

**DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**  
**Minutes of the October 31, 2023 Meeting**

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Paul Howell, Vice Chairman  
Mike Porter  
Kevin Kjer

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Craig Burnside, Chairman

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairman Howell called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm and determined a quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Vice Chairman Howell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Vice Chairman Howell noted the planned absence of Chairman Burnside and introduced the members in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to approve the agenda as presented; carried with Burnside absent.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **September 19, 2023**

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Burnside absent.

**1. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 2023 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS.**

This item will be tabled to the January 2024 meeting.

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

There was no discussion on this item as Chairman Burnside is the reporting member of this committee.

**3. The following items, 3a through 3g, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, November 3 & 4, 2023 at the Washoe County Administrative Complex, Building A, Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, 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–3g. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:**

**3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FOURTH READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 23 – PREDATION MANAGEMENT.** The Commission will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 8)*

Member Porter feels this policy has been reviewed multiple times and this body has consistently supported the changes.

Vice Chairman Howell pointed out the language changes being brought forward are minor and he suggested this board continue to recommend Commission support.

MOTION by Howell/Porter to recommend the Commission support the adoption of Commission Policy 23 – Predation Management; carried with Burnside absent.

**3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 24 – HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES AMONG VARIOUS WEAPONS CLASSES AND HUNTER GROUPS.** The TAAHC Committee reviewed Commission Policy 24, made changes, and sent it back to the Commission. The Commission may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 9)*

Vice Chairman Howell highlighted the language changes regarding the junior hunt pointing out that it will teach the younger hunters better “hunting” skills. The fixed allocation tag success formula findings were reviewed, and he expressed support for the effort to provide a sustainable, quality hunting experience.

Member Kjer concurred.

Member Porter thought Nevadan’s want a chance at a quality animal; sportsmen will be selective in what they take.

Vice Chairman Howell believes to hunt every year a hunter has to hunt multiple weapons and multiple states.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to recommend the Commission support the second reading of Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups; carried with Burnside absent.

**3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 500, SUBDIVISION MAP REVIEW.** The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider

amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 278 to provide for the Department review of tentative subdivision map(s) and inclusion of recommendations for methods to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife, mitigation measures, best management practices or required design features, and provide for collection of associated fees to the Department for carrying out such reviews. *(This item is agendaized as a workshop of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18A)*

Member Kjer thinks the recommendations are a good start.

No public comment.

MOTION by Porter/Kjer to recommend the Commission support Commission General Regulation 500, Subdivision Map Review; carried with Burnside absent.

**3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 511, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS.** The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider amending Chapter 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This Regulation would update Wildlife Management Area (WMA) designations and restrictions. *(This item is agendaized as a workshop of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18B)*

Vice Chairman Howell indicated the regulation will incorporate new management areas and update the restrictions on management areas.

No public comment.

MOTION by Howell/Porter to recommend the Commission support Commission General Regulation 511, Wildlife Management Area Regulations; carried with Burnside absent.

**3e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 513, EXECUTIVE ORDER REGULATIONS.** The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapters 488, 501, 502, 503 and 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code pursuant to Executive Order 2023-003. *(This item is agendaized as a workshop of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda) (Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 18C)*

Member Kjer said these regulation changes are meant to streamline, clarify, and/or update certain chapters in the Code.

Vice Chairman Howell suggested the board keep this on their radar as this process moves forward.

No public comment.

MOTION by Porter/Kjer to recommend the Commission support Commission General Regulation 513, Executive Order Regulations; carried with Burnside absent.

**3f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 509, LICENSE AND VESSEL PRODUCT REFUNDS.** The Commission will consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 and 488 to allow the Department authority to provide refunds on licenses and vessel products. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 19)*

Vice Chairman Howell said this will allow the Department to issue refunds and that makes sense.

No public comment.

MOTION by Howell/Porter to recommend the Commission support the adoption of Commission General Regulation 509, License and Vessel Product Refunds; carried with Burnside absent.

**3g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON BIGHORN SHEEP RAM SPECIALTY TAG REGULATION REVIEW.** The Commission will review bighorn ram specialty tag seasons and unit closures and may decide to make changes to the method used to limit the maximum number of specialty tags for every unit group that has an open season. The Commission

Regulations presented at the January 2023 Commission Meeting have not provided the expected results and the Department is seeking an improved method for limiting the number of rams that can be harvested from bighorn ram hunt units or unit groups by specialty tagholders. *(Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 20)*

The members discussed the lack of support material on this agenda item.

The members discussed how specialty tags effect the number of hunters in sheep unit groups and wondered how the Department plans to limit that in the future.

No public comment.

The consensus of the Board was to take no action until more information is provided.

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

There was no correspondence reported.

**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.**

No one will attend.

**6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.** The next Commission meeting is scheduled for January 26 and 27, 2024, in Reno/Sparks. 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 chairman 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, January 23, 2024.

**7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

- Results of the September 22 & 23, 2023 Board of Wildlife Commissioners' meeting.
- Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2024.
- Introduction of newly appointed Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife members.

**CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Vice Chairman Howell read the Board of Wildlife Commissioners' letter expressing opposition to the Winecup Gamble Land Exchange.

Member Kjer thanked Members Porter and Chevallier for their service to the Board and to the sportsmen of Douglas County.

Vice Chairman Howell echoed those sentiments.

Public comment closed.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to come before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.

The minutes of the October 31, 2023 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2024.

Respectfully submitted:

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