

**THE WHITE PINE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON
JUNE 20, 2017 AT 6:00 PM IN THE MT. WHEELER POWER CONFERENCE ROOM IN ELY NEVADA**

Present:

Board Chairman	Ray Sawyer
Board Vice Chairman	
Board	Mitchel McVicars Shane Boren Steve Marquez
Board Secretary	Christina Sawyer

Absent:

Visitors:

Kody Menghini, NDOW
Scott Giles, NDOW
Jon Almborg, Nevada Wildlife Commissioner
Trevor Marques
Joe Bennett
Russell Drake
Bill Taylor

Called to order:

Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Sawyer at 6:03 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment Period:

Joe Bennett wanted to say thanks to the department for all their work bringing Cumins Lake back to its glory. Shane addressed some questions to the department regarding the legislative wording on the trapping. Jon noted he followed up on the budget shortfall. It was reported back to him that the county loss track of the boards cash on hand remaining from the 2015-2016 budget as reported to NDOW; which is what caused the shortfall. Sawyer thanked him for looking into it. Board recalled correspondences on the budget shortfall issue and noted board has been advised not to travel or incur any expenses until the 2017-2018 budget has been approved. Sawyer shared that the WPC Commission approved the statutes regarding "blocking the road" it is now enforceable by WPC sheriff's department.

Approval of Agenda:

*A motion to approve the agenda for June 20, 2017 was made by board member **Boren** and seconded by board member **McVicars** Motion passed with no opposition.*

Approval of minutes:

A motion to approve *the May 9, 2017 meeting minutes* was made by board member **Boren** and seconded by board member **McVicars**. Motion passed with no opposition.

Payment of Bills:

Request for payment was presented by board secretary Christina Sawyer for meeting agenda and minutes for May 9, 2017 meeting of \$150.00

A motion to approve *the bills as presented* was made by board member **McVicars** and seconded by board member **Marquez**. Motion passed with no opposition.

Board Chairman noted that the bill will not be submitted for payment at this time, due to budget shortfall. If there is money available in the future, it may be submitted later.

Correspondence:

Board members and county commissioner liaison Steve Stork have been included in e-mail correspondences regarding the budget shortfall. No additional discussion was needed.

Reports:

None

Agenda items:

5* Duck Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka

Board discussed

A motion *to support the Duck Stamp Request as written* was made by board member **Boren** and seconded by board member **Marquez**. Motion passed with no opposition.

6* Upland Game Bird Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Shawn Espinosa

Board discussed as follows: Menghini, NDOW, noted a local research project on blue grouse will receive some funding. Very excited.

A motion to *accept Upland Game Bird Stamp Request as written* was made by board member **Marquez** and seconded by board member **McVicars** motion passes with no opposition.

7* Commission General Regulation 466, Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) Drawing, Changes to Nonresident Restricted Deer Tag, and Changes to Big Game Return Card Questionnaire Deadline, LCB File No. R140-16 – Management Analyst III Maureen Hullinger

Board discussed as follows: Sawyer noted still in opposition. Should have to go into the general draw, or use a guide. Board agrees. Board Chairman Sawyer opened discussion to the public for comment; Trevor Marques agrees with board but see's positives on the other side as well. Almberg, Nevada Wildlife Commissioner, provided a little background.

A motion *to oppose Commission General Regulation 466, Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) Drawing, Changes to Nonresident Restricted Deer Tag, and Changes to Big Game Return Card Questionnaire Deadline, LCB File No. R140-16* was made by board member **Boren** and seconded by board member **Marquez**. Motion passes with no opposition.

8* A 1* Heritage Project Extension Requests – Chairman Wallace

8* A 2* Heritage Funding Reallocation – Chairman Wallace

8* A 3* Fiscal Year 2018 Heritage Project Proposals – Chairman Wallace

Board discussed A 1,2 & 3 together; - Menghini, NDOW mentioned that locally an experimental project regarding cheat grass control is up for possible funding and Cory Lital, from Lincoln County CAB has requested funding for a chaining project. Almborg, Nevada Wildlife Commissioner, praised the NBU for donating the additional money needed so that all project proposals could be funded this year.

A motion to **approve Heritage Project Extension Requests, Heritage Funding Reallocation and Fiscal Year 2018 Heritage Project Proposals as written** was made by board member **McVicars** and seconded by board member **Marquez**. Motion passes with no opposition.

9* Commission Regulation 17-06 Amendment #1, 2018 Heritage Tag Organization/Vendor Selection and Special Regulations – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger

Board discussed as follows. Almborg, Nevada Wildlife Commissioner, reminded board of the long history with National organizations. He offered additional material noting the amount of money donated and spent locally.

A motion to recommend under **Commission Regulation 17-06 Amendment #1, 2018 Heritage Tag Organization/Vendor Selection and Special Regulations to provide preference to Nevada vendors** was made by board member **Boren** and seconded by board member **McVicars** motion passes with no opposition.

11* Draft Nevada Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan – Fisheries Division Administrator Jon Sjöberg and Wildlife Staff Specialist Karen Vargas

Board discussed as follows: Wow... huge document – Giles, NDOW referred to a large vessel that originated out of Lake Mead that made it to the Washington border with obvious invasive species- the results of this happening could have been catastrophic. Liability could be placed on the department when something like this occurs. This doc is designed to help protect Nevada from legal issues that could develop from cases like this. Puts some protection mechanisms into effect.

A motion to **approve Draft Nevada Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan as written** was made by board member **McVicars** and seconded by board member **Boren**. Motion passes with no opposition.

12 Reports – A* Update on the 79th Legislative Session (2017)

Board discussed as follows: Questions regarding Legislative issues: Jon noted last revision removed the 24-hour trap check SB364. Boren questioned if numbers are still good. Jon said he didn't think so. Boren questioned AB138-Scott clarified.

19* Commission Regulation CR 16-13, Amendment #1 – Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons, Bag Limits and Special Regulations 2017–2018 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa and Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme

Public comment: Bennett and Taylor noted harvest results from previous year. Boren commented on Eureka only showed one trap date, questioned why is that? Menghini, NDOW and Giles, NDOW noted there is a decline in participation. T. Marques brought up the Turkey issues and clarified some kill restrictions.

A motion to **accept Commission Regulation CR 16-13, Amendment #1 – Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons, Bag Limits and Special Regulations 2017–2018 as written** was made by board member **Marquez** and seconded by board member **McVicars** motion passes with no opposition.

20. B* Fiscal Year 2018 County Advisory Board Budget Requests – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck

no discussion

21* Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa

Turkey release on Mt. Moriah scheduled. Several release sites have been identified. Mt. Quail possible. Menghini, NDOW noted that as birds become available possible release to come. Boren asked for clarification on the process once they become aware of available birds. Boren questioned potential of sage grouse release. Menghini stated no evidence that the habitat could sustain growth. Boren asked if it's a habitat issue or a predatory issue that is preventing the growth of population? Menghini believes it's habitat. Boren noted the over exploitation of birds by hunters. Encouraged the department to consider adding birds if available to help grow the populations.

A motion to approve Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 as written was made by board member **McVicars** and seconded by board member **Marquez**. Motion passes with no opposition.

22* Landowner Deer and Antelope Compensation Tag Program – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling

Board discussed.

Almberg, Nevada Wildlife Commissioner, reviewed. The 2.5% was approved which will provide some temporary relief. The commission is concerned about compensation for the landowners. Menghini, NDOW noted the Farm Bureau is on board with the 2.5%

Sawyer would like a system to be put into action that uses a utilization report. Almberg agreed but is concerned of the cost that will be incurred to the department and where would that money come from.

Everyone agrees the current allocation system is unfair but no one has a better solution at this time; Sawyer and Almberg noted the topic entertained extensive discussion at the previous commission meeting. Board encourages anyone with ideas to share them.

No action taken.

23* Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Public Land Parcel Disposal – Commissioner Drew and Division Administrator Alan Jenne

No support material available at the time of meeting.

No action taken

Next meeting date(s)

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Reno, Nevada June 23-24, 2017

Board will not be attending due to White Pine County Finance director Elizabeth Frances recommendation. She has advised board that no money available and the trip will not be reimbursed.

White Pine County Wildlife Advisory Board (Ely, Nevada on Aug 8, 2017 at 6pm)

A motion to approve the White Pine County Wildlife Advisory Board meeting in Ely 6pm on August 8, 2017 was made by board member **McVicars** and seconded by **Boren**. Motion passes with no opposition.

Public Comment Period:

Boren thanked the department for their attendance at the meetings and encouraged more public participation. Asked those in attendance to let others know. Marques encouraged the board to use social media to post meeting dates while we wait for the County to allow us to create a FB page.

T. Marques is in favor of a shed season to protect the resource and requested the board put it on the next agenda.

McVicars brought up questions concerning Sunny Side water issues, Rancher vs Department. Wondering if there is a solution near. T. Marques asked about Bassett. Water level is so low.

Almberg shared the status of Cummins lake; still moving forward

Shane asked about Black Rock station: what's the plan? Menghinni, doesn't know. Neither did Almberg.

Drake, request that the board puts trail cam discussion on next agenda

Sawyer requested action item for next meeting to elect a vice chairman for the board.

A motion to adjourn the White Pine County Wildlife Advisory meeting at 7:33 pm held on June 20, 2017 was made by board member McVicars and seconded by board member **Boren**. Motion passed with no opposition.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm