

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the November 14, 2005 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2005 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Steve Walker
Vice Chairperson Gil Yanuck
Wes Clyde
Jennifer Derley
Stan Zuber

STAFF: Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is available in the Clerk-Recorder's Office for review during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0007) - Chairperson Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 19, 2005 (1-0010) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck moved to accept the minutes. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0015) - None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0017) - None.

5. DISCLOSURES (1-0019) - Member Zuber advised of having discussed, with Elmer Bull, the Casey property which was recently purchased by the Bureau of Land Management. In response to a question, he described the location and boundaries of the property.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DRAFT A PETITION TO ADJUST SEASON STARTING DATES (1-0083) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck provided background information on this item, and noted item 11-D agendized for the November 18 and 19, 2005 Wildlife Commission meeting. He advised that NDOW staff is favorable toward the proposal to standardize season starting dates. Member Zuber advised that this matter was discussed at the last Wildlife Commission meeting, and that the Commissioners are also favorable toward the proposal. Following extensive discussion, consensus of the Board was to continue gathering information with regard to the possibility of submitting a petition.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DRAFT A PETITION TO ESTABLISH A DRAW OPTION FOR COW ELK TAGS IN DEPREDATION AREAS (1-0910) - In response to a question, Ms. King provided background information on this item which was requested to be agendized by John Valley at the Board's September meeting. Discussion followed, and consensus of the Board was to wait to hear back from Mr. Valley.

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8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RECOMMEND A POLICY STATEMENT TO THE STATE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS ADVISING AGAINST PROVIDING FOOD FOR ANIMALS IN THE WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE AREA (1-0994) - Member Clyde provided background information on this item, which was also requested to be agendized by Mr. Valley. Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised that NDOW Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox had written several newspaper articles regarding this issue. Vice Chairperson Yanuck suggested referring Mr. Valley to NDOW Conservation Education Chief Kelly Clark. Member Clyde advised that NDOW biologists, who were present at the September meeting, spoke with Mr. Valley regarding department contacts.

9. DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE SEPTEMBER 23 AND 24, 2005 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-1055) - Member Zuber reported that the Friday, September 23rd meeting was basically informational. He reviewed pertinent information from the Secretary's Report, as follows: NDOW staff is beginning to work with the Pyramid Lake Tribe with regard to introducing bighorn sheep into the area. Discussion took place regarding associated problems. Member Zuber advised that hunting and fishing licenses are now available via the Internet. He responded to questions regarding the method by which stamps are made available via the Internet, and discussion followed. Member Zuber advised that information on Commission Regulations 335 and 336 was also presented. He further advised that he had conveyed the Board's comments as expressed at the September meeting. In response to a question, he advised that the Carson Fly Fishing Club is in agreement with changing the designation of Spooner Lake to a "put and take" fishery, and designating Marlette Lake as a "catch and release only" fishery. In response to a further question, he related NDOW staff's interest in designating Marlette Lake as a catch and release fishery. Vice Chairperson Yanuck and Member Zuber responded to questions regarding the information presented by Mike Sevon and Pat Sollberger at the September Board meeting. Discussion took place regarding access issues. In response to a question, Member Zuber discussed the provisions and purpose of Commission Regulation 336.

(1-1841) Discussion took place regarding Commission Policy 24, and the Board members filled out the Worksheet included in the Commission's agenda materials. Vice Chairperson Yanuck agreed to submit the worksheet to the Commission.

10. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendized for the November 18 and 19, 2005 Wildlife Commission meeting and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without extensive hearing. Any member of the Board or any citizen may request that an item be taken from the consent agenda and acted upon separately during this meeting (1-1394) - **Vice Chairperson Yanuck moved to approve the consent agenda. Member Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

10-A. ACTION REGARDING LICENSE APPEAL HEARING - ROB BUONAMICI. Mr. Thomas F. Papagna is appealing loss of license privileges.

10-B. ACTION REGARDING PETITION BY DANIEL D. SWANSON. The Commission will review a petition to reduce hunting pressure on wildlife which will subsequently improve the hunt quality during waterfowl season at the Overton Wildlife Management Area.

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10-C. ACTION REGARDING ELK SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN PROCESS - COMMISSIONER RIORDAN. The Commission will be asked to approve an amendment to the state Elk Plan regarding the process to be used in developing future local area plans and plan amendments.

11. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE NOVEMBER 18 AND 19, 2005 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING. A report and additional detail on each of the following informational items will be provided by a Nevada Department of Wildlife representative or a Wildlife Commissioner at the upcoming Commission meeting (1-1400) - The Board members had no comment on any of these items.

11-A. GROUND WATER IMPORTATION PROJECT - SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY. The Commission has requested a status report regarding project proposals in southern and eastern Nevada.

11-B. LAKE MEAD HATCHERY - DAVE SANGER. The Commission will hear a status report for hatchery reconstruction prior to touring the facility.

11-C. COMMISSION FIELD TOUR - LAKE MEAD HATCHERY, HOOVER DAM AND BOULDER BYPASS. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will travel to the Lake Mead Hatchery, Boulder City, and the Colorado River to observe project progress. No action will be taken. Interested persons are invited to attend, but must provide their own transportation.

11-D. STANDARD HUNTING SEASON OPENINGS - PATTY WAGNER. The Commission will consider developing a policy to establish standard opening dates for big game, upland game, waterfowl, and furbearer seasons.

11-E. LICENSES AND FEES - COMMISSIONER JEFFRESS. The Commission will discuss license structure and fees and their impact on hunting and fishing recruitment and participation.

11-F. LEGISLATION - CHAIRMAN MacKENZIE. The Commission will initiate discussions regarding potential proposals for consideration by the 2007 Nevada Legislature.

11-G. SECRETARY'S REPORT - DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOUG HUNT

11-H. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVID NEWTON

11-I. CLARK COUNTY SHOOTING RANGE - COMMISSIONER LURIE

11-J. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND REGULATION COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER LURIE

11-K. LINCOLN COUNTY ELK SUB PLAN - COMMISSIONER BENTLEY

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11-L. WHITE PINE COUNTY ELK SUBPLAN - COMMISSIONER RIORDAN

11-M. MULE DEER SPECIES POLICY PLAN COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER MacKENZIE

11-N. BUDGETS AND REVENUE REPORT - DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOUG HUNT

11-O. NEVADA WILDLIFE DATA SYSTEM - DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOUG HUNT

11-P. OVERTON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA INTERPRETIVE CENTER - JOHN McKAY

11-Q. EMAIL ADDRESS OWNERSHIP / ADDED INFORMATION OPT IN / OPT OUT - KELLY CLARK

11-R. SILVER STATE TRAIL SYSTEM - DAVE PULLIAM

11-S. NUCLEAR WASTE RAIL SYSTEM - DAVE PULLIAM

11-T. CLOSED SESSION MEETINGS - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVID NEWTON

11-U. 2005 WILD FIRE SEASON - DAVE PULLIAM

11-V. SHELDON WILDLIFE REFUGE WILD HORSES - DAVE PULLIAM

12. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM - GIL YANUCK (1-1419) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck referred to the report included in the agenda materials, and reviewed a recent newspaper article. He discussed DNA testing being done in the Mono Basin area which supports the existence of a genetically distinct subspecies of the greater sage grouse. He advised that the Stanford Law School Environmental Law Clinic has submitted a petition arguing that since the sage grouse are genetically distinct, they are in danger of extinction. He discussed the petition process before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He advised that a good deal of mitigation work has been done over the past eight or nine months in areas which are the subject of the petition. The Sage Grouse Conservation Team in Mono County has been very active in clearing pinion juniper, installing guzzlers, etc. There may be enough work in progress to ward off the petition. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised that recent lek counts were the highest ever, approximately 200 to 300 birds sighted. He advised of consideration being given to breaking out the Bi-State Group and designating a separate conservation plan. He responded to questions regarding the extent to which the sage grouse are genetically different, and advised that research continues. He further advised that another sage grouse symposium is being considered for the spring of 2006. He acknowledged he continues to invest a great deal of time in Sage Grouse Conservation Team matters.

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13. BUDGET REPORT - GIL YANUCK (1-1579) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised he is awaiting expense reports, and that the Board is doing well financially.

14. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION FOR THE NEVADA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AWARD (1-1591) - Member Zuber proposed to nominate Vice Chairperson Yanuck for the Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award, and the Board members concurred. In response to a question, Member Zuber advised that the nomination deadline was December 16th. The Board members expressed their appreciation for the amount of time invested in Sage Grouse Conservation matters by Vice Chairperson Yanuck. Vice Chairperson Yanuck discussed a cooperative project between the Bureau of Land Management, the Sage Grouse Conservation Team, and Bently Agrodynamics. He expressed concern over the Sage Grouse Conservation Team continuing into the future. He expressed appreciation to Member Zuber for proposing the nomination and to the Board members for their comments. **Member Zuber moved to nominate Vice Chairperson Yanuck for the Wayne E. Kirch Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award. Member Derley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

15. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (1-2970) - None.

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING. The next Wildlife Commission meeting is scheduled for February 3 and 4, 2006 in Las Vegas (1-3037) - Chairperson Walker advised that Vice Chairperson Yanuck would be attending the Las Vegas Commission meeting. Consensus of the Board was to schedule its next meeting for Monday, January 30th.

17. COMMENTS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-3048) - Ms. King advised that a Notice of Possible Quorum had been posted for the Board members to attend the November 15, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

18. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1-3147) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck suggested agendaizing further discussion regarding the petition to standardize season starting dates.

19. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-3187) - Member Clyde moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Vice Chairperson Yanuck seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the November 14, 2005 Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting are so approved this 6th day of February, 2006.

STEVEN R. WALKER, Chair