

# Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

## **DRAFT of Minutes**

**Thursday ~ November 10, 2016 ~ 6:00 p.m.**  
**Nevada Department of Wildlife**  
**Conference Room B**  
**1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada**

### **MEMBERS**

Sean Shea, Chair  
Michelle Spencer, Vice-chair  
Meghan Di Rocco, Secretary  
Arnie Pitts  
Steve Robinson

#### **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** [Non-action item]

Chair Shea led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **2. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** [Non-action item]

Chair Shea called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

**PRESENT:** Meghan Di Rocco, Arnie Pitts, Sean Shea, Steve Robinson and Michelle Spencer.

**ABSENT:** None.

Jen Gustafson – Deputy District Attorney, was also present.

#### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item]

Rex Flowers- Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife noted that a letter had been sent to all County Advisory Boards seeking an opportunity to speak at CAB meetings over the next few months to review and seek support for the Sportsmen Initiative.

Chair Shea commented that the Commission agenda had been revised after the Washoe County agenda had been posted. Unfortunately, there was insufficient notice to amend and add land issues identified on the final Commission agenda to the Washoe County agenda.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2016, MINUTES** (For possible action)

Hearing no public comment, Chair Shea asked for board discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Member Pitts, seconded by Chair Shea, to approve the September 15, 2016, meeting minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.***

#### **5. BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT** [Non-action item] – *A discussion and selection of member(s) to attend the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings on: 1) November 18 and 19, 2016, in Reno, Nevada; and 2) February 10 and 11, 2017, meetings in Reno, Nevada.*

Member Di Rocco will try to attend the November 18 and 19, 2016 meetings unless her work schedule changes. Member Di Rocco noted that weather conditions will dictate her work schedule but she should have a better understanding by Wednesday, November 16, 2016, if she can attend.

Chair Shea will attend the February 10 and 11, 2017, meetings.

#### **6. COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES** [Non-action items]

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6-1). *Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements* – No announcements or correspondence received.

6-2). *Overview of the September 23 and 24, 2016, meetings of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners* – There was no report on the September 23 and 24, 2016 Commission meetings.

## **7. OPEN MEETING LAW PRESENTATION** [Non-action item] – *An informational update and discussion on Nevada's Open Meeting Law requirements and ethics considerations.*

Jen Gustafson – Deputy District Attorney, narrated a PowerPoint Presentation (copy on file) and explained the legislative intent of NRS 241.010 and its applicability to the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. Ms. Gustafson emphasized the need to avoid the possibility of any discussion of items that may come back to the board for action. While Attorney Client privilege allows Ms. Gustafson to correspond with the board confidentially outside the public forum members must not use the reply all or discuss the matter outside of an open meeting. Ms. Gustafson pointed out that there are different guidelines for various types of boards such as elected bodies. In general a quorum is achieved when a simple majority of members are present. Ms. Gustafson noted that the Nevada Legislature deemed themselves not to be a public body and are therefore exempt from the OML. Ms. Gustafson then explained that while board ~~members~~member may attend various social functions as a group care must be taken to avoid discussion of any matters that may come to the board. Drawing attention to abstentions or recusals and disclosures, Ms. Gustafson recommended that if there is a ~~question members~~questions-member should contact her for guidance. In general ~~members~~member may not abstain without a compelling reason such as a conflict of interest. Ms. Gustafson then outlined the public noticing process and need for clear language on what actions the board may take with each agenda item. Additionally, ~~members~~member may participate in meeting via telephone or video teleconference. Ms. Gustafson noted that she will intercede in the event that the board strays from the agendized topic and that public comments must be addressed to the board as a whole, who may not take any action until such time as the matter discussed is properly agendized.

Responding to Judi Caron's inquiry about public comment on agenda items, Ms. Gustafson stated that it is the prerogative of the Chair to determine when public comment is taken and whether it should be reopened. Ms. Gustafson pointed out that the OML does not specifically address that particular issue.

The meeting recessed at 6:42 p.m. and reconvened at 6:47 p.m.

## **8. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-01, TAKING OF RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY FOR 2017-2018** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify the 2017 - 2018 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take of raptors for falconry.*

Chair opened the agenda item and hearing no presentation asked for public comment.

Caron Tayloe expressed her hope that the decision is based on the health and welfare of the raptor populations.

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Chair Shea closed public comment and asked for Board discussion or a motion.

Responding to Chair Shea's inquiry, Maureen Hullinger – NDOW, commented that the permits issued by her office total about 30 applications annually and that there is a limit of one harvest per permit. However, where the quota is listed "unlimited", there is no limit on the number of permits that can be issued. Ms. Hullinger explained that this particular hunt does not rise to the level of participation that requires a draw.

***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-01, Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2017- 2018, as written.***

Responding to Member Di Rocco's inquiry about changes, Ms. Hullinger explained that there have not been any changes in the recent past.

Chair Shea commented that he believes the Raptor population is healthy.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

**9. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-02 NONCOMMERCIAL COLLECTION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS FOR 2017 - 2018** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify the proposed 2017-2018 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item. Hearing no report from staff, Chair Shea asked for public comment.

Caron Tayloe drew attention to the North American Wildlife Model reports on the elimination of wildlife markets, and noted that non-commercial trading does occur.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

Responding to Member Di Rocco's question about the frequency of changes, Maureen Hullinger – NDOW, explained that this particular process is handled by the Diversity Bureau, who is not present at tonight's (November 10, 2016) meeting.

Member Di Rocco commented that this is only her second meeting and that this is the first time she has seen anything about reptiles and is trying to learn more about the historical aspect of this particular item.

Chair Shea commented that the season is set every two (2) years.

***It was moved by Member Pitts, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-02 Noncommercial Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians 2017-2018 as written. The motion carried unanimously.***

- 10. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 470, MISCELLANEOUS PETITIONS, LCB FILE NO. R095 -16** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposal to amend Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC).*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item and asked for public comment.

Judi Caron drew attention to Commission Policy 4 and questioned whether the decision will be based solely on the information provided in the petition or includes public comment and staff input. Ms. Caron then noted that petitions currently come to NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) first then to the County Advisory Board before a recommendation is made to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Ms. Caron commented that it appears, in her opinion, that the petition would go to the Commission then to the department and questioned at what point the public would have input.

Bob Haughian – NDOW, commented that the appropriate staff was not present to address the questions being brought forward.

Ms. Caron commented that, in her opinion, there needs to be great detail before any action is taken and that the process should start at the local level before moving forward to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Ms. Caron suggested that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners be asked to delay action pending an in-depth review and comparative analysis with Commission Policy 4.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

***It was moved by Member Pitts, seconded by Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners take no action pending clarification of how tis correlates with Policy 4. The motion carried unanimously.***

- 11. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 466, PARTNERSHIP IN WILDLIFE (PIW) DRAWING AND RESTRICTED NONRESIDENT GUIDED DEER DRAW APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY, LCB FILE NO. R140-16** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify two amendments to Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Presently, the main tag drawing precedes the PIW tag drawing during the main draw. Consequently, those applicants who elected to participate in the PIW program but draw a big game tag in the main drawing cannot compete in the PIW drawing. Endorsed by the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC), the amendment to the regulation would change the draw sequence by having the PIW drawing precede the main drawing, allowing all applicants who opt into the PIW program to compete for coveted PIW tags. Furthermore, as recommended by the TAAHC, the second amendment will result in the allowance of restricted nonresident guided deer draw applicants to also apply for deer tags in the Silver State tag, PIW and the main drawing if otherwise eligible.*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item.

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Maureen Hullinger – NDOW, noted that an amended Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners agenda had come out after the Washoe County agenda had already been posted. Ms. Hullinger recalled that the Washoe County board had recommended moving the PIW draw before the main draw. That recommendation was brought forward to the TAAHC (Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee) and was supported. Ms. Hullinger then outlined the two options being offered: Option 1 – would make no change in the process other than moving the PIW draw before the main draw: Option 2 – will not be presented to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners as there are a variety of issues yet to be resolved. Ms. Hullinger explained that the contractor receives \$5.85 of the \$10.00 collected. If the contractor is not involved in the process as it is under the current system NDOW would retain the full \$10.00 fee for the Heritage fund.

Chair Shea noted that this is the first review of the process and will be brought back for additional review before it is finalized.

Ms. Hullinger expressed her hope that the action report would be completed for presentation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners noting that finalized regulations will be brought back for review.

During the discussion it was noted that Option 1 reflects the recommendation of the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Chair Shea opened public comment.

Rex Flowers suggested that the non-resident ~~hunter~~ be allowed to apply for a PIW and Silver State if unsuccessfully for the Guided Hunt. However, guided hunt applicants should not be allowed to participate in the main draw to avoid double dipping.

Judi Caron concurred with Mr. Flowers' statements.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Option 1 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.***

There was discussion about the application fee for the PIW. It was noted that the intent is to develop more consistent language.

There were no public comments.

***It was moved by Member Spencer, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve reinstatement of eligibility for the PIW and Silver State tags and eliminate eligibility for the Main draw. The motion carried unanimously.***

**12. NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE UPDATE OF GUIDELINES FOR HARVEST MANAGEMENT IN NEVADA [For Possible Action] – A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposal refining the draft harvest guidelines for consideration by the Commission.**

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Chair Shea opened the agenda item, hearing no staff presentation asked for public comment.

Rex Flowers made the following recommendations: Antelope - Delete #3 - No more than 15 muzzleloader hunts, allow in all areas where there is interest and opportunity.

Horns Longer Than Ears- Muzzleloader: 7 day season is too short given there are 38 days total allowed for hunting, should be 12 days

Harvest Management- Question ability to identify 2 year old bucks from aerial survey.

Doe Harvest should be as carrying capacities are met or within 10% of carrying capacities, not for additional and desired hunting opportunities.

Bighorn Sheep – 161 - no longer a split season (new 10/15 - 11/05) falls within muzzleloader Bull Elk Hunt and Any Legal Weapon Antlered Deer. Suggest later date such as 11/06 thru 12/01 or leave as is.

Elk – Antlered - lack of rut hunts, should allow for a limited entry hunt in any unit where there are extremely high bull to cow ratios, make hunts rotate thru weapon classes.

Antlerless- eliminate all hunting after December 31

Mule Deer - Seasons- all seasons should be same in total length, proposed split total is 10/05-11/05 while single season is 10/05-11/02, change single to match 10/05-11/05; have Junior Hunt same follow season; Split season lengths should follow same as quota splits (i.e. 80/20, 75/25) with no season being less than 7 day.

Buck Ratio #022- should be 35/100 does; eliminate under alternative Hunts "no more than 8 unit groups statewide"; allow each CAB through public input to decide whether to establish single or split season status for unit groups within their county.

Judi Caron outlined concerns with date versus day specific openings and suggested that there be consistency throughout which she believes will benefit individuals and families living adjacent to other hunt units.

Cathy Smith commented that the Black Bear hunt currently ends on December 1 not December 31. Additionally, she believes that there may be a false sense of security using the population matrix when the sample size of hunted bears is not statistically significant.

Chair Shea noted that the December 31 date is the maximum length for the season.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

Mike Scott - Supervising Game Biologist, Western Region, noted that this is the frame work used to develop annual changes. Mr. Scott commented that other recommendations can be put forward to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. It is anticipated that this will be finalized for consideration and possible action at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meeting in February 2017. Mr. Scott suggested that the board focus on the most recent version.

Chair Shea suggested that no action be taken as the necessary support materials were not available.

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***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners take no action on Update of Guidelines for Harvest Management in Nevada, due to lack of a more recent staff report than the one dated October 20, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.***

The meeting recess at 8:02 p.m. and reconvened at 8:12 p.m.

- 13. SECOND READING, POLICY 2, PUBLICATIONS** – [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify the second reading of Commission Policy 2, Publications.*

Hearing no public comment Chair Shea asked for board discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Second Reading, Policy 2, Publications, as written. The motion carried unanimously.***

- 14. SECOND READING, POLICY 31, LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify the second reading of Policy 31 with edits incorporated from the first reading on September 23, 2016.*

Hearing no public comment Chair Shea asked for board discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Second Reading, Policy 31, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Management Guidelines, as written. The motion carried unanimously.***

- 15. SECOND READING, POLICY 33, FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify the second reading of Policy 33 with edits incorporated from the first reading on September 23, 2016.*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item and asked for public comment.

Judi Caron drew attention to page 5 wherein simplification is encouraged. Ms. Caron noted the residency requirements in Policy 33 and outlined actions taken individuals 65 years of age that was modified in 1995. Ms. Caron thinks the matter should be postponed and that the barrier be removed to encourage the use of urban ponds identified in NRS 502.241 and perhaps increase combo license from \$15 to \$20.

***It was moved by Member Spencer, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners take no action on Policy 33 until the fee structure is clarified and barriers removed and a summary of the policy is provided by staff. The motion carried unanimously.***

- 16. DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMISSION POLICY REGARDING WILDLIFE CONTESTS** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a prior draft of a Wildlife Contest Policy forwarded by the Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Policy Committee, which was discussed by the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at their August 12, 2016 meeting.*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item and asked for public comment.

Joel Blakeslee commented that he does not believe that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners should be involved in this type of regulation and recommended denial of the request.

Caron Tayloe recalled that this is the result of a petition that started in November 2015. There were a number of meetings since that time and that this policy, in her opinion, inappropriate to vote against this policy due to all of the time and effort expended by NDOW, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners and the public.

Rex Flowers recommended that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners be asked to reject the policy and that in his opinion it was brought forward in response to a failed petition.

Mike Dulger expressed his opposition noting that there is a predator problem with wildlife being decimated by drought and wild horses. Mr. Dulger believes this is another tool that could be used to manage predators.

Cathy Smith commented that while she does not see what this would do legally she believes this could set a good example and that research shows that killing coyotes tends to result in increased populations.

Judi Caron noted that the policy gives direction and is not law or regulation that informs the public on how business will be conducted and that she does not support the development of the policy.

Don Molde explained that he is supportive of the commission doing something and there is some public interest of non-hunters and non-trapper. Mr. Molde commented that he believes the petition was accepted and that the Commission decided to pursue policy rather than regulation.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

Member Robinson commented that he does not believe this should be taken up as a policy with this particular language.

Chair Shea explained that he found the language to be very vague and that it is unclear where this could lead in the future. Therefore, he cannot support the policy as written.

***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny Development of a Commission Policy Regarding Wildlife Contest, as written.***



Member Di Rocco questioned whether the board could modify the language in a matter that would be acceptable.

Chair Shea explained that there are a variety of opinions on what is an insensitive photograph and inappropriate behaviors. Of particular concern is how that could be defined. Chair Shea noted that a fishing contest could have what some may consider insensitive photographs. Therefore, he cannot support the proposal as written.

Member Robinson stated that he could not support the request.

Chair Shea explained that the policy as written would take extensive revision and that he cannot support as written.

Member Di Rocco suggested that one option is to modify the proposal to a point where it can be accepted in order to make a recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

Member Spencer stated that she is not in favor of the policy and that there is no need for the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to make a policy on contests, in her opinion. Member Spencer explained that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners or staff could modify the language and bring it back for review.

Chair Shea stated he could not support the request and believes it will be brought back to a future meeting.

Member Spencer explained that it could be rewritten for a future review.

***The motion carried: Members Pitts, Robinson, Spencer and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Di Rocco dissenting.***

17. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 463, DUTIES OF PERSON TRANSPORTING VESSEL OR CONVEYANCE, LCB FILE NO. R093-16** [For Possible Action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify proposed amendments to Chapter 488 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The change amends Chapter 488 of NAC by adding a new section that requires the owner, operator or person in control of any vessel or conveyance that is launched on any body of water in this State to drain the water from the vessel or conveyance and any equipment on the vessel or conveyance and also requires the owner, operator or person in control of a vessel or conveyance that is transported on a public road in this State or has been taken out of any body of water in this State ensure that the drain plugs, drain valves and any other devices used to control the draining of water remain open while transporting the vessel or conveyance on public roads in this State. The proposed regulation also amends language in NAC 488.520 to accommodate the changes above and remove repetitive language.*

Chair opened the agenda item hearing no staff report or public comment asked for board discussion or a motion.

Ian Knight – Game Warden, stated that he was not familiar with the language of the proposal. Officer Knight explained that boats tend to always have a small amount of water and is unsure how all water could be drained without removing all drain plugs. Officer Knight noted that NDOW Game Wardens would not have jurisdiction on roads within the Tribal Land Areas of the state or on privately owned property.

Member Robinson emphasized the need for clarification on how water is to be removed before taking any action.

***It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners take no action on Commission General Regulation 463, Duties of Person Transporting Vessel or Conveyance, LCB File No. R093-16 until it is clarified how all water without limitation is to be removed and enforced in Section 1 of Section 1. The motion carried unanimously.***

**18. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 471, TRUCKEE RIVER MOTORIZED VESSEL CLOSURE, LCB FILE NO. R139-16 [For Possible Action] –** *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify an amendment to Chapter 488 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Existing regulations set forth certain bodies of water on which only vessels without motors are allowed and certain bodies of water on which only vessels without motors and vessels powered by electric motors are allowed. This regulation adds to the list of waters with such a restriction, the Truckee River from the California-Nevada state line to the point where the river enters the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. This regulation also extends the exception to the restrictions to all such specified waters and to any vessel that is owned, operated and used for official purposes by a federal, state or local governmental entity, or any vessel operating pursuant to a permit for a marine event that is requested by a federal, state or local governmental entity.*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item and hearing no staff report or public comment asked for board discussion or a motion.

Chair Shea noted his concerns about the number of exemptions for government agencies.

Member Robinson concurred and drew attention to multi-jurisdictional issues that may arise on interstate waters.

***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners deny Commission Regulation 471, Truckee River Motorized Vessel Closure, LCB File R139-16 as written due to the number of exemptions. The motion carried unanimously.***

**19. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 464, APPEALS, LCB FILE NO. R074-16 [For Possible Action] –** *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve, deny or otherwise modify a proposed amendment to Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation revises provisions*

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*relating to practice before the Commission. It provides more efficiency in scheduling appeals, will define that "calendar" days are used for calculation of deadlines, and more clearly notify the appellant in advance of a hearing that the Commission has limited jurisdiction. It will also provide for two, separate Attorneys General (one for the Commission and one for the Department) to avoid conflicts with one attorney advising two sides of the appeal. It also requires the appellant to give the agency advance notice of legal representation to improve scheduling for a separate lengthier time needed on agendas.*

Chair Shea opened the agenda item and hearing no public comment asked for Board discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 464, Appeals, LCB File R074-16, as written. The motion carried unanimously.***

- 20. WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** [Non-action item] – *Selection of additional agenda item(s) for the next meeting is January 21, 2017.*

It was pointed out that the meeting date listed is incorrect and should read Thursday, February 2, 2017.

Chair Shea will endeavor to have a presentation by fisheries or biodiversity for the next agenda.

- 21. PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item]

Judi Caron noted her concerns about the land transfer for the Fallon Naval Air Station and Washoe County. Ms. Caron believes the process should be slowed to allow more input from miners, ranching, and the public as well as how the transfer will affect Nevada's wildlife. Ms. Caron suggested that someone be brought in to discuss the issues at a future meeting.

Caron Tayloe noted that both consumptive and non-consumptive users needed to come together on the transfer of lands. Ms. Tayloe noted that NDOW has a number of good scientists that can address a variety of concerns.

Rex Flowers noted that the transfer of lands gives federally managed lands to Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Additionally proponents are looking to make certain areas north of Pyramid Lake wilderness areas. Mr. Flowers recommended that the consequences of such transfers need to be discussed at every future meeting as the transfers will define wildlife management in the future.

Don Molde recalled an earlier legal challenge in which a federal judge denied a case that was subsequently overturned by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court. As part of that process Nevada Wildlife Services no longer can operate in designated wilderness or wilderness study areas. N information scoping request for information is due in mid-December (2016) and will be an opportunity to make comments.

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Cathy Smith suggested a future meeting topic on how climate change will affect wildlife populations in Nevada and believes that Fish and Wildlife may have some information. Of particular concern is how climate change could devastate wildlife in the State of Nevada.

**22. ADJOURNMENT** [Non-action item]

Chair Shea adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.