

Lander County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

October 3 2023
Lander County Courthouse
50 State Route 305
Battle Mountain, NV 89820

DRAFT MINUTES

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm. President Worth Nelson asked Shawn Mariluch to lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Members present were: Ambur Aten, Shawn Mariluch, Ted McElvain, Worth Nelson, & Larry Teske.
- III. Shawn Mariluch motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.
- IV. Larry Teske motioned to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Shawn Mariluch shared a video of a pack of 5 mountain lions in the Paradise area.

Ambur Aten asked Sarah Hale, biologist, if there are wolves in the Sheep Creek Mountains as someone reported to her that there were very large tracks. Mrs. Hale stated that she is unaware of any wolves in the area. Shawn Mariluch stated that he has seen 2 wolves in the T-S pivot area. Worth Nelson stated that he has seen one in the Toe Jam area.

Ms. Aten also asked if there was a way to transfer a general tag to a youth who has never drawn a tag. Ted McElvain stated that a transfer can only be done in an emergency situation.

Chairman Nelson asked if we had all received the letter requesting our CAB to write a letter opposing the Wine Cup land swap. The Board did not as we did not have a meeting nor a motion to approve such a letter. Shawn Mariluch stated that the Filippini Ranch did write a letter.

Chairman Nelson mentioned that we had received the Heritage Proposal Project form that must be completed by March 2024 for a project that we wish to work on in 2025.

Chairman Nelson also reported that he has been hammered by a few people about increasing the tags in Area 15. Larry Teske and Ted McElvain have also been asked about it.

Chairman Nelson also asked if spotlighting in general is illegal? Is it considered harassment of big game. Sarah Hale texted game warden, Demarquis Tcherneshoff, about it. He stated it is only illegal while hunting.

Scott Roberts replaced Tom Donham.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerry Annis had three issues:

–Lander County has hired a natural resource manager, Pam Harrington. He would like to see us reach out to her along with the Conservation District, Mule Deer Project, & County to see if we can get help with wild horse issues.

–He shared with the CAB that since Lander County made the State of Emergency due to wild horses there are now 6 other counties. Senator Ira Hansen stated that if we get 9 the Governor will listen.

–Conservation District needs ideas for projects and has quite a bit of funding. The funds can be used for treating weeds, too.

CONSERVATION

Shawn Mariluch stated that he would like to see us put a big game guzzler up somewhere in the Fire Creek area (back side of Slaven towards Whirlwind). The CAB liked the idea. Shawn will make some calls about the price of drilling a well and also contacting NV Gold Mines about placing it on their land.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report from Ted McElvain about the State Meeting in August in Fallon:

There was lots of discussion on the Wine Cup land swap transfer. They are not going through the BLM.

Cody Schroeder made a statement that Lander CAB was the only one to vote to decrease the tag quota.

2. Update fro NDOW Biologist, Sarah Hale

They have recently done a pronghorn survey and estimated 5,000 in a portion of Area 14 & all of Area 15 with a 50/100 buck ratio.

Surveyed the Sheep Creeks and classified 128 bighorn sheep in the Sheep Creek Range with a resulting ratio of 60 rams/100 ewes/30 lambs.

Started post season pronghorn survey.

They will be doing deer flights from November 6th - 9th.

Ms. Hale also announced that she is taking a job in the Carson area and this will be her last meeting with us. They have not replaced her yet. She will be missed.

3. Presentation about mule deer ratios by Sarah Hale

She gave a 30-slide presentation explaining how they come up with the mule deer ratios.

4. Update from Jeremy Lutz about Argenta Rim Project

Jeremy Lutz was not present so there was no update given.

5. Discussion and possible recommendations about the NDOW State Agenda

No recommendations were required. Larry Teske noted that the Cortez Range is scheduled for a Desert Bighorn Sheep release of 20-25. He also stated that they are to release mountain goats in the east Humboldt Range.

4. Discussion about who will represent Lander CAB at the State Meeting in Reno on November 3 & 4.

Worth Nelson will represent Lander County at the state meeting in Reno.

5. Discussion and possible recommendation for future agenda items

Ask the game warden to attend our next meeting to give the Board more detailed answers about the spotlighting and thermal imaging issue.

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

Worth Nelson made a motion to approve the travel voucher for Ted McElvain to attend the meeting in Fallon for the amount of \$343.90. The motion was seconded and carried 5-0.

Shawn Mariluch made a motion to approve the payment voucher of \$250.00 for Sondra Torgerson's August and November meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Shawn Mariluch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.