

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife  
Monday October 30, 2017 6:00 PM

MEETING ROOM, HAWTHORNE FIRE HOUSE

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

Also Present:  
Dennis Bunch  
Vern Watson

Absent: None

Glenn Bunch called the meeting to order and noted that the meeting was properly noticed

1. **CGR 475, Shed Antlers-** The board will consider recommendations to the Commission on their workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation prohibits a person from collecting shed antlers at any time during a year unless the shed antlers are collected by the person from the field from April 15 to December 31, inclusive, of that year.

Chairman Bunch gave an update of the department's views on the closure of the deer and elk shed antlers. The change from LCB would be that a person shall not collect shed antlers from the field from April 15 to December 31.

Discussion ensued of probable problems.

Johnny Peterson said why don't they throw Antelope antlers in there too.

Further discussion of the shed areas.

***The consensus of the group to agree with the departments' recommendation.***

2. **CGR 440-Trail Cameras and other Devices, LCB File No R012-16.** The Board will consider recommendations to the Commission for consideration during their workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 503 of the heat sensing cameras that are left for a period of time, and not held in the hand. The proposed language would prohibit (with certain exemptions) the use of trail cameras within 200 feet of a spring, water hole, or artificial basin from Aug 1 to Dec 31 of each year. The proposed language would further prohibit the use of transmitting trail cameras at any location from Aug 1 to Dec 31 of each year. The commission held a workshop on March 25, 2016 and directed the Department to revise previously drafted language prohibiting the use of trail cameras only for the purposes of scouting or hunting.

Chairman Bunch read the departments' recommendation.

Wayne Larson stated he agrees with the departments recommendation.

Darren Hamrey stated he understands what they are getting at, but he disagrees with the department's information.

Chairman Bunch mentioned the guzzler up Ryan Canyon. A camera was put on it so that they could see if it was used after they had refurbished it. The result is the guzzler was used the very next day and has increased usage and is used a lot. The repairs were good.

Further discussion ensued.

***All those in favor of the recommendation was: Billie Williams Jr, Wayne Larson, Johnny Peterson  
Not in favor as written was: Darren Hamrey***

Dennis Bunch stated that there was a person in White Pine county were there was people coming in taking the information off a camera that was not their camera.

- 3. Commission Policy 26, Re-establishing, introducing, Transplanting and Managing Pioneering Rocky Mountain Elk-First Reading.** The board will consideration recommendations to the Commission as they will conduct a first reading of Commission Policy 26 and may take action to revise the policy. The Commission may advance the policy to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.

Chairman Bunch gave an update to the board of what had transpired at the last NDOW meeting in Las Vegas and explained what their thought process was. He informed the Board of what they had said before was "where the elk would be" They removed the areas where they are and they opened up the areas without designation. He said he said it again at the meeting that Mineral County still wants elk transplanted.

#### ***The consensus that we support policy 26***

- 4. Commission Regulation 16-02 Noncommercial Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians for 2017-2018 Amendment # 1** The Board will consider recommendations to the Commission as they will consider and may take action to change Commission Regulation 17-02, Amendment #1, for the 2017-2018 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.

Chairman Bunch stated that we didn't cover this topic last time as it was not a problem in Mineral County. He provided the Board with an update of the meeting in Las Vegas where it was voted to stop the commercial collection of Reptiles and Amphibians state wide. Chairman Bunch gave more input as to the discussion presented at the state meeting about monitoring etc.

Discussion ensued.

Chairman Bunch stated that he put this on the agenda for an information item so the group could know the policy regarding the Reptiles and Amphibians.

#### ***The Consensus of the Board that we support the Boards' actions relative to the Reptiles and Amphibians***

- 5. Harvesting of Big Horn Sheep from the area around Buffalo Stop in the town of Walker Lake.** The Board will discuss and may make recommendations to the Commission relative to recent issues of Big Horn Sheep taken from the Buffalo Stop area at Walker Lake.

Chairman Bunch stated that he was apprised of 2 sheep taken in the area of the Buffalo Stop. He also advised the Board that it is on the Mineral County Board of Commissioner's meeting Wednesday Nov 1 at 1:00 PM and that he plans to attend their meeting. Chairman Bunch stated that he had received calls from several people around Walker Lake. He further stated that it would be on the January, 2018 NDOW. He stated that there are also problems in other towns around the state like Genoa where he has been advised of deer being taken right off the lawns. He explained what he had heard about the sheep taken at the Buffalo Stop.

Chairman Bunch went on to state that in his opinion the first thing that needs to take place is that all the town of Walker Lake should be posted that people are entering the town of Walker Lake. Currently there is only one sign in the center of the town stating Walker Lake. With the body of water of Walker Lake right there, it's not clear that you are entering the town. Boundaries of the town should be clearly marked so visitors and hunters will be fully aware they are within the town boundaries would have clear definition of where the Walker Lake Town Boundary begins. In addition, he sate he will encourage NDOW to talk to the residents of Walker Lake that it is illegal to put water and feed out for wildlife. Since they have brought this up to the attention of NDOW, the Department should make the residents aware that it is against the law to put water tubs out and bales of hay out for the sheep.

Chairman Bunch went on to state that he also wants to encourage NDOW to put a guzzler/drinker at the north end of the cliffs to draw the sheep away from the town and from crossing the road to get water from Walker Lake and also to encourage the wildlife out of the residential area Walker Lake.

Marlene Bunch explained the town boundary maps that was presented for the board to review. It shows that the town boundary is much larger than what people are aware of. It actually encompasses the better part of 4 sections and goes up the hillside into the cliffs all the way down to the area around the boat ramp at Monument Beach. The South end of town actually starts on the east side of the highway across from the entrance to Barlow property, then immediately to the north of the property it goes up the hill to the west. She further went on to clarify how the Barlow property was removed from the town boundary on the west side of the highway.

***After further discussion the Board agreed to recommend that the County needs to clearly post the Walker Lake town Boundary and no hunting within the Town Boundary.***

***Dennis Bunch stated that they should go all the way up the cliff and mark the northwest corner of the town up on the cliff side of the hill as well. It should cover all the area.***

**6. Discussion of other items on the Commission Agenda for November 3 and 4, 2017.**

No further discussion.

7. **Public Comment** No action can be taken by MCABMW at this time; any item requiring MCABMW action may be scheduled on a future MCABMW agenda.

***Billie Williams talked with Sean Espenosa while he was up on the river this past week. The beaver dams up rough creek are gone after 40 years. They should open the ponds up at Fletcher too.***

***Dennis Bunch stated that down by Tonopah they used bed springs to clean the ponds out. They just pull them back and forth and pulled everything out and cleaned them up good. That needs to be done over in the Fletcher area as well.***

***Darren Hamrey stated – at the sportsman club he would talk with them about the fishing at Fletcher and 9 mile.***

No Further business, motion was made by Darren Hamrey and seconded by Wayne Larson to adjourn the meeting a: 6:57pm.