

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the March 23, 2009 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, March 23, 2009 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairman Gil Yanuck
Vice Chairman Stan Zuber
Member Wes Clyde
Member Doug Martin
Member John Valley

STAFF: Jano Barnhurst, 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-Recorder's Office, and are available for review during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0061) - Chairman Yanuck called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 2, 2009 (1-0066) - Member Clyde moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0076) - No changes.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0089) - Jim Davis with Clear Creek Bowmen, commented that he has spoken with several people who have drawn archery bull elk tags which has been moved from August 25 to September 14 in most areas and that the hunt has been moved out of the rut. The chance for an archer to get a bull in the rut is a closed shot. The archery bull elk season is August 1-September 5. The rifle cow elk tag is August 1-31, which is the early hunt in the Ely area and has most of the tags. There's also a late hunt September 1-30. Also in this area there is the rifle antelope hunt from September 6-20. It takes some hunters 20 years to draw a bull tag who are now competing with deer hunters and rifle cow hunters and is becoming more of a safety issue than a competition. The bulls are coming off the top and get down into the flats. There are two rifle hunts going on and an archery elk hunt. Last year, in area 16, monitor range, the rifle hunt was September 16-23. There are now five different rifle areas that are going into the rut, yet the archers can't hunt in the rut. The Clear Creek Bowmen would like to see the old system implemented where the archers have the rut, the muzzleloaders were before, and there weren't firearms and archery seasons crossing. Chairman Yanuck apologized for not being able to do anything now but the season dates had already been set. He suggested that Mr. Davis attend the setting dates meeting in two years to voice his concerns.

(1-0220) CK Bailey commented that Trout in the Classroom is coming to its annual close. There have been some problems with Carson City as some schools are clamping down on their budgets and don't have the electricity to operate the pumps and refrigeration in the tanks. He advised they are going to teach the kids about trout, their life cycle and the insects they feed on without a tank and without trout.

5. DISCLOSURES (1-0242) - None.

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6. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE FEBRUARY 6 AND 7, 2009 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-0246) - Chairman Yanuck advised that the season setting was long and there were discussions on many subjects. He encouraged the members to read the minutes from that meeting. He also encouraged everyone to attend a meeting as the next couple will be worth attending.

7. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendized for the March 27 and 28, 2009 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 (1-0280) - Chairman Yanuck entertained requests to hear items separate from the consent agenda. Items 7-A, 7-B, 7-H were pulled. He then entertained a motion to accept the remaining items on the consent agenda. **Member Martin moved to approve Items 7-C, 7-D, 7-E, 7-F, 7-G of the consent agenda. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

7-A. ACTION REGARDING PETITION OF JOHN V. ZENZ. The commission will consider a petition from John V. Zenz requesting to “increase desert bighorn sheep season (November through December); more weekend and holidays available for hunters.” The commission may accept and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition. (1-0310) - There was discussion among the members of extending the season just for the purpose of extending it as the average hunting dates are well within the season. Deer, elk, and antelope seasons are not being extended. Chairman Yanuck commented that it isn't likely someone will go every weekend as it's too expensive and difficult. Member Clyde's comment was that you would normally spend less than a week. **Member Valley moved to not accept the petition. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

7-B. ACTION REGARDING PETITION OF JOHN V. ZENZ. The commission will consider a petition from John V. Zenz requesting to “reduce PIW desert sheep quota to one.” The commission may accept and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition. (1-0353) Member Valley commented that the Commission can issue less but not more and if they limit it to one, that is all you're ever going to get. With two, they can reduce to one due to lack of analysis. In response to a question, Member Valley replied that it was primarily determined by biologists. Chairman Yanuck commented that it blends in with other issues being discussed in the legislature, i.e., the dream tag and Silver State tag. PIW raises a lot of money and for the price of a PIW tag, a person is essentially getting a governor's tag. Too many opportunities are in direct conflict with what the biologists say is good for the herd. He agrees that if there is a maximum of two, they don't have to give out two which is more in line with what the biologists say is appropriate. He agreed with Member Valley that this has worked for a number of years. **Member Valley moved to not accept the 7-B petition; to decline it. Vice Chairman Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

7-C. ACTION REGARDING APPEAL OF GUY W. ROZAR. The commission will hear a request from Mr. Rozar to receive a bull elk tag and /or his bonus points reinstated. Member Valley asked to briefly address this item as to whether to make a recommendation that Mr. Rozar received his bull tag or bonus points. Member Martin pointed out that the Board had no comment. In response to a question, Member Martin replied that the item has already been acted on.

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7-D. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION POLICY #50, DUCK STAMP PROCEDURES, SECOND READING - PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER AARON MEIER. The department is requesting that the commission revise Policy #50 to change the number of Nevada duck stamps printed from 50,000 to 35,000. No discussion or action.

7-E. ACTION REGARDING UPLAND GAME STAMP PROJECT - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM. The department is requesting to modify approved upland game stamp projects and will request approval to fund a telemetry study of released mountain quail. No discussion or action.

7-F. ACTION REGARDING HUMBOLDT COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE AUGMENTATION - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER DAVE PRATHER. Humboldt County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife is requesting the commission to augment their 2009 budget in the amount of \$1,120. No discussion or action.

7-G. ACTION REGARDING LEGISLATION - CHAIRMAN LENT. The commission will hear a report from the commission's legislative committee and may vote to support or oppose proposals to the 2009 session of the Nevada State Legislature. No discussion or action.

7-H. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 367-T-014-09 TEMPORARY - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST KEVIN LANSFORD. The commission will adopt language to change the Nevada Administrative Code to allow eligibility of any Nevada resident or non-resident to obtain three mountain lion tags in any license year. *Note: This item is agendized as part of an informational workshop on Friday, March 27th and for action on Saturday, March 28th.* (1-0480) Member Valley stated that he was at the Wildlife Commission meeting when Mr. Lansford talked about three tags vs. two, compared to how many a hunter can have and how many they will actually harvest. He doesn't feel there is any reason to allow three tags because it would draw too much attention which would ultimately mean no cat season. Chairman Yanuck commented that if mountain lions are hunted specifically for the benefit of deer hunters, it's going to draw the ire of the anti-hunters. Money is lost with every hunter who is paid for killing a mountain lion. He said that at the meeting, no one was able to answer as to knowing whether a mountain lion was taken in Nevada. There would have to be a legislative amendment to change the number of tags from more than two. The tie-in to the mountain lion issue is that some people believe that shooting mountain lions is the panacea to the deer herd problem. **Member Valley moved to not accept and keep it at two. Vice Chairman Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

8. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE MARCH 27 AND 28, 2009 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING. A report 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. (1-0609) - Chairman Yanuck commented if there is additional information or points that someone would like to ask or add to the discussion, it will be carried forward to the Commission meeting. Mr. Baily asked to pull Item 8-P. Member Martin pulled Items 8-B, 8-J, and 8-Q.

8-A. CORRESPONDENCE - CHAIRMAN LENT. The commission will review and may discuss written items sent or received by the commission since the last regular meeting and provide copies for the exhibit file. No discussion.

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8-B. U.S. FOREST SERVICE NORTHEASTERN NEVADA TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN - U.S. FOREST SERVICE HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR ED MONNIG (1-0646). Member Martin inquired if this references the Ruby Mountain Ranger District Travel Plans, which will have off-road restrictions. In response to a question, Chairman Yanuck advised there was no other information and that people complained at the meeting about making decisions without facts or background information. Director Mayer said he was going to provide additional information to the Boards so each informational item now has the name and contact information of the presenter. He encouraged anyone who wanted more information to contact the presenter. In response to a question, Kevin Law replied that BLM has shifted their lands to where it's all existing route. They develop a travel management plan because they don't want some of the existing routes. Member Martin commented that this is background correspondence between the Director of the Department of Wildlife and the Forest Supervisor from Elko. The Director advised that this would impact access for hunters and fisherman and to hold a scoping meeting in Reno.

8-C. WILDLIFE DIVERSITY DIVISION PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS. No discussion.

8-D. DEPARTMENT ACTIONS RELATED TO "EARLY AND UNAUTHORIZED RELEASE OF 2008 BIG GAME DRAW RESULTS" - CHIEF OF OPERATIONS BOB HAUGHIAN. No discussion.

8-E. 2009 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - DIRECTOR KEN MAYER. No discussion.

8-F. CLARK COUNTY SHOOTING PARK - VICE CHAIRMAN RON LURIE. No discussion.

8-G. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICY COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER RAINE. No discussion.

8-H. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER RAINE. No discussion.

8-I. HERITAGE COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER CAVIN. No discussion.

8-J. WANTON WASTE REGULATION - CHIEF GAME WARDEN ROB BUONAMICI (1-0751) Member Martin said that the background information that was provided is the same information as the last meeting and is still in scientific language. He wanted to reiterate that it has been requested to have the scientific language removed and make it clearer. Chairman Yanuck said the Latin terms are the correct terminology, but "a flank steak is a flank steak", and everyone agreed that it needed to be changed.

8-K. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL BRYAN STOCKTON. No discussion.

8-L. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES / LEADERSHIP TEAM NOTES - SECRETARY KEN MAYER. No discussion.

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8-M. DEPARTMENT BUDGET, INCLUDING QUESTIONS FROM COMMISSION REGARDING DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATION TO THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER DAVE PRATHER. No discussion.

8-N. UPDATE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE INVOLVEMENT - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM. No discussion.

8-O. NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE WATER MONITORING RELATIVE TO SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY PROJECTS - CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM. No discussion.

8-P. BASSET AND COMINS LAKES FISHERIES' STATUS - DEPUTY DIRECTOR RICH HASKINS (1-0790) Mr. Baily commented that there's been a change of regulations this year, problems with Comins and would like to know its status. Chairman Yanuck inquired if there were any suggestions from the fishing public about the lake. Mr. Baily replied that they'd like it to be a delicious open water. It was fantastic water and wants to see it continue as such.

8-Q. COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE WORKSHOP.

- **MULE DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND HERD PRESCRIPTIONS - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST TONY WASLEY (1-0814)** Chairman Yanuck advised that there will be another wildlife workshop discussing the big game plan. In response to a question, he replied it should just be an update based on what has been determined the last three years. He commented that it would be interesting if Mr. Wasley still believes the reasons the herd is the way it is, is because of weather, fire, and other things beyond control. Member Martin was curious to see what his update will be on predation. In response to a question, Member Martin said the mule deer plan was published three years before the big Elko fires so it will be curious to see what the updates will be.
- **MOUNTAIN LION ECOLOGY AND RESULTS FROM A LONG-TERM STUDY - CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DR. BECKY PIERCE.** No discussion.
- **STATUS AND HISTORY OF MOUNTAIN LION MANAGEMENT IN NEVADA - BIG GAME BIOLOGIST KEVIN LANSFORD.** No discussion.
- **OVERVIEW OF COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEMBERS' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES - CHAIRMAN GERALD LENT.** No discussion.
- **STATE BUDGET 101 TRAINING - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER DAVE PRATHER (1-0900)** - Chairman Yanuck commented that the average sportsman has a lot of questions about the budget and where the license and tag fees are spent. Two to three percent of the overall operating expenses come from the general fund, with the rest coming from tags, license sales and government grants. A lot of people want to know where the money from the heritage fund is going. The Commission does a good job of advising where it goes, but what is not seen are the expenses the Department incurs on game and non-

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game activities. In response to a question, Chairman Yanuck replied that an operating expense budget can include everything from electricity bills to vehicles to fuel and more; and because there's so much, the people paying for it are asking questions. The committee he is on is charged with determining how to save money. The Department has done a lot as far as carpooling and the use of Department vehicles. The number of meetings in Las Vegas will be limited to one or two this year as it's less expensive to bring a few Commissioners to Reno than to take all the Department staff to Las Vegas. Everyone is trying to come up with ideas to reduce expenses. Maintenance and operating items are the 'black hole'. It's all public information and anyone has access to all of the information that goes into the Department budget. There will be a lesson in how it's all put together and an opportunity to ask questions.

- **PRESENTATION REGARDING NEVADA REVISED STATUTES / NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND COMMISSION REGULATION / COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION - CHIEF GAME WARDEN ROB BUONAMICI.** No discussion.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SUPPORT OR OPPOSE ASSEMBLY BILL 183 WHICH AUTHORIZES THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS TO ESTABLISH AN ADDITIONAL KIND OF DRAWING FOR THE EXISTING ALLOTMENT OF BIG GAME TAGS (BDR 4576); SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLYMEN GOICOECHEA, CARPENTER, GRADY, SMITH, AIZLEY, BOBZIEN, GOEDHART, GUSTAVSON, HAMBRICK, HOGAN, MUNFORD, OHRENSCHALL, SEGERBLOM, SETTELMAYER, AND SENATOR RHOADS. (1-1145)

Chairman Yanuck advised that the legislative committee met and discussed AB183. In response to a question, he replied that the concept of auctioning heritage tags goes to the highest bidder. Chad Bliss wanted the average sportsman to compete for a tag that would give him the same benefits as a heritage tag without having to go into an auction. He wanted it to be between \$20-\$50. Mr. Davis expressed concern about asking for more tags to sell every year. Chairman Yanuck advised there will be an additional tag and it is an opportunity to compete for a tag that has similar rights as a heritage tag. The money raised by the sale of these tags would specifically go into the heritage funds for future projects, wildlife and habitat. Member Martin expressed confusion about AB183 as it is not written as Chairperson Yanuck explained it. A lengthy discussion ensued. It is a sealed bid which is basically the same as going to the highest bidder. Member Clyde expressed his understanding that the Commission can accept sealed bids for or through a Silver State drawing or auction and it should be clarified that it is separate from the heritage. In response to a comment, Chairman Yanuck expressed agreement that it appears the focus is on revenue rather than quality. The heritage is an option and it's given to groups who have raised big sums of money for the heritage fund. Member Martin commented that the way it reads, the Commission can accept sealed bids or award through a Silver State tag drawing or auction with the monies going to special projects. He's confused and not sure he can support it. Member Valley commented that the concept is good, but cannot support it as written. He thinks it could work but doesn't like the fact that it's another bid. Chairman Yanuck commented that due to these comments and concerns, the Board needs clarification on this item. It was the consensus of the Board to not support AB183 as written. Member Martin commented that as some confusing issues have been raised, the Board does not have to take action to support or oppose. He suggested that Chairman Yanuck advise the Commission that this Board is confused and needs clarification. He cannot support or oppose it because there are too many questions and does not want to go on record not supporting something without understanding it. Member Clyde commented that when Mr. Bliss talked about this, it was very clear about what his intentions were, but now they are not clear. Chairman Yanuck commented that based on the discussion, it left more questions than answers. In response to a question, he

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replied that the Board did not have to take any action on this item. Vice Chairman Zuber commented that the Board can't say whether to support it or not unless they vote on it. Chairman Yanuck commented that more information is needed before any action can be taken.

10. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM - GIL YANUCK (1-2075) Chairman Yanuck said at last month's meeting a lot of time was spent talking about what the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife (DOFW) was going to do. They have enough information provided to the judge and expect to hear something in the major time period as far as the listing. Everyone wanted to purposely wait until the new administration was in place to see what their input was going to be about the impact of a listing so no one from DOFW would say anything. It's going to be a sensational bit of news. The team is under a lot of pressure and knows it has to be supported with nothing but facts.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET (1-2130) Chairman Yanuck advised that the budget in the packet is the budget submitted late last month to the Department. Compared to previous budgets, the numbers come out to about the same at \$4,000 a year. It's strictly a function of where the meetings will be held. The costs of airfares, rental cars and motels have all changed. He attached a copy of the GSA schedule as to what the maximum is that can be spent on hotels and per diem. He said it's important that Carson City is represented at the Commission meetings. This will be on the agenda at the next meeting for approval by the Commission.

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (1-2239) Chairman Yanuck commented that he will attend the meeting this weekend. Anyone else is welcome to attend the workshop or other part of the meeting.

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING. **The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission is scheduled for May 15 and 16, 2009, in Reno. The next meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2009 (1-2255)** Chairman Yanuck announced that the next meeting is in Reno, May 15-16. The next CCABMW is Monday, May 11. Member Martin advised that this will set quantities of tags that will be issued.

14. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF - Ms. Barnhurst advised of the amended agenda at this weekend's meeting. Mr. Valley advised that it was a language change.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - (1-2299) None.

16. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-221) - Chairman Yanuck entertained a motion for adjournment. Member Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Valley and carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the March 23, 2009 Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Meeting are so approved this 11th day of May, 2009.