing like the west and so on.

Johnny Peterson Moved and Billie Williams second that we recommend no action on item # 29 until proper due diligence is done by the committee to each respective county that will be affected by their recommendations. The above conflicting changes were never presented to Mineral County for review. The Board represents the sportsmen in the county. A letter was received from the Mineral County Sportsman's Club (attached) and they also oppose the changes as provided by the Department Committee. Motion Carried.

- 2. Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Expansion of Land Ranges Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).** The Board will review and make recommendations relative to the EIS as stated in regards to the impact on hunting privileges, impact to established wildlife, and public access. Also to request the NDOW Board of Commissioners to support a letter of opposition to the land withdrawal.

Glenn Received an e-mail from Jason Salisbury giving a heads up for a public meeting in Hawthorne on October 7, 2016. It could have a direct impact on sportsmen and wildlife in Mineral County. It will limit chucker hunters and sheep hunters in the Sand Springs range and Monte Cristo's

The proposed withdraw of land will add over 600,000 reserved land with no access to the public.

Glenn went on line and made a report to them that the map was pore quality and could not see clear.

Johnny Peterson stated it could have a definite hit to Mineral County. For comparison, the Hawthorne Army Depot covers 147,000 acres and in comparison, they want over 604,789 acres of public land, 65,160 acres of non-federal land for a total of 872,808 acres. That would be approximately 6 times the size of the Hawthorne Army Depot restricted area and remove some prime area from public access.

Glenn Bunch suggested that we (the Board) send a letter to the Commission and all other affected Advisory Boards for them to send correspondence to not approve the withdrawal of public lands. This will have an adverse effect on all public use and deny sportsman's access to prime hunting areas. Also to Mining and Livestock grazing. It will hurt the limited revenue the county has and will only make it worse.

Wayne Larson Moved, Billie Williams second Motion carried to send a letter to NDOW and request that they become highly involved in the proposed land withdrawal and oppose such a large area as it will have a significant impact to the Sportsmen and wildlife in the area. Motion Carried

- 3. Commission General Regulation 465, Antelope and Elk Waiting Periods, LCB File R141-16.** The board will make recommendation to the Commission as it holds a workshop to consider amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Existing regulation allows a person to apply in any year for an antelope tag. If they receive an antelope tag for horns longer than ears and harvest an antelope they are in a waiting period of five years before they are eligible to apply again. Existing regulation for antlered elk allows a person to apply in any year if they did not receive a tag in the previous five years and did not harvest, it also stipulates a person is eligible to apply after 10 years if they harvest an antlered elk. The amendment to the regulation would standardize the waiting period for a person to be elk eligible to apply for each of the species after receiving a tag. Antelope waiting period after receiving a tag would be three years. Antlered elk waiting period after receiving a tag would be five years.

Glenn Bunch read the back up material as provided for the Commission meeting.

The Antelope Harvest would change from the current 5 years, a reduction to 3 years And Antelope No Harvest wait from "0" years to 3 years.

Glenn stated the Elk and Deer herds are being managed at a higher percentage. Discussion ensued.

Johnny Peterson moved, Wayne Larson moved to recommend not make the change on the Antelope waiting periods– Motion carried

No recommendation on Elk as there are no Elk in Mineral County.

- 4. Commission Regulation 16-02, Amendment # 1, Fishing Seasons and Bag Limits for March 1, 2016 through February 28, 2018.** The Board will consider recommendation to the Commission for consideration of Amendment #1 of the Fishing Seasons and Bag Limits for March 1, 2016 through February 28, 2018. The Department is proposing an amendment to the harvest limit for fish in that portion of the Truckee River from 1,000 feet below Derby Dam to the boundary of Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation to be three game fish of zero (0) may be trout (catch and release only) from February 1 through May 31, in Storey and Washoe

Counties, and an amendment to change the harvest limit for trout in Lake Mohave and the Colorado River below Davis Dam to be five trout in Clark County.

No Change in Mineral County. We concur with the Department Recommendation.

5. Discussion on any other item on Commission Meeting Agenda for September 23-24, 2016

There was none

6. Public Comment

Johnny Peterson, we reported that they turned a bear loose on Mount Grant last week. It was a 560lb bear from Tahoe. Had a collar. They track them out of Switzerland or somewhere. He went towards Lapin Meadows and was running out of sight..

Discussion of Bear releases in Mineral County.

Wayne Larson moved, Billie Williams seconded, Motion carried to adjourn.