

# **CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

## **Minutes of the April 5, 2004 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, April 5, 2004 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Vice Chairperson Gil Yanuck

Wes Clyde

Jennifer Derley

**STAFF:** Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0007)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Chairperson Walker and Member Zuber were absent.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 8, 2004 (1-0037)** - Member Clyde moved to approve the minutes. Member Derley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0045)** - None.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0054)** - None.

**5. DISCLOSURES (1-0070)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised of having received a letter from Commissioner Chris MacKenzie requesting support from the various county advisory boards for his reappointment to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners. He referred to a letter included in the agenda materials which was sent to Governor Guinn, and circulated a note of thanks from Commissioner MacKenzie.

**6. DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE MARCH 12, 2004 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-0123)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck referred to the March 16<sup>th</sup> e-mail from Member Zuber which was included in the agenda materials, and the draft minutes of the Commission meeting. He called for comments and/or questions from the Board members and the public; however, none were provided.

**7. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA.** All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendized for the April 9 and 10, 2004 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 (1-0153) - **Member Derley moved to address items 7-B and 7-E separate from the consent agenda. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.** (1-0179) **Member Clyde moved to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. Member Derley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

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**7-A. ACTION REGARDING OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES - STATE DIRECTOR ROBERT ABBEY, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, AND FOREST SERVICE SUPERVISOR ROBERT VAUGHT, HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST.** The Bureau of Land Management State Director and the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor will provide information on national agency rules, programs, and off-highway vehicle programs specific to Nevada. *This item is agendized as informational during the Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

**7-B. ACTION REGARDING WILD HORSE AND BURRO MANAGEMENT - STATE DIRECTOR ROBERT ABBEY, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, AND FOREST SERVICE SUPERVISOR ROBERT VAUGHT, HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST.** The Bureau of Land Management State Director and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor will present information concerning wild horse and burro management programs in Nevada. *This item is agendized as informational during the Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting* (1-0183) - Member Derley provided background information on this item, and advised that the Bureau of Land Management recently completed a "gather" which began last summer in the Desatoya range. She advised that the BLM Director attempted to get funding reassigned within BLM to address herd management, but this request was denied. She further advised that there would most likely be no further funding allocated to Nevada for the current fiscal year which doesn't end until September. Vice Chairperson Yanuck provided an overview of discussion which took place at the March 31<sup>st</sup> Governor's Team meeting regarding the need for additional funding and damage to habitat which is shared by sage grouse. He noted that Commissioner Moran is adamant about filing suit against the BLM with regard to funding for herd maintenance. Member Derley commented that this is an issue to continue monitoring. Member Clyde expressed the opinion that the Commission is headed in the right direction in addressing this issue in conjunction with the Governor's office.

(1-0314) C.K. Baily expressed concern with regard to this issue, that the wild horses and burros are not necessarily native but are overtaking habitat necessary for the survival of native species. He expressed the opinion that the issue should be dealt with more aggressively.

(1-0516) Vice Chairperson Yanuck suggested gathering additional information, and endorsing the actions of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners and Governor Guinn in convincing the Bureau of Land Management to allocate additional funding for wild horse and burro management. **Member Derley so moved. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

**7-C. RANGE MANAGEMENT - STATE DIRECTOR ROBERT ABBEY, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, AND FOREST SERVICE SUPERVISOR ROBERT VAUGHT, HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST.** The Bureau of Land Management State Director and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor will provide information concerning vegetation monitoring programs in Nevada. *This item is agendized as informational during the Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

**7-D. ACTION REGARDING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - COMMISSIONER BILL BRADLEY.** The Commission's Legislative Committee Chairman will report on potential legislative proposals and the Commission may take action regarding submission of legislative proposals for consideration at the 2005 legislative session.

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**7-E. ACTION REGARDING PETITION SUBMITTED BY GEORGE TAULMAN.** The Commission will consider a petition regarding nonresident quotas on big game hunts. The Commission will vote to either initiate rule-making action or deny the petition (1-0336) - In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Yanuck provided background information on this item. He anticipated that the petition would be extensively discussed at the Commission meeting. He suggested that this issue may be in the same category as that which addressed purchasing bonus points. Member Derley expressed concerns with regard to Nevada being the fastest growing state in the nation which already translates to reduced opportunities for residents without increasing non-resident quotas. Member Clyde expressed opposition to the petition, and discussion took place with regard to conveying opposition to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners. (1-0532) **Member Clyde moved to recommend denial of the petition regarding non-resident quotas on big game hunts. Member Derley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

**7-F. ACTION REGARDING COMMERCIAL FISHERY AT LAHONTAN RESERVOIR - RICH HASKINS.** The Commission will hear a report on mercury contamination in fish at Lahontan Reservoir and may vote to recommend a moratorium on future commercial fishing of Lahontan Reservoir.

**8. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE APRIL 9 AND 10, 2004 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 (1-0543) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck clarified that the upcoming Commission meeting will be held only on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Board members briefly reviewed the informational items; no discussion took place.

**8-A. SECRETARY'S REPORT - SECRETARY TERRY CRAWFORTH**

**8-B. LITIGATION - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL SUSAN GRAY**

**8-C. GOVERNOR'S SAGE GROUSE TEAM - COMMISSIONER DAVID McNINCH**

**8-D. LINCOLN COUNTY ELK SUB-PLAN - COMMISSIONER CLINT BENTLEY**

**8-E. WHITE PINE COUNTY ELK SUB-PLAN - COMMISSIONER MIKE RIORDAN**

**8-F. OVERTON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER JOHN MORAN**

**8-G. OUTFITTERS, GUIDES REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER BILL BRADLEY**

**8-H. NEVADA WILDLIFE SYSTEM UPDATE - PATTY WAGNER**

**8-I. SOUTHERN REGION LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM - DOUG NIELSEN**

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#### **9. REPORT ON GOVERNOR'S SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION PLAN - GIL YANUCK**

(1-0577) - Ms. King advised that Vice Chairperson Yanuck's April 1, 2004 report letter was distributed prior to the start of the meeting. Vice Chairperson Yanuck circulated the most recent drafts of the bi-state report and the state conservation plan. All individual area reports will be included as appendices in the state conservation plan. He referred to the report letters included in the agenda materials, provided an overview of the meetings, and discussed the time table for review and publication of the final state conservation plan. He explained that the first version of the plan will only incorporate 18 of the 64 population management units in the State. The other four local area planning groups have not been able to complete their plans to the satisfaction of the internal review team, and they will be added as annual releases are published. Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representatives have actively participated in all the local and Governor's Team meetings. He referred to comments by BLM Director Kathleen Clarke, reflected in the March 16, 2004 report letter, indicating her wish that the eleven other western states had progressed as far as Nevada over the last three years. He advised that Nevada is serving as a model for the other states.

#### **10. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FUJI PARK URBAN FISHING POND (1-0054) - C.K.**

Baily advised of having attended the April 1, 2004 Board of Supervisors meeting, wherein action was taken to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and the Contract for the Fuji Park Urban Fishing Pond. Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised of having attended the April 1, 2004 Board of Supervisors meeting, together with Commissioner Chris MacKenzie, in support of the urban fishing pond. He further advised of discussing the cost estimate of the pond with Supervisor Pete Livermore in weeks prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting.

(1-0673) - Discussion took place regarding the original \$250,000 estimate provided to the Nevada Department of Wildlife as part of the Question #1 funding application, and the \$40,000 engineering fee estimate. Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised of having spoken with NDOW Staff Habitat Specialist Laura Richards, who assured him that the Board of Wildlife Commissioners and NDOW staff are extremely supportive of the fishing pond. If construction estimates exceed the original \$250,000 estimate, Ms. Richards feels certain that additional funding sources can be made available. Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised that he conveyed this information to Supervisor Livermore, who had expressed concerns regarding the City being responsible for construction cost overages. Vice Chairperson Yanuck noted that design modification is one option for reducing construction costs, if necessary. He advised Supervisor Livermore that there was no need to be concerned about construction cost overages until the engineering work is completed and quotes are received from construction companies.

(1-0844) Mr. Baily provided background information on the preliminary estimate provided by Senior Engineer Robb Fellows for purposes of the Question #1 funding application.

Ms. King reiterated that the Memorandum of Understanding and the Contract between the City and NDOW were approved and signed at the April 1, 2004 Board of Supervisors meeting. She reviewed a portion of the March 2, 2004 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes which were included in the agenda materials.

(1-1010) Mr. Baily noted that approval of the MOU and the contract represented the "clearing of one more hurdle." In response to a question, he explained the next step in the process, to present the project to the Board of Examiners, and the project time table. Paul Pugsley, of the Carson Valley Conservation District, has volunteered to obtain the necessary permits for the project. This will save approximately \$20,000. Mr.

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Baily advised of the Washoe Tribe's interest in integrating Lahontan Cutthroat Trout at Clear Creek, and discussion took place with regard to the same.

**11. REPORT REGARDING THE FY2003/2004 CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET (1-1151)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised that there were adequate funds available in the budget to finish out the fiscal year. He explained the importance of submitting budget reimbursement requests.

**12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE FY 2004/2005 CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET (1-1181)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck distributed the budget request materials and reviewed the same. Discussion took place regarding per diem rates and various expenses.

**13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (1-1347)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck referred to the revised 2004 Commission meeting schedule which was included in the agenda materials, and discussed the importance of being able to coordinate meeting attendance well in advance in order to accommodate travel expenses, family commitments, etc. Member Derley volunteered to attend the June 25 and 26, 2004 meeting in Elko. Member Clyde volunteered to attend the September 10 and 11, 2004 meeting in Ely. Vice Chairperson Yanuck volunteered to attend the August 6 and 7, 2004 meeting in Hawthorne. Consensus of the Board was to reagenda this item for review and discussion at the May meeting.

**14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DESIGNATE A CCABMW REPRESENTATIVE AND AN ALTERNATE TO THE APRIL 9 AND 10, 2004 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-1508)** - Vice Chairperson Yanuck volunteered to attend the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING. The next Wildlife Commission meeting is scheduled for May 14 and 15, 2004 in Reno (1-1527)** - Consensus of the Board was to schedule the next meeting for Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Vice Chairperson Yanuck acknowledged that a NDOW representative would present the 2004/2005 big game quota recommendations at the next meeting. He discussed the importance of publicizing this meeting.

**16. COMMENTS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF** - None.

**17. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1-1592)** - Previously covered.

**18. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1601)** - Member Clyde moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Member Derley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Minutes of the April 5, 2004 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2004.

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STEVEN R. WALKER, Chair