

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the June 12, 2000 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 12, 2000 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Christopher MacKenzie
Larry Blank
Greg Davis
James Mason
Norman Pedersen

STAFF: Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(ABMW 06/12/00; Tape 1-0001)

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 7:02 p.m. A quorum was present. Member Mason arrived at 7:11 p.m.

2. ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2000 AND MAY 3, 2000 MEETINGS (1-0008) - Member Pedersen moved to approve the minutes as published for both the May 1st and May 3rd meetings. Member Blank seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0-1-1, Member Davis abstaining (May 1st minutes). Motion carried 4-0-1-0 (May 3rd minutes).

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER TERM COMPLETION - JIM MASON AND CHRIS MacKENZIE; ACTION TO NOTICE VACANCIES AND SET INTERVIEWS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (1-0047) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised of term completions for himself and Member Mason as of July 1, 2000. He advised that the positions have been published by the Carson City Personnel Department and applications received. Interviews will be scheduled for the next Board meeting. Following discussion, Board consensus was to schedule the next meeting for Monday, July 24th at 7:00 p.m. Chairperson MacKenzie advised that copies of the applications will be included in the July 24th agenda packets, and discussion ensued regarding the interview process. (Member Mason arrived at 7:11 p.m.) Member Mason provided two applications to Chairperson MacKenzie. No formal action was taken.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE LAST MEETING OF THE NEVADA WILDLIFE COMMISSION (1-0263) - Member Pedersen provided a report from the last Commission meeting. He advised that extensive discussion had taken place regarding county budgets, and that Chairperson Bradley had advised that the Commission will not be increasing its annual number of meetings. Member Pedersen provided information regarding supplemental budget requests, and discussed the requirement of sending only one county Board member to Commission meetings. Discussion followed with regard to the same, and Member Pedersen provided a copy of the updated budget to Chairperson MacKenzie. Member Pedersen advised of the City Finance Department contact, Nancy Paulson, who supplies information to the State Wildlife Commission. He suggested that the Board establish contact with Ms. Paulson.

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Member Pedersen discussed concerns expressed by Chairperson Bradley regarding the non-responsiveness of the county boards in identifying trophy hunt areas. Discussion ensued with regard to the same, and Board consensus was that the letter referenced by Chairperson Bradley had never been received. Member Mason pointed out that the Carson City Advisory Board has provided input each time it has been asked to do so. Additional concerns discussed by Chairperson Bradley included the overestimation of animal herds by the Nevada Division of Wildlife ("NDOW"), and the youth hunt. Member Pedersen noted that County recommendations were adhered to almost unanimously, and that Chairperson Bradley had expressed an interest in hearing about specific issues from the county boards. Member Pedersen further advised that extensive discussion had taken place regarding mountain lions. With regard to every other big game issue, the strongest influencing factor on final quotas was the recommendations of the county advisory boards. He advised that NDOW had been commended on their new report format.

Member Pedersen acknowledged that the Board's recommendation for unit 291 had been accepted. Member Blank referred to the Commission meeting minutes and advised that 29 tags had been allocated for unit 291. Discussion took place regarding the differences between the recommendations provided by the Douglas County Advisory Board and the Carson City Advisory Board. Member Mason provided historical information regarding a team recommendation developed between Carson City, Douglas County, and Washoe County. He suggested considering this in the future because of the additional influence it provides. No formal action was taken.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 283 - NDOW PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO NAC 501.210 BASED ON 1999 AMENDMENTS TO STATUTE AND CLARIFIES THAT A DEMERIT-BASED SUSPENSION IS LIMITED TO HUNTING, FISHING, AND TRAPPING LICENSES AND PERMITS, AND ASSOCIATED PRIVILEGES. THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS ALSO CORRECT REFERENCES REGARDING APPROPRIATE CRIMINAL CHARGES AND CHANGE SOME DEMERIT VALUES WHERE INEQUITIES MAY EXIST (1-0728) - Chairperson MacKenzie provided an overview of the proposed amendment and Board consensus was to accept it. No formal action was taken.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 288 - PROPOSES TO AMEND CHAPTER 501 OF THE NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE BY ADDING A SECTION WHICH DELINEATES THE PROCESS FOR APPLYING FOR WILDLIFE HERITAGE TRUST ACCOUNT FUNDING. THIS REGULATION WILL GUIDE THE COMMISSION AND NDOW IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WILDLIFE HERITAGE TRUST ACCOUNT FOR PROJECT REQUIREMENTS, SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS, AND PROCESSING AND APPROVAL TIME FRAMES. THE WILDLIFE HERITAGE TRUST ACCOUNT IS AUTHORIZED BY NRS 501.3575 AND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS (1-0755) - Member Blank commented that the proposed regulation appears to be new. He expressed a concern over the fact that applications will be accepted from "state or federal governmental agenc[ies]," and discussion took place with regard to the same. Member Pedersen expressed support for the amendment and discussed a misunderstanding by a member of the White Pine County Advisory Board that Wildlife Heritage Trust funds could be used if travel and per diem monies run out. He discussed the Commission's reaction, and

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commented that if trust funds aren't being used, they should be returned to the Commission. Board consensus was to accept the proposed amendments. No formal action was taken.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GENERAL REGULATION 291 - CLARIFIES EXISTING REGULATION REGARDING ELK INCENTIVE TAG SEASONS (1-0840) - Member Davis commented that the amendments to paragraph 3 will provide a good management tool for NDOW. Discussion took place regarding the overestimation of herds indicated by NDOW representatives at the May 3rd meeting, and the formula provided in the proposed amendment. Board consensus was to accept the proposed amendment. No formal action was taken.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION POLICIES - REVIEW REVISIONS TO POLICIES #1 GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMISSION, #2 GUIDELINES FOR THE DIVISION SALES OF DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS, #3 COOPERATIVE OR RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS, AND BEGIN REVISION OF POLICY #4 ALLOCATION OF TAGS, #5 WILDLIFE HERITAGE ACCOUNT, AND #6 WILDLIFE HERITAGE TAGS AND VENDORS (1-0922) - Following a brief discussion of each addendum included in the Wildlife Commission agenda materials, Board consensus was to accept the proposed policy revisions. No formal action was taken.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING LANDOWNER COMPENSATION TAGS PROGRAM - THE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN WILL SELECT A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE LANDOWNER DAMAGE COMPENSATION TAG PROGRAM AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS (1-1107) - Chairperson MacKenzie provided a brief overview of the proposal. Discussion took place regarding the purpose of the program, misuses of the program, the benefits of a review committee, selection of the committee members, agendaizing the matter for a future meeting to discuss revisions to the program, and attempting to join together with adjacent counties to present a recommendation to the Commission. **Member Pedersen moved to support the selection of a Committee to review the landowner damage compensation tag program, and request that the county advisory boards be allowed to provide input. Member Davis seconded the motion.** Discussion took place with regard to the motion, and Chairperson MacKenzie called for a vote. **Motion carried 5-0.** Discussion followed regarding Board representation at the meeting in which the Committee members will be selected.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SPIKE BULL HUNT - THE COMMISSION WILL TAKE INPUT FROM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND THE PUBLIC REGARDING INITIATION OF A SPECIAL HUNT IN 2001 AS AN ELK HERD TOOL (1-1677) - Chairperson MacKenzie provided an overview of this proposal. In response to a question, Member Davis explained that because of the large number of spike-horn and rag-horn elk, the bull to cow ratio has decreased significantly. He referred to the statistics provided by Craig Mortimore, of NDOW, at the May 3rd meeting. With regard to the Commission's allocation of overall bull elk tags, Member Pedersen advised that NDOW's recommendations had been followed, and that there had not been any specific disagreement by the county advisory boards. **Member Blank moved to support the development by the Commission of a spike bull hunt. Member Mason seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

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11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RECOMMEND MEMBERS(S) TO THE NEVADA WILDLIFE COMMISSION - THE BOARD WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNOR GUINN REGARDING THE TWO UPCOMING APPOINTMENTS FOR THE GENERAL AND CONSERVATION MEMBERS (1-1868) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised that two openings will be available. A brief discussion took place, however, no formal action was taken.

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A CROSSBOW PETITION - THE COMMISSION WILL REVIEW A PETITION FROM THE CLARK COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO ALLOW PHYSICALLY DISABLED PERSONS TO HUNT WITH A CROSSBOW DURING THE ARCHERY SEASON (1-1916) - Member Pedersen discussed the presentation made at the last Commission meeting with regard to this matter, and advised of the Commissioners' discussion. He advised of speaking to the individual who made the presentation, and expressed support for the proposal if specific language is included to ensure that the provision is not abused. Member Davis commented that he had no problem providing exceptions for handicapped individuals. He expressed concern over the proposed weapon, and how a wounded animal could be tracked or chased. Member Mason expressed concern over the definition of "physically disabled." Member Blank concurred, and echoed Member Davis' concern over the proposed weapon. He provided information regarding a policy in Minnesota allowing physically impaired individuals to hunt with crossbows. He researched the matter on the Internet and found articles evidencing abuse of the policy. He expressed opposition to the proposal because the crossbow is not a comparable weapon, and the proposal is not equivalent to allowing a physically impaired individual to shoot from their vehicle. Chairperson MacKenzie pointed out the administrative aspects of evaluating each request on a case-by-case basis. Discussion took place regarding the grade of ammunition available for crossbows, hunter safety concerns, the criteria for physically impaired rifle tags, and proposing a different weapon.

Member Mason moved to obtain more information to determine the definition of physically disabled. Following a brief discussion, Member Mason withdrew his motion. Member Davis pointed out that this issue had been previously addressed and denied. Member Blank read a portion of the April 1, 2000 letter from the Chairman of the Clark County Wildlife Advisory Board into the record and pointed out that it does not qualify as a petition. **Member Davis moved that the Board not support the crossbow petition as it is currently written due to lack of specificity for the definition of a physically disabled person and also because a crossbow is not a legal weapon in the State of Nevada at this point.** Member Pedersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

13. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING DIVISIONAL ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE - IN CONFORMANCE WITH NRS 301.337(3), THE COMMISSION WILL BE ASKED TO CONCUR WITH A PROPOSED CHANGE FROM A LINE-STAFF ORGANIZATION TO A DIRECT LINE PROGRAM SUPERVISED AGENCY IN ORDER TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS (1-2340) - Following a brief discussion, Board consensus was to track this matter.

The Board reviewed Commission Policy Number 25, the Proposal for Professional Services for the CCC Ranch, and the Petition for the Adoption, Amendment, Filing, or Repeal of a Regulation from the Nevada Trappers Association, and agreed with the proposals outlined in each.

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14. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE STILLWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - THE U.S. WILDLIFE SERVICE HAS PROPOSED A COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE REFUGE; POSSIBLE ACTION TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD IN THIS MATTER (1-2480) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised of a conversation with a Churchill County Advisory Board member wherein he was informed that representatives of the U.S. Wildlife Service had presented possible options for managing the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge. He described the proposal which the Churchill County Advisory Board will be supporting. Discussion took place regarding the existing size of the Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Wildlife Service's purpose in restricting additional wetlands. **Member Pedersen moved to support the Churchill County Advisory Board in their actions as related to Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge. Member Blank seconded the motion.** Chairperson MacKenzie offered to provide the comments on behalf of the Board. **Motion carried 5-0.** Member Pedersen moved that the Board communicate to the U.S. Wildlife Service during the open comment period to maintain the existing conditions. Member Blank seconded the motion. Chairperson MacKenzie explained the priorities assigned, by the U.S. Wildlife Service, to the comments provided. Member Pedersen withdrew his motion. **Member Blank moved to authorize Chairperson MacKenzie to relay the sentiments mentioned in the earlier motion to support the status quo on use of the subject lands. Member Pedersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

15. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (1-2785) - Chairperson MacKenzie reiterated that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 24th, and that interviews will be agendized for two available positions. Member Mason advised that his term ends July 1st. Chairperson MacKenzie advised that the next Wildlife Commission meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 28th in Ely.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT (1-2820) - None.

17. ADJOURNMENT (1-2828) - Member Pedersen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m. Member Mason seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the June 12, 2000 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this _____ day of July, 2000.

CHRISTOPHER MacKENZIE, Chairperson