

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the March 19, 2001 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2001 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Christopher MacKenzie
Larry Blank
Greg Davis
Steve Walker

STAFF: Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(ABMW 03/19/01)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson MacKenzie. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0001) - Chairperson MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Vice Chairperson Pedersen was absent.

2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JANUARY 29, 2001 AND FEBRUARY 7, 2001 (2-0268) - Member Walker moved to accept the minutes as presented. Member Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0009) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised of a request for a budget augmentation received after the agenda was published. He indicated that discussion of the request could take place under item 9.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (1-0024) - None.

5. DISCLOSURES (1-0029) - Member Blank expressed a concern over the perception of a conflict of interest with regard to item 6(l). Discussion took place with regard to the same, and Member Blank indicated that, since he does not have a financial interest in the matter, he would not refrain from discussion and possible action.

6. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA MATTERS FOR THE MARCH 23RD AND 24TH, 2001 MEETING

6-a. SELECTION OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATION FOR THE 2002 AND 2003 NEVADA STATE TROUT STAMP ART CONTEST (1-0238) - Chairperson MacKenzie solicited input on this matter; the Board members had no comment. No formal action was taken.

6-b. UPLAND GAME AND MIGRATORY BIRD RELEASE PLAN (1-0253) - Chairperson MacKenzie anticipated that the geese in Overton may be discussed at the Commission meeting. Member Walker indicated that he would not be able to attend the Overton meeting. He expressed concerns over releasing animals onto private land. Member Davis indicated that turkeys are released onto public and

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private land, and explained the process by which tags and access to private land can be obtained. He discussed various areas for hunting turkeys. Discussion took place regarding the need for improved public education regarding hunting turkeys on private land, turkey migration, the purpose of the release plan, and whether or not private land owners are obligated to allow public access. No formal action was taken.

6-c. BIG GAME RELEASE PLAN (1-0495) - Member Walker referred to the Summary of Accomplishments regarding Desert Bighorn Sheep in the Delamar Mountains, and expressed concern over releasing sheep into an area from which sheep were previously removed. Discussion took place regarding the purpose for capturing the sheep and the location to which the sheep were moved. Chairperson MacKenzie suggested that this matter could be brought up at the Commission meeting. Discussion took place regarding pronghorn antelope allocations and the source. No formal action was taken.

6-d. ELKO COUNTY ELK PLANS (1-0639) - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed information pertaining to this item. The Board members had no comment.

6-e. COMMISSION POLICIES (1-0645) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the draft proposed policy #20 included in the Commission agenda materials. He read paragraph 3 of the "Allocation of Desired Harvest by Hunter Group" section into the record, and discussion took place regarding the purpose of the non-resident tag, the proposed youth quota allocation, resident/non-resident party hunts, the youth age group, the importance of involving youth in hunting activities, the possible purpose of the 40% youth quota allocation, and reducing quotas to improve hunt quality. No formal action was taken.

6-f. PETITION - PETER G. LIAKOPOULOS (1-1036) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the petition and the attached information provided by Mr. Liakopoulos in the Commission agenda materials. Member Davis expressed opposition to awarding bonus points for coyote ears. Member Blank questioned the method presented by Mr. Liakopoulos, but expressed the opinion that incentives for predator control should be explored. Member Walker discussed the information provided by NDOW Biologist Walter Mandeville at the last Board meeting regarding the correlation between antelope birthing time frames and increased coyote depredation. **Member Davis moved that the Commission deny the petition. Chairperson MacKenzie passed the gavel to Member Blank and seconded the motion.** Acting Chairperson Blank called for discussion on the motion. Chairperson MacKenzie expressed a concern over public perception and political ramifications. He pointed out that NDOW currently contracts with an organization to provide for predator management. Member Davis commented that the basis for shooting coyotes should not be a bonus point award. Discussion took place regarding Animal Damage Control's purpose, and Member Walker provided a copy of the ADC newsletter for review by Acting Chairperson Blank. Member Davis discussed problems inherent in requesting NDOW to keep track of bonus points, and discussion took place regarding trapping versus aerial shooting. Acting Chairperson Blank called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 3-1-1-0.** Acting Chairperson Blank returned the gavel to Chairperson MacKenzie.

6-g. PETITION - DENNIS G. DUNN (1-1692) - Chairperson MacKenzie indicated that the purpose of this petition is to facilitate a bass tournament. Discussion took place regarding the purpose for the established one-bass limit, enforcement issues, whether or not the event is sanctioned by B.A.S.S., and whether or not live wells and aerators will be required. **Member Davis moved to deny Dennis Dunn's petition for a temporary variance for a one-bass limit to a five-bass limit due to lack of information**

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regarding the requirement of live wells for fishing boats allowed in the tournament. Member Walker seconded the motion, and concurred with Member Davis' statement regarding lack of information. **Motion carried 4-0.**

6-h. PETITION - PERSHING COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE (1-1291) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised of a phone call from Pershing County Advisory Board Chairperson James Jurad. He reviewed statistical information provided by Chairperson Jurad, and advised that he had acknowledged the need for lion control but expressed opposition to reintroducing leg hold traps. Member Davis expressed opposition to the non-discriminatory nature of leg hold traps. Discussion took place regarding the legal procedure for trapping in Nevada and the specifics of Chairperson Jurad's petition. Member Davis acknowledged the need for mountain lion predator control, but expressed concern over trapping in areas where other hunting takes place. In response to a question, Chairperson MacKenzie indicated that Chairperson Jurad had not provided any information on trap specifications. In response to a further question, Member Blank explained the mountain lion quota system in Nevada. Further discussion took place regarding the intent of the petition. Member Blank moved to support the Pershing County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Petition subject to an opportunity to comment on specific rule language. Motion died for lack of a second. Member Davis agreed that the proposal has some merit, but reiterated his concern over the indiscriminate nature of trapping. He expressed an interest in statistical information regarding the number of mountain lions actually trapped. Discussion took place regarding how a mountain lion is released from a leg trap.

6-i. LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LAND (1-1913) - (Reference is made to the January 10, 2001 letter from Senator Dean Rhodes included in the Commission agenda materials.) In response to a question, Chairperson MacKenzie explained the proposal to reimburse private land owners for water consumed by elk. He indicated that the reimbursement would most likely be mathematically calculated. Member Davis commented that private citizens and the federal government don't get compensated for water losses. He expressed the opinion that granting such a proposal will only lead to trouble. Chairperson MacKenzie pointed out that water rights which accompany grazing permits on public land are usually privately owned. He suggested that the proposal may be less objectionable if statistical information were provided showing the actual loss. He acknowledged that private land owners are compensated for losses to other property. Member Davis expressed opposition to the proposal because there is no way to measure the asserted loss. Discussion took place regarding the interest of cattle ranchers in the proposal. Chairperson MacKenzie commented that this matter will most likely come up again. No formal action was taken.

6-j. NEVADA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND 6-k. DEER INCENTIVE TAGS (1-2055) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the resolutions included in the Commission agenda materials. Member Walker expressed disagreement with the statement that elk are causing deterioration of public land. He discussed the permits held by ranchers for public land grazing, and suggested that perhaps the ranchers should consider grazing their herds and flocks on their own land. Discussion took place regarding public abuses of private land, the issue of mule deer depredation and landowner compensation tag mitigation, and the proposal outlined in Mr. Jaksick's letter. Member Blank expressed a reluctance in taking a position on these issues. Member Walker pointed out that Carson City is not a "big cattle county." Member Blank discussed the purpose of cattle management and elk depredation. Chairperson MacKenzie

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suggested that the Commission should mediate these issues, and discussion took place with regard to the same.

Member Davis concurred with the idea of mediating the issues presented by the Nevada Cattlemen's Association/Nevada Woolgrowers Association and Todd Jaksick. Discussion took place regarding possible solutions for depredation, Mr. Jaksick's proposal, the units from which the tags will be allocated, the cost of tags versus the cost of clean up/repair, the areas for which the tags will be issued, and the need to negotiate a specific settlement. In response to a question, Member Davis advised that Mr. Jaksick is complaining about hunters, fishermen, and visitors to the area. Member Walker acknowledged that the land surrounding the Squaw Valley Reservoir is private. Member Blank suggested imposing a user fee, and discussion took place with regard to the same. Chairperson MacKenzie expressed the opinion that Mr. Jaksick is mainly interested in the tags. No formal action was taken.

6-1. WIND POWER GENERATORS (1-2696) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to a letter from NDOW Biologist Patrick Cummings included in the Commission agenda materials. Discussion took place regarding the anticipated impacts to wildlife in the area of the Spring Mountains. Member Blank discussed the energy crisis issue and legislative support for power generation resources. He expressed appreciation for NDOW raising concerns regarding sheep, raptors and bats. Member Davis commented that an alternative location should be considered. The Board members agreed with the response provided by NDOW. Discussion took place regarding the operation of wind powered generators. No formal action was taken.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED LEGISLATION; REVIEW OF RESPONSE FROM SENATOR BILL RAGGIO (1-0076) - Chairperson MacKenzie read the response from Senator Raggio to the letter sent on behalf of the Board regarding SB30 into the record. (1-3040) Member Blank referred to legislative bills included in the Commission agenda materials, and discussion took place regarding the proposal to include the wild horse as a State animal. Discussion took place regarding SB291. Chairperson MacKenzie read a portion of SB106 into the record and discussed its elements. He read a portion of AB199 into the record, and discussion took place regarding the account to be established and the purpose for the same. Chairperson MacKenzie advised of an interim study on wilderness areas which is in response to the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Areas recently designated by the U.S. Congress. He reviewed the details of SB30, and discussion took place with regard to the same. He advised that at their February meeting, the Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife expressed opposition to changing the status of the mountain lion, allowing Clark County to have six members on the Wildlife Commission, and requiring Wildlife Commission approval of NDOW's budget. Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed SB220 regarding registration of off road vehicles, and discussion took place with regard to the allocation of the registration fee. Chairperson MacKenzie read a portion of the bill into the record. No formal action was taken.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DESIGNATE A CCABMW REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING IN OVERTON SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 23 AND 24, 2001 (1-3514) - Discussion took place regarding the Overton facility, and Member Blank advised that he would check his schedule and attend the meeting if possible. No formal action was taken.

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9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CURRENT BUDGET, AND CCABMW BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2001-2002 (2-0007) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised that the Board's budget request is due April 2nd. Member Blank reviewed the budget information for this fiscal year, and discussed the requests for augmentation from other county boards included in the Commission agenda materials. Discussion took place regarding the cost of agenda publications, per diem allowances for attendance at Commission meetings, and the 2001 Commission meeting schedule. Board consensus was to request Member Blank to develop and submit the budget request. No formal action was taken.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO NOMINATE AND ELECT OFFICERS - CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY (2-0112) - Member Walker nominated Member Blank as secretary. Member Davis seconded the nomination. Member Blank commended Chairperson MacKenzie on the job he has done. **Member Davis moved to retain the current chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary. Member Walker seconded the motion.** Chairperson MacKenzie and Member Blank acknowledged a willingness to continue serving in their current positions. **Motion carried 4-0.**

11. DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE MEETING AGENDA (2-0172) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised that the quota setting meeting is scheduled for April 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Capitol Conference Room. Discussion took place with regard to scheduling a regular meeting shortly after the April 23rd meeting.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (1-0095) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised of his attendance at a portion of the March 23/24, 2001 Wildlife Commission meeting. Member Walker advised that he had attended on Friday, March 23rd. Member Davis commented that he left the meeting on Saturday at noon because of the "relentless" review of season dates by the Commission. Chairperson MacKenzie advised that the Commission was reviewing the same topic when he left at 2:30 p.m. Member Davis indicated that he discussed the matter with Commissioner Bradley. Discussion took place regarding the rotating trophy hunt for the elk rut. Member Davis advised that the Commission approved the year-round mountain lion season, and noted that this was in direct conflict to the federal law NDOW Biologist Walter Mandeville discussed at the March Board meeting. Discussion took place regarding the PIW hunt. (2-0240) Member Davis inquired as to his term expiration, and requested that the information be provided to him. (2-0311) Chairperson MacKenzie advised of an e-mail from C.K. Baily requesting that the Ross Gold Pond Urban Fishery be agendized for the next meeting. He advised that Mr. Baily notified him of the fish planting which took place last week. Chairperson MacKenzie further advised that he has been approached regarding a position on the Wildlife Commission. He indicated that if any of the Board members are interested, their names can be submitted as well. He reviewed the expiring Commission terms.

13. ADJOURNMENT (2-0396) - Member Blank moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Member Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the March 19, 2001 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 23rd day of April, 2001.

CHRISTOPHER MacKENZIE, Chairperson