

## Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB)

### Minutes

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) held a public meeting on July 29, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. at the Eureka County Administrative Facility (Annex). A remote, telephonic option to attend was made available.

**Members Present:** Jim Evans (Chairman), Trent Gordon (Vice-Chairman) (via phone), and Joe Luby.

**Others Present:** Tom Donham, NDOW Eastern Region Supervisor (via phone), Magee Braswell, Eureka County Natural Resources Department Casual Worker (via phone), Shasta Blackeye-Adair, Eureka County Natural Resources Department Assistant and CAB Secretary.

#### **Call to order**

Chairman Evans called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. a quorum was determined to be present.

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Board Business**

*Approval of the agenda notice with addition of any emergency item and/or deletion of any item.*

Chairman Evans made a motion to approve the agenda without any changes. Joe Luby seconded with all in favor.

*Review and approve the minutes from the April 29, 2021 meeting. (For Possible Action)*

Chairman Evans made a motion to approve the minutes without any changes. Joe Luby seconded with all in favor.

#### **Correspondence and Member Reports (Discussion)**

Chairman Evans advised that he got in touch with the realty specialist at BLM Battle Mountain District and they are going to look into the right-of-way on Tonkin Dam and the issue with the old boat launch approach and dock on the northeast side of the dam. He is working with them to get it reconstructed. He also had a call from Bert Gurr with Elko CAB in reference to the growing concern of the perch population at Wildhorse Reservoir and how that may affect habitat regimens in the future for trout and small mouth bass.

Trent Gordon advised that NDOW has started off with a few meetings with the Mule Deer Enhancement Subcommittees. He was unable to attend the Area 14 meeting but advised the Subcommittee will be doing a field trip soon, no date set yet. Mr. Gordon is also on the Area 13 committee and they met on Tuesday and will be working on some dates to get some projects going and also do a field trip. Chairman Evans asked if Mr. Gordon would be bringing information that he received from those meetings to the CAB. Mr. Gordon advised that he would.

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#### **Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Projects**

*Update on pinyon-juniper thinning project, wildlife guzzler installation, and other potential projects including fisheries, and consider further efforts to move forward for successful implementation of projects.*

\*Tom Donham and Magee Braswell joined the meeting at this point via phone.

Chairman Evans advised that he does not have any discussion items relative to pinyon-juniper (PJ) projects or guzzler operation and maintenance.

Mr. Gordon advised that it looks like the applications for the game biologist have been closed and NDOW has a few candidates so there may be a biologist position back in Eureka soon. Chairman Evans asked about Clint Garrett, prior Eureka NDOW biologist, and how he is splitting up his duties at this time. Chairman Evans requested if Tom Donham had any input as to what Mr. Garrett's new position will entail. Mr. Donham answered that Mr. Garrett has taken over the Western Region Deer and Antelope Compensation Biologist position as well as some bear duties and will be primary covering the Mule Deer Enhancement Subcommittee in the CAB's area. He continued that as far as the recruitment for the Eureka biologist position, it is now closed and NDOW now has several qualified applicants. Mr. Donham, Mr. Garrett, and Cody Schroder are trying to cover central Nevada now. Mr. Donham addressed housing needs in Eureka and also advised that for now if anything was needed in Eureka to contact him or Mr. Garrett.

Chairman Evans asked Mr. Donham about the status of the NDOW law enforcement position (i.e., game warden). Mr. Donham answered he has not spoken to the position supervisor and did not have any information but will reach out and get back to the CAB on that.

#### **Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (NBWC) Meeting Agenda and Support Material**

Chairman Evans discussed the agenda and the changes that were made to the NBWC agenda and that there is no longer a meeting scheduled for Saturday as everything will be done via Zoom on Friday.

Joe Luby brought up section 7.J of the NBWC agenda in reference to the Raven Research update. He would like an item on the next CAB agenda as to what comes out of that update. He advised that he has been made aware that ravens are top predators for sage grouse leks and would like for the CAB to not miss updates related to them. Chairman Evans requested Shasta Blackeye-Adair to make a notation to have a raven update summation from NDOW Predator Staff Specialist, Pat Jackson, on the agenda for the next CAB meeting.

#### **Action Item 8A-Commission General Regulation 489, NAC 503.172, Shed Antler Season, NAC 501.200 – Management Analyst Kailey Musso and Chief Game Warden Mike Maynard – For Possible Action**

Chairman Evans had comments to provide in reference to this section but released the floor to other members first. Mr. Luby advised he did not get a chance to look at the support material for this yet. Chairman Evans requested clarification from Mr. Donham on this section. Mr. Donham advised that there will be an increase in penalties which is increasing the demerits for

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when someone gets caught collecting shed antlers out of season. The normal closure is January 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> and what they are looking at is a May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> closure unless a person has taken an online course and has a certificate that would be issued by the department. It is the same counties that have restrictions already in place. He noted this is still in a workshop phase.

Mr. Luby posed a question about if there will be a charge for taking the online class and getting the certificate. Mr. Donham answered that there will be no cost at this time. Mr. Luby asked about age restrictions as well. Mr. Donham advised there is an age restriction; if 12 years or older they must have the certificate in their possession and if under 12 years of age they must be accompanied by someone 18 years of age or older that has that certificate in their possession. Mr. Luby asked about the level of the penalty there will be if someone doesn't have the certificate. Mr. Donham advised that he cannot answer that because that is specific to Law Enforcement.

Mr. Gordon commented that his questions were already answered about how the certificates were going to be obtained.

Chairman Evans stated that he will not support this section at all in reference to permitting. He noted that Law Enforcement already has plenty to do and they do not have enough people on board to enforce this type of permit. Chairman Evans also noted that he will not support it because he does not see any benefit or impact to wildlife.

Mr. Luby agreed with Chairman Evans and commented that this seems to be more "red tape" with no public benefit or wildlife benefit. Mr. Gordon was in agreeance with Chairman Evans and Mr. Luby. No formal action taken due to this section being in a workshop phase. The CAB had consensus to continue to discuss this in future CAB meetings as, or if, it moves forward.

#### **Action Item 9A-Commission Regulation 21-04, Amendment #2, Black Bear Seasons – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**

Chairman Evans opened this item up to the members. Mr. Gordon discussed the indoctrination class and that every tag holder should have to do it whether or not they are first come first serve. Mr. Luby agreed. Chairman Evans asked Mr. Donham about this section. Mr. Donham advised that because of the new first come first serve tags, this requires those tag holders to take the indoctrination course and it will be a recorded version that they will track. No further comments from the CAB. Chairman Evans motioned to support this item as written, Mr. Luby seconded with all in favor.

#### **Action Item 9B-Commission Regulation 20-12, Amendment #2, 2021-2022 Upland Game and Furbearer Season and Bag Limits – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa – For Possible Action**

Chairman Evans opened this up and discussed that this was targeted for wild turkeys. Mr. Donham clarified that this is the only amendment they are doing and it is in reference to shifting the three seasons. It will be shifted to the last Saturday in April through the second Saturday in May and is only in Mason Valley. Mr. Gordon brought up that there may be overlap with the second and third season and if that could raise conflict. Mr. Donham advised that he had not looked at that well but advised that there would only be a one day overlap and that there are

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only three tags in that area so it really is a non-issue from the Department's perspective. No further comments. Chairman Evans motioned to support this item as written, Mr. Luby seconded with all in favor.

**Next Meeting**

The board should get any other desired agenda items to the secretary for the next meeting. Mr. Luby requested to move the meeting to Thursday, September 16, 2021 instead of the pre-scheduled date of September 15, 2021 due to conflicting schedules. Mr. Luby motioned to have the meeting on September 16, 2021 at 4:30 pm, Chairman Evans seconded with all in favor. **The next meeting date was scheduled for September 16, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chairman Evans, Trent Gordon seconded with all in favor. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2021.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Shasta Blackeye-Adair

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman  
Jim Evans