

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

## **Minutes of the November 13, 2006 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 13, 2006 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Steve Walker  
John Valley  
Stan Zuber

**STAFF:** Juan Guzman, Open Space / Property Manager  
Kathleen King, 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, on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office. These materials are available for review during regular business hours.

**1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** - Chairperson Walker called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. A quorum was present. Vice Chairperson Yanuck and Member Derley were absent.

**2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 18, 2006** - Member Zuber moved to approve the minutes. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0007)** - None.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0009)** - C.K. Baily advised of having been awarded a plaque in recognition of his efforts on the urban fishing pond project. He advised of having taken the opportunity to publicly thank former Parks and Recreation Director Steve Kastens, Park Planner Vern Krahn, Sierra Pacific Power Company, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Nevada Department of Wildlife. Chairperson Walker thanked Mr. Baily for all his hard work and enthusiasm. Mr. Baily provided a status report on the project.

**5. DISCLOSURES (1-0038)** - None.

**6. ACTION TO PROVIDE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE FEDERAL LANDS BILL MAP. THIS MAP WILL BE USED AS THE BASIS TO CREATE THE FEDERAL LANDS BILL FOR CARSON CITY, WHICH CONSISTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS TO ALLOW FOR THE EXCHANGE AND / OR TRANSFER IN OWNERSHIP OF LANDS OWNED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN CARSON CITY. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS MAY INCLUDE THE IDENTIFICATION OF FEDERALLY-OWNED LANDS AND CITY-OWNED LANDS WHERE OWNERSHIP MAY BE EXCHANGED AND / OR TRANSFERRED AND USED FOR PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, MANAGEMENT OF OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND RECREATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND PUBLIC UTILITIES AND SERVICES - OPEN SPACE / PROPERTY MANAGER JUAN F. GUZMAN (1-0041)** - Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report and the pertinent agenda materials in conjunction with a displayed proposed federal lands bill map. He responded to

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questions, and discussion took place regarding relocation of the shooting facility. He reviewed Vice Chairperson Yanuck's written comments, copies of which were distributed to the board members prior to the start of the meeting. He provided an overview of management cost estimates which were in the process of being prepared.

Member Zuber discussed his experience with federal lands bills in other Nevada counties, and Mr. Guzman acknowledged that Carson City's bill is very different from Clark County's bill. Member Zuber expressed concern over managing lands outside NEPA processes. Mr. Guzman advised that the federal lands bill will request approximately 6,000 acres, and that the lands bill is the best approach for adjusting boundaries. In response to a question, he discussed reasons for seeking to manage lands outside federal processes and corresponding issues of concern expressed by Sierra Club representatives. Member Zuber discussed the "checks and balances" benefit to BLM property ownership and Carson City management under recreation and public purpose leases. In response to a question, Mr. Guzman explained City Manager Linda Ritter's commitment to deed restrict parcels for the uses specified on the federal lands bill map. Discussion followed, and Member Zuber advised that he visits the Silver Saddle Ranch almost daily. He further advised that the users with whom he's spoken "like it just the way it is." Mr. Guzman discussed the involvement and mission of the Friends of the Silver Saddle Ranch. In response to a question, he expressed the belief that not taking the opportunity represented by the federal lands bill would be foolish, especially in light of the opportunity to create restrictions which will bind future boards of supervisors. Chairperson Walker discussed concerns regarding operation and management costs associated with acquisition of the land. Mr. Guzman advised that appropriations for development of the regional park at Silver Saddle have been discussed with congressional representatives. He further advised that the present Open Space Program budget has sufficient funding to manage the open space portions of the Silver Saddle Ranch and Prison Hill. Discussion followed.

Member Zuber discussed current management of the Silver Saddle Ranch, and reiterated that the users seem to be satisfied. He expressed opposition to the regional park concept. Mr. Guzman agreed that the Silver Saddle Ranch users seem to be satisfied with current management and development of the park. He advised that Mayor Teixeira, and members of both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Carson River Advisory Committee believe the facility may be underutilized. Member Zuber clarified his concern had to do with the extent to which the Silver Saddle Ranch may be developed to accommodate the regional park concept. Mr. Guzman advised that the concept will be submitted to an extensive public process before any plan is developed.

Member Zuber referred to a recent presentation regarding the Question #1 opportunities map, and inquired as to the possibility of utilizing Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act ("SNPLMA") funding to purchase lands in the Brunswick Canyon area downstream on the Carson River to the county line and the lands known as Buzzy's Ranch. Mr. Guzman advised that the same recommendation had been presented by the Carson River and Open Space Advisory Committees. He pointed out the environmentally sensitive lands which were recommended, including Jarrard / Anderson, Serpa, Bently, and lands for recreational uses, including 40 acres of the Lompa property. He responded to associated questions.

In response to a comment, Mr. Guzman provided background information on the origins of Carson City's federal lands bill. He responded to questions regarding U.S. Forest Service lands the City is interested in acquiring, and discussed the Open Space Advisory Committee's recommendation with regard to the same. He responded to additional questions regarding access to west side lands.

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Chairperson Walker called for additional questions or comments and, when none were forthcoming, entertained a motion. Member Zuber moved to accept the federal lands bill map, as presented, with the exclusion of Prison Hill and the Silver Saddle Ranch, and that funds mainly from SNPLMA be used to purchase Brunswick Bridge downstream to the Carson River to the county line and the lands known as Buzzy's Ranch. Motion died for lack of a second. Member Valley expressed support for the City taking ownership of Prison Hill and the Silver Saddle Ranch to increase use. Discussion followed, and **Member Valley moved to accept the map, as presented, with the limitation that Prison Hill be kept as open space and recreation use only, and that funds mainly from SNPLMA be used to purchase lands in Brunswick Canyon downstream on the Carson River to the county line and the lands known as Buzzy's Ranch. Member Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-1.** Member Zuber acknowledged his opposition had to do with management of Prison Hill and the Silver Saddle Ranch. Chairperson Walker thanked Mr. Guzman, recessed the meeting at 7:40 p.m., and reconvened at 7:49 p.m.

**7. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23, 2006 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-1733)** - Chairperson Walker read Vice Chairperson Yanuck's written comments into the record, copies of which were provided to the board members and staff. Discussion took place regarding the upcoming Wildlife Commission interview process for the new Department of Wildlife Director.

**8. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA.** All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendaized for the November 17 and 18, 2006 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 (1-1783) - Neither the Board members nor the citizens present had any comment on these items. No formal action was taken.

**8-A. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 344, LCB FILE NO. R028-06 - WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST MIKE COX.** A regulation relating to wildlife; revising the boundaries involving Management Areas 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 22 for antelope, deer, mountain lion, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and fur bearing mammals; and providing for other matters properly related thereto. Note: See support material for agenda item #2. *This item is agendaized as part of an informational workshop on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and for commission action on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.*

**8-B. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 346, LCB FILE NO. R152-06 - CHIEF GAME WARDEN ROB BUONAMICI.** A regulation relating to wildlife allowing a crossbow to be used to hunt big game mammals under certain circumstances; allowing certain sights to be attached to a crossbow to be used to hunt big game mammals; and providing for other matters properly related thereto. Note: See support material for agenda item #3. *This item is agendaized as part of an informational workshop on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and for commission action on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.*

**8-C. ACTION REGARDING WILDLIFE RESTORATION - CHIEF OF GAME RUSS MASON.** The commission will consider a request for source stock for reintroduction and enhancement; the request is from the Wildlands Conservancy and is for pronghorn antelope.

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**8-D. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 05-21, AMENDMENT #1 - CHIEF OF FISHERIES RICH HASKINS.** The Commission will hear a proposal to amend the bag limit for Lake Mead. The regulation proposed will change the bag limit for striped bass to “No limit on striped bass less than 20 inches total length. Daily and possession limit on striped bass 20 inches total length or longer is 20 fish.” The regulation is designed to take advantage of the large striped bass population currently found in Lake Mead. A similar regulation is in effect on Lake Mojave. An effective date of January 1, 2007 is being requested to coincide with the effective date of Arizona’s Lake Mead regulation.

**8-E. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 06-17 - CHIEF OF GAME RUSS MASON.** The commission will establish mountain lion hunting season dates for a six-season period beginning with the 2007-08 hunting season.

**8-F. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 06-18 - NON-COMMERCIAL COLLECTION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS FOR 2007 AND 2008 - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS.** The regulation establishes the 2007 and 2008 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.

**8-G. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION POLICY #24, “HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES AMONG WEAPONS AND USER GROUPS” - CHIEF OF GAME RUSS MASON.** The commission will consider procedures to more evenly distribute tags for the youth deer hunt.

**8-H. ACTION REGARDING BIENNIAL BIG GAME RELEASE PLAN - CHIEF OF GAME RUSS MASON.** The commission will be asked to amend the biennial Big Game Release Plan to include additional pronghorn release sites to accommodate animals removed from Management Area 6 in response to wildlife impacts on winter range.

**8-I. ACTION REGARDING DIRECTOR/SECRETARY - COMMISSIONER McNINCH.** The commission will hear a report and recommendation from the search committee.

**8-J. ACTION REGARDING LEGISLATION - CHAIRMAN MacKENZIE.** The commission will hear a report from its legislative committee and may vote to support or oppose proposals to the 2007 session of the Nevada State Legislature.

**9. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE NOVEMBER 17 AND 18, 2006 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 (1-1793) - Neither the Board members nor the citizens present had any comment on these items.

**9-A. 2006 WILD FIRE EMERGENCY MULE DEER HUNT OVERVIEW - ACTING DIRECTOR ROB BUONAMICI AND DON SEFTON OF SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS**

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**9-B. LICENSING TRENDS IN THE WEST - MARKETING COORDINATOR LYNNE FOSTER**

**9-C. VOLUNTEER FIRE REHABILITATION EFFORTS - CONSERVATION EDUCATION CHIEF KELLY CLARK**

**9-D. STATE OF NEVADA REGULATORY PROCESSES - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVID NEWTON**

**9-E. NEVADA WILDLIFE DATA SYSTEM UPDATE - CHIEF OF OPERATIONS BOB HAUGHIAN AND DON SEFTON OF SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS**

**9-F. QUESTION #1 BOND UPDATE - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS**

**9-G. WILDLIFE DIVERSITY PROGRAM UPDATE - CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY LAURA RICHARDS**

**9-H. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORT - ACTING DIRECTOR ROB BUONAMICI**

**9-I. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVID NEWTON**

**9-J. TAG ALLOCATION / APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER JEFFRESS**

**9-K. CLARK COUNTY SHOOTING PARK - COMMISSIONER LURIE**

**9-L. SWAN POPULATION SURVEY - CHIEF OF GAME RUSS MASON**

**9-M. LOST OX TRAIL - DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOUG HUNT**

**10. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM - GIL YANUCK (1-1797)** - Chairperson Walker referred to Vice Chairperson Yanuck's written reports which were included in the agenda materials, and read a portion of one report into the record.

**11. DISCUSSION REGARDING BUDGET REPORT - GIL YANUCK (1-1836)** - Chairperson Walker read Vice Chairperson Yanuck's written comments into the record.

**12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (1-1855)** - Chairperson Walker requested the Board members to consider planning to attend at least one commission meeting away from home.

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**13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING.** The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission is scheduled for December 7 and 8, 2006 in Reno. The purpose of the meeting is for the commission to interview candidates for the position of NDOW Director and to select three applicants for recommendation to the Governor (1-1912) - Consensus of the board was to not schedule a corresponding advisory board meeting.

**14. COMMENTS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-1947) - None.**

**15. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1-1949) -** Chairperson Walker expressed concern over progress of the urban fishing pond. He suggested agendaizing the matter for discussion at the next meeting.

**16. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1972) -** Member Zuber moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Member Valley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Minutes of the November 13, 2006 Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting are so approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007.

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STEVEN R. WALKER, Chair