

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the November 2, 2020 Meeting

Pursuant to Governor Sisolak’s March 22, 2020 Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, the requirement contained in NRS 241.023(1)(b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended in order to mitigate the possible exposure or transmission of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

- Public comment will be accepted prior to the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting. To offer public comment before the Board meeting, members of the public may submit public comments by email to: lkabat@douglasnv.us. Please be sure to state your name, item number, and your position on the item.
- Written public comments may also be mailed to the attention of the Recording Secretary, Lorraine Kabat, P O Box 218, Minden, Nevada 89423, but all public comments must be received prior to the date of the meeting if the comments are to be included in the supplemental materials.
- All written public comments that are received prior to 4:00 PM the day before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting will be compiled and will be added as supplemental material for the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife members and the public to review prior to the meeting.
- Any written public comment received the day of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting will be compiled and added as supplemental materials to the County’s website and distributed to the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife members within 24 hours after the meeting.
- Members of the public needing assistance with making public comment can call Lorraine Kabat at 775-782-0029.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Cook, Vice Chairman
Robert Rittenhouse
JT Chevallier
Mike Turnipseed

MEMBER ABSENT: Craig Burnside, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT: Doug Ritchie, Chief Civil Deputy District Attorney
Carl Lackey, Nevada Department of Wildlife Biologist-joined the meeting at 5:45 PM.
Deana Ackerman, Nevada Department of Wildlife Game Warden-joined the meeting at 5:45 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm and determined a quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The recording secretary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chairman Cook called for the roll and noted the absence of Chairman Burnside. He introduced Doug Ritchie, Douglas County Chief Civil Deputy District Attorney.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment submitted prior to the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting have been compiled and made a part of the supporting materials that have been provided to the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Board members and public for review.

No public comment was submitted prior to or after the meeting.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Turnipseed/Chevallier to approve the agenda; carried with Burnside absent.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **September 22, 2020**

MOTION by Chevallier/Turnipseed to approve the minutes; carried with Burnside absent.

1. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2020 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING. There will be no action taken.

Vice Chairman Cook stated he could not login to the meeting so he is unable to report on the results.

2. FOR PRESENTATION ONLY. DISCUSSION BY A BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVE ON THE PLAN TO MANAGE PROPOSED CONSERVATION EASEMENTS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE VAN SICKLE STATION RANCH AND THE DANGBERG HOME RANCH.

No BLM representative attended the meeting therefore this presentation did not take place.

3. The following items, 3a through 3i, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meeting, November 6, 2020, using the Nevada Department of Wildlife's YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFHgHLM0MZa2Hx7og8pFcQ>

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may take the following action, or a variation thereof, on each item: support the item, not support the item or not take a position on the item. Public Comment will be allowed on each item.

3a–3i. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION REGULATION 21-01, 2021-2022 RAPTOR CAPTURE QUOTAS. The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2021-2022 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take of raptors for falconry. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 6A)*

Vice Chairman Cook reviewed the recommendations made by the Department of Wildlife.

Member Rittenhouse was surprised to see the collection of owls is allowed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Chevallier to recommend adoption of Commission Regulation 21-01, 2021-2022 Raptor Capture Quotas; carried with Burnside absent.

3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 21-02, 2021-2022 NONCOMMERCIAL COLLECTION SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR LIVE, UNPROTECTED REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS. The Commission will consider and may take action to approve 2021-2022 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 6B)*

Vice Chairman Cook noted that there are no changes proposed with the exception of the updates to the species and subspecies names to reflect the genetic analyses.

MOTION by Chevallier/Turnipseed to recommend approval of Commission General Regulation 21-02, 2021-2022 Noncommercial Collection Seasons and Bag Limits for Live, Unprotected Reptiles and Amphibians; carried with Burnside absent.

3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 20-04, AMENDMENT #2, 2021 HERITAGE TAG SEASONS AND QUOTA. The Commission will reexamine the 2021 Heritage Tag seasons as approved in January of 2020 and may consider adopting a regulation amendment to change one or more season dates. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 6C)*

Member Chevallier would like to wait until the conflict with the tags is settled before making a recommendation.

The consensus of the Board was to take no action at this time.

3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE (TAAHC) REPORT. A report will be provided on the recent Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee meeting. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7)*

Since no information on the content of the report was provided, no action was taken at this time.

3e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 495, NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 502 SIMPLIFICATION. The Commission will review the Regulation Simplification Committee's recommendations regarding language updates and simplification of Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 relating to licensing. *(This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9A)*

The language changes were reviewed by the Board members with the consensus that none of them were a great divergence from the existing language.

It is expected that the Simplification Committee will make language change suggestions and direction will be given by the Commission, which eventually will be drafted into a regulation by the Legislative Counsel Bureau. The members opted to wait until this item comes back to them before a recommendation is made.

3f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 496, NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 503 SIMPLIFICATION. The Commission will review the Regulation Simplification Committee's recommendations regarding language updates and simplification of Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503 relating to wildlife. *(This item is agendized as a workshop on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9B)*

Member Chevallier reviewed the language changes and feels they are minor in nature.

It is expected that the Simplification Committee will make language change suggestions and direction will be given by the Commission, which eventually will be drafted into a regulation by the Legislative Counsel Bureau. The members opted to wait until this item comes back to them before a recommendation is made.

3g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE UPDATE ON THE FALLON NAVAL RANGE AND TRAINING CENTER AND NEVADA TEST AND TRAINING RANGE. The Department will provide an update regarding the legislative environmental impact statements status and timelines for Commission consideration of congressional correspondence relative to wildlife impacts. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 11H)*

Member Turnipseed talked about allowing hunting during specific times, as is done in another range.

Since no background material was provided, no action was taken at this time.

3h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE PETITION SUBMITTED BY CATHY SMITH TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF DOGS ON BEAR HUNTS. Ms. Smith has submitted a petition to change NAC 503.147 to prohibit the use of dogs during a black bear hunt. This change is requested after a recent poll conducted by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) in 2018. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 12)*

Carl Lackey, Nevada Department of Wildlife Biologist, was available to provide data and to answer questions for the Board.

Member Turnipseed asked if California still allowed dogs and Mr. Lackey responded they prohibited dogs three to four years ago.

Vice Chairman Cook asked if Nevada still allows dogs in all the areas and if there were any problems with the use of them. Mr. Lackey stated they are allowed and to his knowledge, there were no problems.

Mr. Lackey explained nine bears have been killed this year and dogs were used in eight of those hunts. Through the end of last year, 71% of successful hunters used dogs. Since 2011, dogs were used for 89 of the 126 bears killed. Area 19 has the highest percentage of females killed but the lowest percentage of use of dogs.

Member Chevallier asked if the use of dogs has a negative scientific effect on the overall bear population with Mr. Lackey responding no. Member Chevallier believes that if the science does not back up removing hunting opportunities then he cannot support removing them or the use of dogs. If recommendations are made within scientific frameworks and done ethically, he can support it but that is not the case in this situation.

Member Turnipseed agreed.

Vice Chairman Cook still wants to see bear hunting allowed to the Lake as is allowed for all other species. He would like to see shotguns allowed for bear.

Member Turnipseed referred to the petition and the reference to the poll conducted by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and asked if anyone had read the report.

Member Rittenhouse did read the lengthy report and feels the report does not support or condemn hunting with dogs. Therefore, he feels Ms. Smith's reference to that report is misleading.

The Board members talked about the number of tags surrounding states issue for bear.

Member Rittenhouse is concerned that prohibiting hunting bear with dogs could flow over to prohibiting bird dogs.

Member Turnipseed pointed out that a hunter can use dogs to hunt cats.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Chevallier to recommend the Commission deny the petition; carried with Burnside absent.

3i. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE PETITION SUBMITTED BY CHRIS JASMINE REGARDING THE USE OF TRADITIONAL ARCHERY FOR MULE DEER HUNT. Mr. Jasmine has submitted a petition from the Traditional Archers of Nevada (TAN) requesting the Commission look at an increased opportunity for archery hunters willing to use more primitive equipment. The Traditional Archers of Nevada would like to establish a quota for traditional archery for mule deer tags with no impact to other hunters, season dates, or quotas. The Commission may take action or deny or accept the petition and initiate rulemaking. (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 13)

Member Turnipseed asked if traditional archery includes recurve bow.

Member Chevallier thought it did as well as long bow. They are requesting 100 traditional archery only mule deer tags, which would be during the same archery season but with their own tags allocated.

Vice Chairman Cook said it is basically a special interest group that is just making a request.

Member Chevallier feels this request is the equivalent of having a scoped and an iron sight classification during the general rifle season.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Rittenhouse to recommend the Commission deny the petition; carried with Burnside absent.

Carl Lackey, Nevada Department of Wildlife Biologist, left the meeting at 6:14 pm.

4. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

- Vice Chairman Cook received emails from Member Rittenhouse and Carl Lackey on the bears at the Lake. He received a call from Kathleen Silvers about the abundance of geese on her property, which are creating a problem.
- Member Rittenhouse received a call from a Foothill Road landowner about a deer that was hit and killed by a vehicle. Neither NDOT nor Fish & Game would come out and remove the animal.
- Member Chevallier received communications about the increased bear activity and the sightings of a few mountain lion around Genoa.

5. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO ATTEND UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS AND TO REPRESENT THE FINDINGS OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD. ONE MEMBER WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD.

Members Cook and Chevallier plan to attend.

6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for January 29 and 30, 2021, in Reno and the Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The location of the meeting is subject to change due to direction of the Governor during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission may change the time and meeting location at this time. The chairwoman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, January 25, 2021.**

7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- a. Bureau of Land Management on the plan to manage proposed conservation easements including Van Sickle Station Ranch and the Dangberg Home Ranch.
- b. Update from the Town of Minden on the improvements to the Seman Pond.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.

No public comment was submitted.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

The minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 25th day of January 2021.

Respectfully submitted:

Bob Cook, Vice Chairman