

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE
Minutes of the September 16, 2013 Meeting

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A meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 16 2013, in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

Present: Chairman Gil Yanuck
Vice Chairman Stan Zuber
Member Doug Martin
Member John Valley

Staff: Tamar Warren, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the Board's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk's Office and are available for review during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM. (5:31:46) – Chairman Yanuck called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. A quorum was present. Member Powell was absent.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:32:18) – Chairman Yanuck entertained public comments. Fred Voltz introduced himself and inquired about the teleconferencing equipment issue he had previously raised. CK Baily gave an update on the Kids' Fishing Day that had taken place at Baily Pond, calling it a "fantastic event" adding that 100 fishing rods, reels, and tackle, and 250 T-shirts had been distributed free of charge. He thanked the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and their volunteers as well. In response to a question, Mr. Baily estimated the attendance to be around 400 children and adults, and called the event "manageable".

3. For Possible Action: APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:37:35) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. **Member Valley moved to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2013 meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Zuber. Motion carried 4-0.**

4. For Possible Action: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA. (5:38:22) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. **Vice Chairman Zuber moved to adopt the agenda as is. The motion was seconded by Member Valley. Motion carried 4-0.**

5. Informational Item: DISCLOSURES. (5:39:17) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Member Valley stated that he had had a discussion with a member of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and was informed that Sage Grouse or any other information could be available to the Board upon request. Chairperson Yanuck suggested including the wild horse roundup in the discussions with BLM as well. He also stated that he had sent out information regarding fishing regulations to fishing clubs and anglers and had received comments from Mr. Baily. Member Valley noted that he had received feedback on several agenda items and that he would address them during the discussion of each item.

6. For Possible Action: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TRI-COUNTY WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP. (5:42:44) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Member Martin indicated that the Group had not met; however, he had been in discussions with a member of the Douglas County Wildlife Advisory Board and they had discussed including Fish and Wildlife Services activities in the Lake Tahoe area regarding Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. He also stated that the Group's next meeting would take place in Douglas County. Mr. Baily inquired about Incline Lake, and advised "keeping an eye on it". Member Martin also suggested addressing US Forest Service road closures.

7. Informational Item: REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE MOST RECENT WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING. (5:52:59) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Member Martin reported that a lot of discussion had ensued around the Heritage Tags issue and the predator management plan, including the migratory behavior of coyotes, encouraging Board members to view the presentations online. He also stated

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that a trapping discussion had taken place, including the inclusion of a committee member who was against trapping. Mr. Voltz considered the appointment of a trapper from Clark County unacceptable as there was no opposing viewpoint on the committee. Member Martin also announced that the current Chair and Vice Chair had been reelected. Mr. Voltz also noted that a letter regarding regulation to mandate bear-proof trash containers in the Tahoe Basin, specifically in Washoe County, would be sent out. Member Martin noted that the local jurisdiction in Incline Village was not informed prior to sending out the letter. Discussion ensued regarding county versus local jurisdiction.

8. Informational Item: DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SEPTEMBER 20 AND 21, 2013 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING. (6:08:01) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Member Valley wished to discuss item 8C, and Mr. Baily noted that he would be interested in hearing about the discussions that take place regarding items 8E and 8G.

8-A. Informational Item: WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - Commissioner McBeath and Staff Specialist Pete Bradley. The commission will hear a report on the committee's recent meeting.

8-B. Informational Item: BIGHORN SHEEP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES - GAME DIVISION STAFF SPECIALIST MIKE COX. A presentation will be made describing bighorn sheep management challenges and potential tools needed to address them.

8-C. Informational Item: COW ELK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES - WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST MIKE COX AND PROGRAM OFFICER III MAUREEN HULLINGER. The Department will provide information regarding several cow elk hunt management strategies to meet the Department's elk management goals, to include information on any regulation changes to meet those management goals. (6:09:07) – Member Valley noted that he had received input from two hunters that the proposed management strategies could be viable; however, they expressed skepticism regarding wilderness elk hunts due to access issues. Chairman Yanuck explained that the idea behind the proposal was to minimize damage to crops. He also agreed to relay the Board's input to the Commission.

8-D. Informational Item: UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF WILDLIFE REHABILITATION IN NEVADA - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. An update will be provided on the status of wildlife rehabilitation in Nevada.

8-E. Informational Item: NEVADA WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN 2012 REVISION UPDATE - Chief of Fisheries Jon Sjoberg and Chief of Wildlife Diversity Laura Richards. A presentation will be provided on the status of the revised Nevada Wildlife Action Plan.

8-F. Informational Item: SAGE GROUSE AND SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM COUNCIL UPDATE - Secretary Tony Wasley and Commissioner Drew. An update on the status of the sage grouse will be provided as well as an update on the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council.

8-G. Informational Item: WILDFIRE UPDATE - Chief of Habitat Alan Jenne. Chief Jenne will provide an update on wildfires that have occurred in Nevada this fire season.

8-H. Informational Item: TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE ("TAAHC") - Commissioner Robb. A report will be provided on the recent committee meeting.

8-I. Informational Item: WILD HORSE UPDATE - Chief of Habitat Alan Jenne. A report will be provided on the status of wild horse issues pending in Nevada.

8-J. Informational Item: LITIGATION REPORT - Deputy Attorney General David Newton

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8-K. Informational Item: DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT - Secretary Tony Wasley. Director Wasley will provide a report on recent Department activities.

9. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. (6:27:55) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Vice Chairman Zuber moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, with the exception of items 9D, 9E, 9G, 9I, 9K, and 9L. The motion was seconded by Member Valley. Motion carried 4-0.

9-A. For Possible Action: FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF A NEW COMMISSION POLICY ENTITLED, “#23, PREDATION MANAGEMENT” - Commissioner McBeath. In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the commission will conduct a first reading of a new Commission Policy #23, “Predation Management,” on Friday, September 20th, and may incorporate changes, as recommended by the Wildlife Damage Management Committee, from their September 20, 2013 meeting. Second reading of the proposed commission policy is agendized for Saturday, September 21, 2013; and the commission may take action to adopt the policy at that time.

9-B. For Possible Action: DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2014 PREDATOR MANAGEMENT PLAN - Commissioner McBeath and Staff Specialist Pete Bradley. The commission will review the draft FY 2014 Predator Management Plan and the commission may take action to approve the plan and, if needed, reallocate funds to projects previously approved at the August 2013 commission meeting in Fallon.

9-C. For Possible Action: FISCAL YEAR 2014 HERITAGE PROJECT MODIFICATION - Deputy Director Cates. Pursuant to NAC 501.300, the commission will consider and may take action on a request to transfer approved Heritage Project #14-13, Conservation Planning Tool for Greater Sage Grouse in the Mount Grant Population Management Unit, from the management of the U.S. Geological Survey, Michael Casazza, to the Nevada Chukar Foundation.

9-D. For Possible Action: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR RECIPROCAL FISHING AND WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION ON THE WATERS OF THE COLORADO RIVER IN COMMON TO THE STATES OF NEVADA AND ARIZONA - Deputy Director Rich Haskins. Arizona is in the process of restructuring their licenses and will require a fishing license for 10-year-old children. Nevada does not require a license until age 12. This amended agreement, which the commission may take action to approve, addresses that issue for Nevada youth fishing on those waters and the Aquatic Invasive Species decal issue.

(6:33:26) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Chris Crookshanks, representing NDOW, introduced himself and explained the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) that are maintained with neighboring states, indicating that state rules regarding waters that run through state boundaries are accepted by each neighboring state. He also stated that because Arizona had reduced its youth fishing license age from 14 to 10, a new MOU was required between Arizona and Nevada. **Vice Chairman Zuber moved to support the Memorandum of Understanding for reciprocal fishing and watercraft registration on the waters of the Colorado River in common to the states of Nevada and Arizona.** Member Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

9-E. For Possible Action: PROPOSED TRAIL CAMERA COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION - Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici. The commission may take action to direct the Department to promulgate a regulation relating to trail cameras and associated provisions.

(6:42:32) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Member Martin gave background and reported on discussion from the previous meeting in Fallon. He also noted that the hunters he had spoken to stated that lack of cell phone coverage prevented them from remotely accessing trail camera recordings. Discussion ensued regarding “fair chase” and the commercialization of wildlife on public lands. **Member Martin moved not to support the proposed regulation as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Zuber.** Chairman Yanuck entertained public comments. Mr. Voltz noted that Chief Game Warden Buonamici had proposed the regulation because of his extensive background in law enforcement. He also suggested that the Board support the proposed regulation, adding that the information captured by the cameras could be sold for profit. **Motion carried 4-0.**

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9-F. For Possible Action: BEAR MANAGEMENT - Chairman Robb. The commission will report on the letter, authorized at the last meeting, soliciting involvement of additional entities to assist with education on bear-related issues and may take action to amend the letter to address other bear-related issues.

9-G. For Possible Action: COMINS LAKE - Chairman Robb. The commission has been requested by White Pine County to support restoration of Comins Lake. The commission may decide to take action to draft a letter of support.

(7:18:15) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Mr. Crookshanks clarified that he had been a biologist in charge of Comins Lake from 1998 until 2012. He also gave background on the area and explained that it would be difficult to eradicate pike from Comins Lake; however, it would be difficult to keep it from reappearing due to all the small streams. **Member Martin moved to support the request from White Pine County to restore Comins Lake.** **The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Zuber.** Chairman Yanuck entertained public comments. C.K. Baily received confirmation that upon restoration, Comins Lake could be a viable fishing lake for more than 10 years. Mr. Voltz encouraged the Board to vote no on the motion due to the high cost of restoration. Mr. Crookshanks clarified that the eradication of the reservoir and the mercury remediation were “two unrelated issues”, and estimated the cost of eradication to be \$200,000 to \$300,000. **Motion carried 4-0.**

9-H. For Possible Action: COMMISSION REGULATION 14-01, AMENDMENT #1, MIGRATORY WATERFOWL, SPECIAL YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNT SEASONS AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS - Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme. The commission will consider changes to seasons and special regulations for the Special Youth Waterfowl hunt for the 2013 - 2014 season, and adopt regulations that comply with the proposed regulations framework for the 2013 - 2014 late and early hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

9-I. For Possible Action: COMMISSION REGULATION 13 - 14, FISHING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR 2014 - 2016 - Chief of Fisheries Jon Sjoberg. The commission will establish fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, for the period of March 1, 2014 through February 29, 2016.

(7:43:26) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Mr. Crookshanks gave background on the changes taking place in the fishing regulations to ensure all regions follow the same regulations for particular species. **Member Valley moved to support Commission Regulation 13-14 as presented.** **The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Zuber.** Chairman Yanuck entertained public comments. Mr. Baily received clarification that the proposed changes have been received favorably by the appropriate counties. **Motion carried 4-0.**

The following items are agendized as part of a Commission Regulations workshop at which public comment will be allowed, on Friday, September 20th, and for possible action on Saturday, September 21st:

9-J. For Possible Action: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 426, DESERT TORTOISE, LCB FILE NO. R004-13 - Chief of Wildlife Diversity Laura Richards. The commission will hear a regulation relating to desert tortoises; prohibiting a person from possessing more than one desert tortoise under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. The Wildlife Commission will consider taking action to restrict the number of pet desert tortoises for adoption / possession, as approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to *one* per person, as of May 1, 2013. Pet desert tortoises in possession prior to enactment are not affected by the regulation (only new possessions of pet desert tortoises). The amendment is needed due to the overbreeding of pet desert tortoises in captivity primarily in southern Nevada.

9-K. For Possible Action: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 424, TRANSPORTATION PERMIT, LCB FILE NO. R003-13 - Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici. The commission will hear a regulation relating to wildlife; setting forth the manner in which a portion of the game tag may be used as a transportation permit;

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requiring certain signatures and information to be included on a tag or permit; and providing other matters properly related thereto.

(8:03:29) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Member Valley explained the difficulties of filling out forms to transport game, and was in favor of having the transportation form as part of the tag, citing the one used by Idaho as an example. **Member Valley moved to support item 9K as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Martin. Motion carried 4-0.**

9-L. For Possible Action: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 427, TRAPPING VISITATION LIMIT, LCB FILE NO. R018-13 - Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici. The commission will hear a regulation relating to trapping; interpreting the phrase “visit or cause to be visited,” for certain purposes relating to trapping; specifying the minimum period during which a person must visit or cause to be visited certain traps, snares, or similar devices; and providing other matters properly related thereto.

(8:07:56) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and noted that the Nevada Trappers Association was not in favor of exemptions in any trapping laws. Mr. Voltz expressed concern that the trapping rules were set by those being regulated. He also believed that the 48-hour visitation was more acceptable. Members Martin and Valley did not feel qualified to make a recommendation. **Member Martin moved not to take a position on the Department's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Member Valley. Motion carried 4-0.**

9-M. For Possible Action: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 429, TRAPPING REGISTRATION NUMBER, LCB FILE NO. R017-13 - Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici. The commission will hear a regulation relating to trapping; revising provisions governing the registration of a trap, snare, or similar device; setting forth the requirements for affixing a registration number to the trap, snare, or similar device; and the issuance of trap registration numbers, and establish the manner of marking traps, snares, or other lawful devices.

10. For Possible Action: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET. (8:20:14) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and noted that the budget was augmented.

11. For Possible Action: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. (8:20:36) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and explained that he would be representing this Board at the upcoming Commission meeting in Las Vegas.

12. For Possible Action: DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING. (8:20:45) – Chairman Yanuck announced that the next meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners is scheduled for December 6 and 7, 2013. Therefore, the next meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Management Wildlife was tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 2, 2013. Chairman Yanuck also notified Mr. Voltz that he had relayed his request to publicize County Advisory Board meeting information on the Commission's website.

13. Informational Item: STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF – There were no reports from Staff.

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. (8:22:01) – No items were discussed.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT (8:22:55) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item. Mr. Voltz suggested an outreach for non-wildlife killing organizations such as the SPCA.

16. For Possible Action: ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (8:25:15) – Chairman Yanuck suggested a motion. **Member Martin moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Valley.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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The minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are approved this 2nd day of December, 2013.

GIL YANUCK, Chairman