

DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the March 22, 2022 Meeting

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:00 pm on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Burnside, Chairman
Mike Turnipseed
Mike Porter
Kevin Kjer

MEMBER ABSENT: JT Chevallier, Vice Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT: Carl Lackey, Nevada Department of Wildlife Biologist

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm and determined a quorum was present. Noted was the absence of JT Chevallier, Vice Chairman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Member Kjer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Burnside introduced Member Kjer to the other members and to Carl Lackey, Nevada Department of Wildlife Biologist.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Porter to approve the agenda as presented; carried with Chevallier absent.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **January 25, 2022**

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Porter to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Chevallier absent.

1. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER 5, 2021 AND THE JANUARY 28 & 29, 2022 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

Chairman Burnside highlighted the points of interest from the November 5, 2021 Commission meeting as:

- Commission Policy 10 was approved with the language change relating to the Procedure section, Item 1.
- The modernization of the statewide elk plan was approved.
- Commission General Regulation 499 was approved without discussion.
- The Commission approved the continued pursuit of the purchase of the Licking Ranch.
- There was a lengthy discussion on the fur bearing and predator contests, but that discussion is not reflected in the Commission minutes.

Member Chevallier attended the January meeting so that update will be carried forward to the April agenda.

This was a discussion only.

2. DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE MULE DEER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE.

Carl Lackey, Nevada Department of Wildlife Biologist, stated 2 projects have been approved but funding them remains a question. A contribution was planned for the Tamarack Fire area seeding project but the seeding has already taken place. The Jacks Valley Wildlife Management Area signage project was approved but funding has not been identified. Funding is an issue across the board for many of the projects.

Chairman Burnside questioned the reasoning behind the request to identify projects if funding is not available.

Mr. Lackey stated funding avenues were identified a year ago but he is unsure what has changed.

The signage for Jacks Valley is on Forest Service property. Staff is going to apply for funding through Nevada Department of Wildlife's Habitat Conservation Fund when the time is right. The Forest Service has \$5000 to contribute to the project, however the cost for this project is unknown currently.

Chairman Burnside feels projects that will benefit mule deer could be identified annually.

Mr. Lackey agreed and thought areas where projects are needed could come forward more often. He discussed the path used to request funding for the projects and suggested it causes an extra step in the process.

Chairman Burnside recalled that four projects were submitted, the two discussed along with planting mountain mahogany on the backside of Peavine and fencing the springs in Mineral Valley.

Mr. Lackey stated those other two projects were ranked low.

This was a discussion only.

3. **The following items, 3a through 3k, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, March 25 & 26, 2022, at the Boulder City Parks & Recreations Department (Gymnasium), 900 Arizona Street, Boulder City, Nevada. 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–3k. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2023 PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN. The draft Fiscal Year 2023 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for review. A report from the Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC) Meeting, held on February 10th will be shared with the Commission. All comments from the Commission, PARC, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and any other interested publics will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at the March 2022 meeting. Five proposed Mule Deer Enhancement Predator Management Projects submitted by MDEP subcommittees and approved by the MDEP Oversight Committee will be considered for inclusion in the Draft Fiscal Year 2023 Predation Management Plan. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 6)*

Chairman Burnside reviewed the guidelines of the predator management plan and said the proposed projects are mostly carry overs from the past.

Member Kjer reviewed the projects and stated support for the plan.

No public comment.

MOTION by Porter/Burnside to recommend the Commission support the Draft Fiscal Year 2023 Predation Management Plan; carried with Chevallier absent.

3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE APPROVAL FOR ELK DAMAGE PAYMENT EXCEEDING \$10,000. An assessment of elk damage on Granite Peak Ranch in White Pine County, totaling \$19,170.00, was completed by Department personnel and submitted for reimbursement by Bruce Hubbard, agent for the property. Per NAC 504.421 Section 1 (f), “A loss on one site must be limited to \$10,000, unless the Commission determines that a claimant may be paid more, and there is sufficient money to pay him or her.” The Commission will need to approve the elk damage claim so the Department can pay the claim. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 7)*

Chairman Burnside identified the location of the Granite Peak Ranch and discussed the number of elk on the property equating that number of animals to cost of the damage.

No public comment.

MOTION by Porter/Kjer to recommend the Commission approval for Elk Damage Payment exceeding \$10,000; carried with Chevallier absent.

3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE THIRD READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 10, HERITAGE TAGS AND VENDORS. The Commission will have

a third reading of Commission Policy 10, Heritage Tags and Vendors, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15A)

The members pointed out the numbering formatting error under Procedure has not been fixed and felt it should be corrected prior to final approval.

No public comment.

MOTION Burnside/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the third reading of Commission Policy 10, Heritage Tags and Vendors. Prior to approval, the numbering should be corrected so it is sequential; carried with Chevallier absent.

3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 31, LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT MANAGEMENT. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 31, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Management, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15B)*

The members felt they had adequately reviewed this item from past agenda items.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the second reading of Commission Policy 31, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Management; carried with Chevallier absent.

3e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 33, FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 33, Fisheries Management Program, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15C)*

The members felt they had adequately reviewed this item from past agenda items.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the second reading of Commission Policy 33, Fisheries Management Program; carried with Chevallier absent.

3f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FIRST READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 40, STATEWIDE BOATING SAFETY. The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 40, Statewide Boating Safety, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15D)*

The members reviewed the language changes deleting “boating” and adding “watercraft” and “paddle craft.” Also added was language encouraging life vests/jackets for all boating and paddle craft users.

No public comment.

MOTION by Porter/Turnipseed to recommend the Commission approve the first reading of Commission Policy 40, Statewide Boating Safety; carried with Chevallier absent.

3g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 63, PROTECTING WILDLIFE FROM TOXIC PONDS. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 63, Protecting Wildlife from Toxic Ponds, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15E)*

The members felt they had adequately reviewed this item from past agenda items.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the second reading of Commission Policy 63, Protecting Wildlife from Toxic Ponds; carried with Chevallier absent.

3h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 64, INPUT OF LAND SALES, TRANSFERS, AND EXCHANGES. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 64, Input on Land Sales, Transfers, and Exchanges, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15F)*

The members felt they had adequately reviewed this item from past agenda items.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the second reading of Commission Policy 64, Input of Land Sales, Transfers, and Exchanges; carried with Chevallier absent.

3I. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 65, DESIGNATION OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15G)*

The members felt they had adequately reviewed this item from past agenda items.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the second reading of Commission Policy 65, Designations of Wildlife Management Areas; carried with Chevallier absent.

3j. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 67, FERAL HORSES AND BURROS. The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 67, Feral Horses and Burros, and may take action to repeal, revise or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 15H)*

The members felt they had adequately reviewed this item from past agenda items.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission approve the second reading of Commission Policy 67, Feral Horses and Burros; carried with Chevallier absent.

3k. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION REGULATION 22-10, MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR WATERFOWL AND WEBLESS MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS PUBLIC HUNTING LIMITED ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND DESIGNATED STATE LANDS – 2022 – 2023 SEASON. The Commission will consider recommendations for seasons, bag limits and special regulations for migratory game birds for the 2022-2023 season and adopt regulations consistent with proposed regulations framework for the 2022-2023 hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Commission will also consider rules regulating public

hunting on Wildlife Management Areas and designated state lands. (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 16A)

Chairman Burnside explained the Department is adopting regulations in anticipation of the final determinations of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Federal Framework. If there are any changes, this will be brought back to the Commission.

Changes to Mexican Ducks, Swans, and Canada Geese were highlighted.

Member Kjer asked if the Snow and Ross' geese season was always so long.

Chairman Burnside responded it has been that way since last year.

No public comment.

MOTION by Porter/Kjer to recommend the Commission adopt Commission Regulation 22-10, Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds; Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and Designated State Lands -2022-2203 Season; carried with Chevallier absent.

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

Chairman Burnside received two emails from Bob Rittenhouse, one regarding the hunter safety program and the other regarding the management of wild horses, and those were read into the record.

This was a discussion only.

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.

Due to scheduling conflicts, no one will be able to attend the next meeting.

6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 6 and 7, 2022. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date, 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 Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Results of the January 28 & 29, 2022 Wildlife Commission meetings.
- Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife budget submission.

- Ability to use wildlife trash containers within the Towns of Minden and Gardnerville if a resident desires. The Towns would have to determine if their current trash collection can service that type of container.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no closing public comment.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

The minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 26th day of April 2022.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig Burnside, Chairman