

Minutes of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Meeting-Draft Minutes

November 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM

EOC Building, 205 South "A" St, Hawthorne, NV-Training Room

Present: Glenn Bunch, Chairman,
Members Present: Billie Williams Jr., Wayne Larson,
Marlene Bunch – Adm Assist.

Absent: Johnny Peterson, Darren Hamrey

Public Present: None

Meeting Called to order by Chairman Glenn Bunch at 6:02 PM

Attending by Zoom - None

- 1* Modernization of the Statewide Elk Species Management Plan – Staff-** The Board will review and make recommendation to the Commission relative to the Nevada Elk Species Management Plan (ESMP) was approved in 1997. Over the last 25 years, the Department has adopted various techniques, technologies, and harvest guidance designed to improve elk management in Nevada and some of these practices are not specifically described within the ESMP. Further, certain portions of the ESMP may be outdated and may require revision. The Department requests the Commission's approval to begin the evaluation and review process of the ESMP.

Glenn stated that he would like to make a request to see that Mineral County in the Nevada Elk Species Management Plan (ESMP). The elk are migrating towards us, they say, but we need to be ready for Elk. They (The Dept) is not moving any elk, even though we have asked for Elk to be transplanted in Mineral County. And everyone in Mineral County is on board with this request. Even though, at some time, whether by natural migration, or if by chance the Dept does transplant some Elk as we had requested, we need to be ready for it. And that is by starting with the Elk Management Plan and having Mineral County listed in it.

Billie stated that he whole heartedly agrees. We've been asking for Elk since our initial request of April 14, 2016. That's been 5 ½ years and we've mentioned it several times in our meeting minutes that we still want elk in Mineral County.

Wayne stated that we have the terrain that the elk thrives in, the people want to see them, plus it would be a good economic burst for our Mineral County to have elk here for people in surrounding communities to come and see. It's a win, win situation.

It was moved by Glenn Bunch, seconded by Billie Williams to advised the dept that Mineral County wants to be included in the plan as they go through the process. Motion Carried.

- 2* Commission General Regulation 499, Bonus Point Only Application Period** The Board will review and make recommendation to the Commission as they review language amending NAC 502 chapters that would decouple the hunt application periods from bonus point purchase periods, remove the requirement for a 7-day bonus point only purchase period, and allows for the creation of a separate period for bonus point purchases to facilitate a more timely draw process and potentially provide increased opportunity for customers to obtain a bonus points in the future. The change also outlines the definitions for "awarded" or "successful" relative to obtaining a big game tag.

Glenn stated that his has been about and they have put language on it. The major chances provided by the dept was reviewed by the board. In short this sets aside a way that can set aside a period afterwards for the people with bonus points.

Billie stated that he felt this was a good idea.

It was moved by Billie Williams Seconded by Way Larson to approve the Dept recommendations relative to the Bonus Point Application Period. Motion carried

- 3: **Commission General Regulation 503, LCB File No. RXXX-XX, Predator and Fur-bearing Contests** – The Board will discuss and make recommendations to the Commission as they will hold a workshop to discuss potential language on predator and fur-bearing contests proposed by Commissioner McNinch.

Glenn stated that what they are coming up with is that McNinch was to bring up language to the Dept. He further went on to read that a person shall not participate in a contest in fur bearing animals. (abbreviated)

Billie asked Glenn if he had gotten the memo from the Coalition for Nevada Wildlife

Glenn stated that he had. He went on to say that this is going through a virtual Meeting and attendance is hard to see by that means. He further stated that he did not see a need for it.

Billie stated that he sees it as a way to outlaw hunting. And that's all it is.

Glenn stated that it's like a lot of other things that been done, it creates a road block and is exploded.

Billie further stated that he did not support it. He stated that he did see where we need it.

A motion was made by Billie Williams and Seconded by Wayne Larson to disapprove this item and deny the proposal by Commissioner McNinch. Motion Carried

4. **The Board May Review remaining items of the November 5, 2021 Commission Agenda.**

The Board may review and discuss the remaining items of the November 5, 2021 Commission Agenda and make recommendations to the Commission accordingly. (Public Comment)

Glenn stated that Item # 12 for the Interim Heritage Proposal review came out after the agenda was posted. The Commission will hear the Depts request to Purchase the 1,550 acre Liking Ranch north of Battle Mountain for the pitman rogers funds to match it. It's one of those things that comes up now because of the timeline for the Heritage Committee has already past. It now has to be handled by the Commission. Ordinarily it comes before the heritage committee but the timeline it could not meet the normal process.

The Board reviewed the supporting material and liked the idea.

Billie stated that it will belong to the people in Nevada.

It was moved by Wayne Larson, seconded by Billie Williams to support the Commission in using Heritage Funds to purchase the Linking Ranch. Motion Carried.

- 5 **Public Comment:**

None

It was moved by Billie Williams, seconded by Wayne Larson to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 PM. Motion carried.