

**THE WHITE PINE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE
WILDLIFE MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON
March 4, 2024, AT 5:15 PM AT THE WHITE PINE COUNTY LIBRARY**

Present:

Mitchell McVicars (Board Chairman)
Steve Marquez
Jake Rosevear

Kayla Couch (Board Secretary)

Absent:

Ray Sawyer

Visitors:

Kody Menghini (NDOW)
Kenny Mull (NDOW)

Called to order:

Board Chairman McVicars called the meeting to order at 5:17pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment Period: No public comment.

***Approval of Agenda:**

Chairman McVicars called for a motion to approve the agenda for the March 4, 2024 meeting.

A motion to approve the agenda for the March 4, 2024 meeting was made by Board member Marquez. The motion was seconded by Board member Rosevear and the motion carried with no opposition.

***Approval of minutes:**

The Board reviewed the January 22, 2024, special meeting minutes for approval.

Board Chairman entertained a motion.

A motion to approve the minutes for the January 22, 2024, special meeting, was made by Board member Marquez. The motion was seconded by Board member Rosevear and the motion carried with no opposition.

***Payment of Bills:**

The Board was presented with a bill from Kayla Couch, for secretary services for the March 4, 2024, meeting in the amount of \$150.00.

Board Chairman entertained a motion.

A motion to approve the payment of bills to Kayla Couch in the amount of \$150.00 was made by Board member McVicars, seconded by board member Rosevear. The motion was carried with no opposition.

***Correspondence:** Chairman McVicars announced that he had forwarded an email from Judi Caron asking for the White Pine County CAB's support, for additional funding and actions to be taken for the wild horse and burro gathers in 2024.

***Reports:**

Cave Lake Project-Kody Menghini (NDOW) reported that Heath Korell has been working on additional rounds of funding for the Cave Lake project. Menghini stated that the funding would be put toward trenching, rock structures, a brick wall (requested by the park) and bank/habitat improvements.

***7C. Wildlife Heritage Account Report – Habitat Division Administrator Mark Freese:**

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

***7D. Wildlife Heritage Committee Report – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes:**

Board discussion: Chairman McVicars mentioned that the South Schell Land Acquisition can be discussed under agenda item 17 Heritage Account Principal Project Proposal.

Public comment: None.

***7E. Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) Report– Committee Chairman Caviglia:**

Board discussion: McVicars stated that the TAAHC meeting is currently being held and that he had listened in before arriving to this meeting. McVicars reported that there are stipulations on junior tag transfer that he is not in agreement with and the “once in a lifetime” sheep tags. McVicars reported that since 2005-2023 only 1 California sheep and 16 Desert Bighorn have been drawn twice by the same person. Menghini stated that Desert Bighorn has plenty of tags to allow for a second draw and would be more concerned with Californias, Rockies and Mountain goats. Rosevear asked what would happen during the waiting period (would they be out of the next draw before the policy became in effect?) and to the acquired bonus points. Marquez stated that he had read a lot into it and the “once in a lifetime” would not affect anything until the statute has been enforced.

Public comment: None.

***7G. Draft Fiscal Year 2025 Predation Management Plan – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson:**

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

***7H. Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy Committee – Committee Chairman David McNinch:**

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

***7I. Mule Deer Enhancement Oversight Committee – Committee Chairman Casey Kiel:**

Board discussion: McVicars announced that they will have a meeting on Wednesday March 6, 2024, if anyone is interested in attending. McVicars asked Menghini if he was apart of the collaring down south. Menghini responded that he

was involved in the collaring in area 12, putting out 25 collars. Menghini stated that he would have liked to have seen more distribution but has already seen interesting movements in herds. Menghini believed that they got 30 collars out in area 13, 43 collars in area 22. Menghini stated that the collars in area 22 and 13 were a mix of adults and fawns and in area 12 they were strictly adult does. Menghini stated that with the favorable weather this year and the survey numbers, he is optimistic for good trends.

Public comment: None.

***7J. Mule Deer Tag Quota Development, Harvest Estimation and Effects of Harvest – Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody Schroeder:**

Board discussion: Menghini encouraged CAB members to attend the presentation on Saturday, stating he feels it would be very beneficial.

Public comment: None.

***7K. Wildlife Damage Management Committee Report – Committee Chairwoman Alana Wise:**

Board discussion: Chairman McVicars reported that their next meeting will be held Thursday March 7, 2024.

Public comment: None.

***8. Wild Horse and Burro Letter- Habitat Division Administrator Mark Freese:**

Board discussion: Board member Marquez asked if the CAB should send a letter of support or endorse the letter. Chairman McVicars responded that he thinks the CAB should support it. Menghini suggested that the CAB sign the letter, just as Lincoln and Lander Counties have.

Public comment: None.

A motion to sign on to the letter and support agenda item 8. Wild Horse and Burro Letter was made by Board member Rosevear and seconded by Board member Marquez. The motion carried with no opposition.

***9. Petition – Ms. Rebecca Goff:**

Board discussion: The White Pine County Advisory Board had many disagreements with the petition letter, submitted by Rebecca Goff and voiced that they were not in support of the petition.

Public comment: None.

A motion to oppose and NOT support the petition by Ms. Rebecca Goff under agenda item 9 was made by Board member Marquez and seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***10. Presentation for Interim Natural Resources Committee Meeting-Management Analyst – Kailey Musso:**

Board discussion: Menghini stated that this item refers to a report that NDOW is required to give to the Natural Resource Committee that provides support and guidance.

Public comment: None.

***17. Heritage Account Principal Project Proposal- Habitat Administrator Mark Freese:**

Board discussion: Chairman McVicars announced that this is in regards to the South Schell land acquisition. Menghini reported that the proposal would entail the upper part of Cooper Canyon. Menghini stated Southern Nevada Water Authority approached NDOW about purchasing land around Cooper Canyon and would regulate similar to the Blue Diamond estate properties, being a mountain unit. Menghini mentioned that there is potential to clear trees in that area and still allow livestock to run, but preserve the area from development.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support agenda item 17. Heritage Account Principal Project Proposal as written, was made by Board member Rosevear and seconded by Board member Marquez. The motion carried out with no opposition.

***18A. Commission General Regulation 520 – Tag Deferral Extenuating Circumstances Revision – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi:**

Board discussion: Chairman McVicars and Marquez went over what circumstances qualify for a deferral tag and time frames of deferrals. Menghini stated that it is mostly clarifying and clean-up of language for better understanding.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support agenda item 18A. Commission General Regulation 520-Tag Deferral Extenuating Circumstances Revision, was made by Board member Marquez and seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***18B. Commission General Regulation 521 – Junior Tag Transfer – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi:**

Board discussion: Board member Marquez stated that he thought the transfers would go to family members only, but voiced it is unclear in the regulation, that it seems you can transfer to any youth regardless of relationship. McVicars stated that it may be a way to simplify proof of stepchildren. Marquez and McVicars did not agree with the deadline of July 1st, in the case unforeseen circumstances occur and the youth receiving the tag cannot hunt. Board member Rosevear stated that return tags can be turned in the day before a hunt begins and asked why the youth transfer deadline couldn't work in a similar way. Menghini recommended at least 14 days prior to the hunt if paperwork is necessary. Menghini stated that he can't imagine the process is too difficult considering landowner tags are simple enough to assign a name to, days before a hunt begins. McVicars stated that he disagrees with the transfer being a once in a lifetime transfer. Rosevear and Marquez agreed. McVicars and Marquez both agreed that it would be hard to manage the 10-yard regulation and also disagreed with that stipulation. Menghini stated that if an elderly immobile person transfers the tag, it would be nearly impossible for them to be within the 10 yards for the youth to be successful. Marquez stated that as long as an adult is present the 10-yard regulation should not have to be in place. The Board agreed that eliminating stipulations 3, 8, 9, 13a would be appropriate to recommend along with adjusting the deadline date.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support agenda item 18B. Commission General Regulation 521-Junior Tag Transfer with the recommended proposal of removing the stipulations #3(The tag holder must designate the name(s) and client ID(s) of the minor(s) they intend to transfer their tag to at the time their main draw application is submitted), #8(The Department will return a copy of the Department signed and dated affidavit to the original tag holder at the time the transfer has been completed. The tag holder transferring the big game tag must accompany the minor receiving the mule deer tag into the field, regardless of the age of the minor, and have on their person a copy of the Department signed tag transfer affidavit.), #9 (A tag holder may only transfer a tag through this program once in their lifetime) and #13A (“Accompany into the field” means the youth and adult must remain close enough for the adult to see and provide verbal assistance to the youth hunter, no more than 10 yards. Using electronic devices, such as walkie talkies or cell phones, does not meet this requirement). Along with adjusting the deadline on stipulation #5 to “no later than 14 calendar days prior to the hunt start date.” Instead of July

Ist, was made By Board member Marquez and seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***19A. Commission General Regulation 500, Subdivision Map Review-Wildlife Staff Specialist-Jasmine Kleiber:**

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

***19B. Commission General Regulation 511, Wildlife Management Area Designation-Habitat Administrator Mark Freese:**

Board discussion: Kenny Mull (NDOW) stated that a lot of the information is just clarifying items from the last commission meeting, between the meadow and mountain units. Menghini stated that meadow unit was defined as the areas west of the Cave Lake Park. Menghini asked if muzzleloader hunts were wanted in the southern 13 area, and that currently that weapon choice is not available. McVicars asked for clarification on the camping regulation regarding Success loop and Cooper Canyon. Menghini explained that camping is still allowed but only in the designated campsites. Marquez asked if adding a muzzleloader would be beneficial in the southern 13 area. Rosevear stated that he felt a shotgun slug was suitable but is not opposed to the idea.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support agenda item 19B. Commission General Regulation 511, Wildlife Management Area Designation, with the recommended proposal under section 4, sub-section 2, to add muzzleloader using non-toxic or lead free projectiles, was made by Board member Marquez and seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***20A. Commission Regulation 24-10, Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulation for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and Designated State Lands for the 2024-2025 Seasons- Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme:**

Board discussion: Menghini stated that there was a typo under the North/East zone showing January 15, when actually it should read January 20, but other than that nothing has really changed.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support agenda item 20A. Commission Regulation 24-10 Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulation for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and Designated State Lands for the 2024-2025 Seasons, with the recommended correction on the date of January 15th to be changed to January 20th to meet the 103-day federal mandate under the North/East zone, was made my Board member Marquez and seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***20B. Commission Regulation 23-04-Amendment 3, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Big Game:**

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support agenda item 20B. Commission Regulation 23-04- Amendment 3, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Big Game as written, was made my Board member Rosevear, and seconded by Board member Sawyer. The motion carried with no opposition.

Next Commission meeting scheduled for March 8th and 9th, 2024 the location of the meeting is subject to change due to direction of the Governor during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission may change the 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.

A motion to support the attendance of the State Commission meeting that will be held on March 8th and 9th at the Clark County Government Center in Las Vegas, Nevada by any White Pine County CAB member who is available to attend, was made by Board member McVicars and seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

The Board discussed having the next advisory meeting on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 6:00pm at the White Pine County Library.

A motion to approve the next CAB meeting date of April 29, 2024 was made by Board member McVicars seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

Public comment: None

Board Vice Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12pm

A motion to adjourn the White Pine County Wildlife Advisory meeting on March 4, 2024, was made by Board member McVicars, seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm.