

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

DRAFT of Minutes

Thursday ~ February 2, 2017 ~ 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
Arnold Pitts
Steven 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: Michelle Spencer, Arnie Pitts, Steve Robinson and Sean Shea. Meghan Di Rocco joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

ABSENT: None.

Herb Kaplan – Deputy District Attorney, was also present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 10, 2016, MINUTES (For possible action)

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

Chair Shea asked that the word “retiler” be changed to read “reptile” on Page 3 and that the letter “N” be revised to read “An” on page 12.

It was moved by Member Pitts, seconded by Member Spencer, to approve the November 10, 2016, minutes as amended. The motion carried, Members Pitts, Robinson, Spencer and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Di Rocco absent.

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) February 10 and 11, 2017, in Carson City, Nevada; and 2) March 24 and 25, 2017, meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada.*

Chair Shea will attend both the February 10 and 11, 2017 meetings. Member Robinson will attend on February 11, 2017.

Chair Shea will attend the March 24 and 25, 2017, meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada.

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

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6-1). *Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements* – Chair Shea stated that there was no correspondence since the November (2016) meeting.

6-2). *Overview of the November 18 and 19, 2016, meetings of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners* – Member Robinson noted that the Air Force Base is seeking acquisition of land in Southern Nevada.

Member Di Rocco joined meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Member Pitts also noted that there may be a reduction in the Big Horn Sheep tags if the expansion of the airbase is approved.

7. INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS OF HUNTING IN OR NEAR RESIDENTIAL AREAS [Non-action item] – *An informational overview of complaints and/or incidents of hunting in or near residential areas.*

Chair Shea commented that he was unsure why this was on the agenda and why NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) is dealing with the issue.

Jack Robb – NDOW, noted that NDOW will develop regulations on hunting in residential areas and be applicable statewide. Mr. Robb noted that the issue occurs in other counties such as Carson, Douglas, and Lamoille areas. Mr. Robb noted that Washoe County has modified their regulations on setbacks for the discharge of firearms in congested areas.

8. 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 proposed draft harvest guidelines addressing big game management.*

PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

Chair opened public comments.

Rex Flowers drew attention to line 3 on page 7 and suggested that “not more than 15 units statewide per year” be deleted and that the Muzzle Loader season be extended to provide that at least one weekend is guaranteed for the hunter. Mr. Flowers also suggested that Muzzle Loader be set August 15 to 24 and that Any Legal Weapon be changed to August 25 through September 7. Mr. Flowers believes there will be a higher hunter demand.

Chris Hampson – NDOW, noted that the intent of the modifications was to move to a more normal scheduling without trying to be too different without cutting the archery season.

Mike Scott – NDOW, the idea is to calendar the earlier time and see if there is a higher demand and make adjustment based on that information.

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Chair Shea drew attention to the August 1 through 14 season for Horns Longer than Ears. Chair Shea suggested that many hunters will not shoot a Doe during “horns shorter than ears” season as they are seeking young bucks.

During a brief discussion it was explained that the male Antelope is not a spike as with Elk but a yearling buck. As the discussion continued it was noted that NDOW regulations do not include a definition of either doe or buck and would need to be clarified. It was noted that the Board could recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners direct that NDOW staff develop those definitions and it would come back to the CABs for review and input.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Antelope Portion of Pronghorn with the following modifications: horns longer than ears or ears longer than horns be removed and replaced with a definition of Doe and Buck; remove line 3 in its entirety; Muzzle Loader August 15 through August 24 and horns longer than ears any legal weapon August 25 through September 7. The motion carried unanimously.

Big Horn Sheep

There were no public comments.

During the discussion it was questioned whether the November 20 date was due to military hunts. As the discussion continued, it was noted that there are a variety of issues with transplanting of sheep, specifically disease that a transplanted animal might not have a resistance to.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Big Horn Sheep Portion as presented.

Black Bear

Rex Flowers suggested that the season date be extended until December 31.

During the discussion it was pointed out that the season had been shortened in response to public pressure.

It was moved by Member Spencer, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Black Bear season with the ending date changed to December 31. The motion carried: Members Pitts, Robinson, Spencer and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Di Rocco dissenting.

Elk

There were no public comments.

During the discussion it was explained that the Rut Hunts in Units 161, 163, 171 and 173 had been removed as part of a structure change. However, the Board may recommend that the hunts be restored. Other discussion suggested that all weapon class hunts be restored to the rotation.

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It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Elk Portion with the addition of the September 17 through 30 non-standard season. The motion carried unanimously.

Mountain Goats

There were no public comments.

Chair Shea recommended that a table format also be used for Mountain Goats as it is an easier format to use.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Mountain Goat Portion as presented and that a table structure be used in the future as is done for other species. The motion carried unanimously.

Mountain Lion

Joel Blakeslee commented that over the past 40 years three things have occurred, Mountain Lion populations increase while populations of Mule Deer and Porcupines decrease. Mr. Blakeslee noted that deer trails that he has used in the past are no longer deer trails and that the Mountain Lion populations are not in danger. Mr. Blakeslee suggested that the protocol of limiting females be removed to help Mule Deer populations rebound.

Mel Belding agreed with comments made by Mr. Blakeslee. Mr. Belding pointed out that he identified only 8 Mule Deer on the Winnemucca Ranch and that he believes the harvest quotas on mountain Lions should be increased in all hunt units. Mr. Belding also questioned the science used in the formulation of the quotas.

Mike Scott – NDOW noted that Predator Staff Specialist Pat Jackson used various studies, DNA sampling, and collar data on transient lions in the process of creating the new management zones. NDOW will continue to monitor harvest of all lions taken in the state. In the event that the quota exceeds 35-percent females over a 3-year period then a specific quota may be established for that zone.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

During the discussion it was suggested that the number of tags be increased from 2 to 5 to help meet harvest objectives. As the discussion continued, it was pointed out that some individuals participate in order to work their dogs. Other discussion suggested that rather than 2 tags per season that it be 5 tags per person per year. As the discussion continued, it was explained the State of California conducted a helicopter study which indicated that there are more deer currently at the higher elevations than would be seen driving along Winnemucca Ranch Road.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Mountain Lion guidelines with a

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modification to increase the number of tags to five (5) per year. The motion carried; Members Pitts, Robinson and Spencer assenting; Member Di Rocco and Chair Shea dissenting.

Member Di Rocco left the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Mule Deer

Rex Flowers suggested that the Junior Either Sex season be changed to read Junior Season and that the limitation to not more than 8 units statewide be deleted with Unit 022 added to the Western Region list.

Mel Belding noted that there had been a steady decline in herd populations since the 1980's and questioned the need for hunter opportunity for does.

Member Di Rocco rejoined the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Chair Shea suggested a four to five day break between hunts to reduce stress.

During the discussion it was noted that wildfires in the Elko region facilitated a Doe hunt and provided additional hunt opportunity. Other discussion pointed out that Humboldt County had asked for longer seasons and provides more standardized closing dates.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Di Rocco, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Mule Deer harvest guidelines with the following modifications: Archery change dates to August 10 through September 5; and muzzle loader dates September 10 to September 30. The motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that the motion failed to remove "either sex" from the Junior Hunt and hunter opportunity.

Chair Shea reopened the agenda item and restated the motion as follows.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Di Rocco, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Mule Deer harvest guidelines with the following modifications; Archery Antlered dates August 10 through September 5, Muzzle Loader September 10 through September 30; remove the third line under Mule Deer Season (page 15; remove the phrase "hunter opportunity and remove the words Either Sex from the Junior Hunt. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 7:06 p.m. and reconvened at 7:17 p.m.

- 9. DRAFT FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018 PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN** [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 draft Fiscal Year 2018 Predation Management Plan.

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

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Chair Shea commented that it was nice to see a goal and harvest number included.

It was moved by Member Pitts, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Draft Fiscal Year 2018 Predation Management Plan, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 10. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 464, APPEALS, LCB File No. R074-16, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES REGULATIONS AND POLICY (APRPC)** [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 amendments to Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation revises provisions 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, LCB File R074-16 Administrative Procedures Regulations and Policy as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 11. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 467, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PERMIT, LCB File No. R105-16** [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 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Through Assembly Bill 136 of the 2015 Legislative Session, the Nevada State Legislature mandated the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the circumstances under which a person may assist a licensed hunter with certain disabilities in the killing and retrieval of a big game mammal.*

Chair opened the agenda item and asked for public comment and hearing none asked for board discussion or motion.

Responding to Member Di Rocco's inquiry about hunters with disabilities, Jack Robb – NDOW, explained that there are multiple groups of hunters with varying degrees and types of disability. The hunts were instituted at the request of former Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner Chad Bliss, a founding member of Hunters in Wheelchairs.

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Mr. Robb commented, in response to member Robinson's question about other disabilities that the Board may wish to suggest changes that would not exclude disabilities not related to paraplegic or paralysis of the legs.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 467, Special Assistance Permit, LCB File No. R105-16, as written with an amendment to Section 4 to include other disabilities that may require assistance in addition to leg related disabilities. The motion carried unanimously.

- 12. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 464, APPEALS, LCB File No. R074-16, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES REGULATIONS AND POLICY (APRPC)** [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 amendments to Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation revises provisions 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.*

Duplicate agenda item.

- 13. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 467, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PERMIT, LCB File No. R105-16** – [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 amendments to Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Through Assembly Bill 136 of the 2015 Legislative Session, the Nevada State Legislature mandated the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the circumstances under which a person may assist a licensed hunter with certain disabilities in the killing and retrieval of a big game mammal.*

Duplicate agenda item.

- 14. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-03, 2017 BLACK BEAR SEASONS** [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 2017 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.*

Chair opened the agenda item and asked for public comment.

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Rex Flowers suggested that the season ending date be changed to December 31 and pointed out that more males are harvested than females in December. Additionally, there is no history of public safety being an issue.

Joel Blakeslee concurred with reinstating the December 31 closing date as the quota is not being met.

Jonathan Lesperance suggested that perhaps the season could start earlier and noted the movement of the animals in the Pine Nut range.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Commission Regulation 17-03, 2017 Black Bear Seasons with the following modification, that the closing date for all Units be December 31. The motion carried: Members Pitts, Robinson, Spencer and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Di Rocco dissenting.

15. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-04, 2017-2018 BIG GAME MOUNTAIN LION HARVEST LIMITS [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 2017-2018 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.*

Chair Shea opened public comments.

Rex Flowers asked that the CAB request the Commission provide an update on Unit 033 and suggested that there be some communications with management at the Sheldon.

Chair Shea closed public comments.

During the discussion it was suggested that the number of tags be raised to 5 per person. As the discussion continued it was explained that Mountain Lions tend to move from unit to unit and that if the harvest exceeds 35-percent females over a 3-year period that a quota may then be established in one of the units.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-04, 2017-2018 Big Game Mountain Lion Harvest Limits with the following modification; to increase the maximum number of tags to five per person. The motion carried: Members Pitts, Robinson, Spencer assenting; and Member Di Rocco and Chair Shea dissenting.

16. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-05, 2017-2018 AND 2018-2019 BIG GAME SEASONS [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 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex,*

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physical characteristics and legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and legal weapon requirements, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quotas.

Chair opened the agenda item and asked for public comment.

Prong Horn

Rex Flowers suggested that seasons for Washoe County Units 011, 012, 013, 014, 015, 021 and 022 be changed to align with the 2015 harvest guidelines and seasons suggested that the season be changed to Hunt 2151, 2251 to August 25 through September 7 and Hunt 2171 be August 15 through August 24. Hunt 2181 have no season as the animals should be used as part of the transplant program.

During the discussion it was noted that the muzzle loader hunt had started units within White Pine County. Washoe County sought a muzzle loader hunt and that other counties have not sought a muzzle loader hunt.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 17-05 2017-2018 Big Game Seasons for Hunts 2151, 2251 with the following modifications: change season dates to August 25 through September 7; Hunt 2171 August 15 through 24; and remove Washoe County Units 012 through 014 from Hunt 2181. The motion carried unanimously.

ELK

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

It was pointed out during a brief discussion that Units 161 and 164 were modified under Item 8.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunts 4102, 4151, 4251, 4156, 4161, 4261, 4651, 4181, 4181 Wilderness only, 4281, 4176, 4276, 4111, 4211, 4107, 4481 – Option Mule Deer 1331, 4481–option Mule Deer 1371 Non-resident, 4476 Mule Deer option, 1371 option Mule Deer 431, 4407 option resident Junior Mule Deer 1107, with the following amendments; Hunt 4151 add a non-standard early season for Unit 161 through 164, 171 through 173 September 17 through 30, for 2017-2018, 2018-2019, Unit 4161 non-standard early season for 161 through 164, 171 through 173 September 17 through 30 for 2017-2018, 2018-2019.

Mike Scott – NDOW, commented that a non-resident 4251 hunt might not be needed if you establish a quota of only 8 for the early rifle hunt.

Chair Shea withdrew the last amendment and noted that there has for the past 15-years been a rotation among weapons classes and that a number of hunters apply for that unit.

Chair Shea restated the motion to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunts 4102, 4151, 4251, 4156, 4256, 4161, 4261, 4651, 4181, 4181 wilderness only, 4281, 4176, 4276 4111, 4211, 4107, 4481 option Mule Deer, Hunt 1331 -

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resident, 4481 - option Mule Deer 1331 nonresident, 4476 - option Mule Deer 1371, 4411 option Mule Deer 1341, 4407 - Option for Junior Resident Mule Deer 1107, with the amendment to Hunt 4151 add nonstandard early season units 161 through 164, 171 through 173 September 17 through 30 for 2017-2018, 2018-2019 seasons. Member Spencer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Desert Big Horn

There were no public comments.

Mike Scott – NDOW, noted that an access agreement had not been reached with the landowner for Unit 195. However, the biologist for that area is seeking assistance from Deputy Director Jack Robb and others to reach an access agreement.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunts 3151, 3251, and 3181, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

California Big Horn

Rex Flowers recommended that Hunt 8181 have no season and that ewes be transplanted to supplement herds in other units.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

Chris Hampson – NDOW, that staff is working with the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) to adjust the transplant program. Mr. Hampson noted that Big Horn sheep could be put in Unit 011 and 013 within the next few years. Mr. Hampson then explained that herds in Humboldt County are doing very well.

During the discussion it was pointed out that the tags are highly sought after in certain units with a recommendation to put the non-resident tag in a different hunt unit. As the discussion continued, it was noted that the Washoe County herds had suffered during the extended period of drought and that the addition of a tag could result in a decrease in resident tags. Other discussion noted that there are older rams in Unit 014 and that rams tend to move back and forth in the upper reaches. Discussion then noted that there are approximately 100 sheep in Unit 022 and that there are some that feel a tag quota of 4 is somewhat high.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunts 8151, 8251 and 8181, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Resident Rocky Mountain Big Horn

There were no public comments.

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It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 9151 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Resident Mountain Goat

There were no public comments.

It was moved Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunts 7151 and 7251, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Junior Hunt

Rex Flowers suggested that in Washoe County Units 011 through 013, 014, 015, 021, 022, 033, 194 and 196 there be no antlerless hunts.

Chris Hampson noted that the percentage of the Antlerless Hunts in the Junior Hunt were on average 90 to 95 bucks and may be lower in some Units that have a lower density.

Member Spencer suggested that the Junior Hunt not be modified as the intent is to encourage youth to participate by providing a successful hunting experience.

Mr. Flowers explained that his concern about the Doe hunt is the diminished herd sizes.

Chair Shea suggested that the Archery date be modified to August 10 to September 5 with Muzzle Loader September 10 through the 30 on standard hunts.

Mr. Hampson noted that there had been zero hunter success difference that resulted in an expanded rifle hunt with a modified season for archery and muzzleloaders.

Member Spencer pointed out that schools in Washoe County now start class on August 9.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Di Rocco, to recommend that Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 1107 with the following modifications: all standard hunt date August 10 through September 5, standard Muzzleloader September 10 through 30; and remove all antlerless hunts in Units 011 through 013, 014, 015, 021, 022, 033, 194 and 196. The motion carried: Members Di Rocco, Pitts, Robinson and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Spencer dissenting.

Hunt 1181 Resident Antlerless

Rex Flowers noted that there are no antlerless hunts proposed for Washoe County and drew attention to the statewide herd populations that fell below 100,000 in 2015. Mr. Flowers believes that the quotas need to reflect the declining populations.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

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It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 1181 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Hunt 1235 Non-resident Guided

Rex Flowers suggested modifications that would provide four weekends rather than two 15 day seasons.

Chair Shea closed public comment.

Chris Hampson – NDOW noted that the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife had modified the hunts in the past under different leadership and that the most recent hunter success data was used in this proposal.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 1235 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Hunt 1331 Resident and Non-resident Antlered – Any Legal Weapon

Rex Flowers commented that the split seasons had been instituted by former Commission member Lent not the Washoe County CAB.

Member Pitts left the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 1331 Resident and Non-resident Antlered hunt as written. The motion carried: Members Di Rocco, Robinson, Spencer and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Pitts absent.

Hunt 1371 Resident and Non-resident Mule Deer Antlered Muzzleloader

There were no public comments.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 1371 Resident and Non-resident Mule Deer Antlered Muzzleloader, with the following modification that the standard season be September 10 through September 30. The motion carried: Members Di Rocco, Robinson, Spencer and Chair Shea assenting; and Member Pitts absent.

Member Pitts rejoined meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Hunt 1341 Resident and Non-resident Mule Deer Antlered - Archery

There were no public comments.

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It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Hunt 1341 Resident and non-resident Muledeer Antlered Archery, with the following modification season date August 10 through September 4. The motion carried unanimously.

Elk Antlerless Land Owner Hunt 2017/2018

There were no public comments.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Chair Shea, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the Elk Antlerless Land Owner Hunt 2017/2018 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

2017/2018 Emergency Hunt

There were no public comments.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Pitts, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the 2017/2018 Emergency Hunt as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 17. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-06, 2018 HERITAGE TAG SEASONS AND QUOTAS** [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 2018 Heritage Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.*

There were no public comments.

Responding to Member Robinson's inquiry, Jack Robb – NDOW, explained that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners would determine the hunt units when tags are allocated. Typically, the Heritage tag cannot be used in the Unit where the tag was successful the previous year.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-06, 2018 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 18. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-07, 2017 DREAM TAG SEASONS** [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 2017 Dream Tag seasons.*

Chair Shea opened public comment.

Rex Flowers read the following (copy on file) into the record from Judi Caron.

Judi Caron here from Washoe County – writing on behalf of myself as a member of the Public.

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I would like to disclose that I am a member of the Advisory Board on Dream Tags and also the Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife. And I would also like to note that I am not aware of either of these two Boards having taken a position or submitted comments to the TAAHC, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners and or the County Advisory Boards regarding: "hunt species, seasons and quotas" as they relate respectively to Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Agenda Topic Items:

23* Commission Regulation 17 - 06, 2018 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2018 Heritage Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.

24* Commission Regulation 17- 07, 2017 Dream Tag Seasons – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2017 Dream Tag seasons.

25* Commission Regulation 17- 08, 2017 Partnership in Wildlife Seasons and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2017 PIW hunt species, seasons and quotas.

26* Commission Regulation 17 - 09, 2017 Silver State Tag Seasons and Quotas– Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2017 Silver State Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.

First and foremost I would like to complement the TAAHC and members for the diligence approach to prior Tag Application and Allocation topic items along with incorporating new issues and challenges brought forward by the public, CAB's and Department. I recognize and thank the TAAHC Chairman and members for holding 9 public meetings over the last 18 months gathering & soliciting input by all....

I write today with great respect to offer the following information to be considered and included in your deliberation moving forward with the Agenda items noted above –

- Nevada Dream Tags 2017 Hunt Year ticket sales cycle began back on September 1, 2016 and will end on June 30, 2017
 - Ticket sales are now entering the 6 month of the 10 month sales cycle.
 - NDOW website - http://www.ndow.org/Hunt/Specialty_Tags/Dream_Tag/ as of February 2, 2017

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http://www.ndow.org/Hunt/Specialty_Tags/Dream_Tag/

The Nevada Dream Tag Program is a raffle that allows resident and nonresident sportsmen a chance at the hunt of a lifetime while also contributing to Nevada's wildlife habitat. The tags are similar to other western states' raffle tags and "hunt of a lifetime" tags. All that is required to get started in the raffle is to first purchase a Resource Enhancement Stamp (RES) for \$10. Once you have your stamp, you can purchase an unlimited number of raffle tickets for each species available for only \$5 each. You can purchase both the RES Stamp and the raffle tickets at www.NVDreamTag.org.

One of the best aspects of this raffle is the ability to purchase tickets for your family and friends. Anyone can go online and purchase their favorite hunter chances at the hunt of a lifetime for their birthday or Christmas or any special occasion.

Tickets for the Nevada Dream Tag raffle are available now and will be sold until June 30. The winners will be announced in early July.

Dream Tag Hunt				
Species and Hunt #	Class	Unit Group	Season Dates	Quota
Mule Deer 1500	Antlered only	Any management unit where there is an open season for antlered deer.	In compliance with the season dates set for each management unit or unit-group for hunts 1331, 1341, and 1371	1
Pronghorn Antelope Hunt 2500	Pronghorn Antelope with horns longer than ears	Any management unit where there is an open season for antelope with horns longer than the ears.	In compliance with the season dates set for each management unit or unit-group for hunts 2151, 2161, and 2171	1
Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt 4500	Elk with at least one antler	Any management unit where there is an open season for antlered elk except for Unit 091.	In compliance with the season dates set for each management unit or unit-group for hunts 4151, 4156, 4161	1
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Hunt 3500	Any Ram	*Any management unit where there is an open season for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep except for the unit where the previous year harvest for the Dream Tag Hunt 3500 occurred.	In compliance with the season dates set for each management unit or unit-group for hunt 3151	1
California Bighorn Sheep Hunt 8500	Any Ram	Any management unit where there is an open season for California Bighorn sheep except for unit 041 and for the unit where the previous year harvest for the Dream Tag Hunt 8500 occurred	In compliance with the season dates set for each management unit or unit-group for hunt 8151	1

With respect to the ongoing 2017 Dream Tag tickets sales, would there be:

- a biological impact to BHSheep resources to retain the current language as posted for an additional Hunt Year – i.e. 2017 Hunt Year?
- Within Commissions authority to adjust any necessary changes as determined through the public process and Commission regarding the proposed CR 17-07 language with implementation beginning Sept 1, 2017 - in essence taking effect for the 2018 Hunt Year?
- Benefits to develop the yearly CR for Dream Tags one year in advance as is currently being the case for Heritage Tags - *Commission Regulation 17 - 06, 2018 Heritage Tag?*

During a brief discussion it was noted that the marketing would not start until September 2017 for the next Dream tag. It was suggested that NDOW not change the unit closure until after September.

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve the 2017 Dream Tag as written with the amendment that only Unit 267 will be closed this year (2017). The motion carried unanimously.

19. **COMMISSION REGULATION 17-08, 2017 PARTNERSHIP IN WILDLIFE SEASONS AND QUOTAS** [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 2017 PIW hunt species, seasons and quotas.*

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

There was minor discussion about the closing of Unit 253. It was explained that the combination of the Heritage, Silverstate and Dream tags could result in a total of 4 specialty tags in a limited area.

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-08, 2017 Partnership in Wildlife Seasons and Quotas, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 20. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-09, 2017 SILVER STATE TAG SEASONS AND QUOTAS** [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 2017 Silver State Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.*

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

It was moved by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-09, 2017 Silver State Tag Seasons and Quotas, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 21. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-10, 2017 BIG GAME APPLICATION DEADLINE INFORMATION** [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 2017 big game tag application deadline information.*

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

It was moved by Chair Shea, seconded by Member Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-10, 2017 Big Game Application Deadline information, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 22. COMMISSION REGULATION 17-11, 2017 BIG GAME TAG APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY** [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 2017 big game tag application eligibility, to include ability to apply for bull and spike elk, and ram and ewe of same bighorn subspecies.*

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 Robinson, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission Regulation 17-11, 2017 Big Game Tag Eligibility, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

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- 23. 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 March 16, 2017.*

Chair Shea noted that the application period had opened for the Mason T. Ortiz Outdoor Skills Camp. Additional information can be found at: www.mtoyouthoutdoorskills.com

Mike Scott – NDOW, noted that Jen Newmark is the Diversity contact.

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

There were no public comments.

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

Chair Shea adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.