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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, February 4, 2008 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Gil Yanuck

Wes Clyde John Valley Stan Zuber

STAFF: 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** (1-0007) Vice Chairperson Yanuck called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. A quorum was present.
- 2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 29, 2007 (1-0014) None.
- **3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA** (1-0019) None.
- **4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS** (1-0023) Kevin Baily reported that this year's Trout in the Classroom Program is ready to begin.
- **5. DISCLOSURES** (1-0062) None.
- 6. PRESENTATION BY NDOW WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST ELMER BULL REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SHARECROP FARMING PROGRAM AT THE MASON VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA; and 7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SUPPORT PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SHARECROP FARMING PROGRAM AT THE MASON VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (1-0067) Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced Mr. Bull, who described his position and responsibilities and introduced NDOW Wildlife Management Area Supervisor Patrick Kelly. Mr. Bull provided background information on and reviewed the proposal to change the farming program at the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area, copies of which were included in the agenda materials. He responded to questions of clarification, and discussion took place, regarding the proposal to farm onions. He advised that, if approved, the proposal would be implemented in the spring of 2009.

Member Valley noted there are approximately 1200 irrigable acres, 900 of which are presently designated for farming. He suggested designating an additional 100 acres "which would offset the ten percent." Discussion followed. In response to a question, Mr. Bull advised that he and Mr. Kelly would provide a presentation to the Lyon County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife on Wednesday, February 6th. In response to a question, Mr. Bull provided an overview of the bidding process. He responded to questions regarding existing farmers and bidding criteria. He acknowledged that NDOW provides direction with regard to fall planting following the onion harvest. In response to a further question, he advised that the

existing contracts end October 15th. The intent is to submit the total acreage to the bidding process. Vice Chairperson Yanuck expressed support for the proposal, and discussed the importance of marketing it in such a way as to appeal to the hunters.

In response to a question, Mr Bull advised there is no requirement to present the proposal to the Wildlife Commission. In response to a further question, he advised of having presented the proposal to the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife on Thursday, January 31st. One individual expressed concern over the onion harvest coinciding with the archery deer season. Mr. Bull noted that farming is a constant activity and that the deer don't seem to be bothered by the regular human presence. He acknowledged that onions are harvested by hand, and described mechanical equipment involved in the packing process. Vice Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion. Member Clyde expressed support for the proposal, and moved approval. Member Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

8. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSAL BY JOHN F. CLARK TO CREATE A SPECIAL HUNT FOR NEVADA SENIOR CITIZENS; DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW (1-0831) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced this item, provided background information and an overview of the pertinent agenda materials.

(1-0858) Jack Clark expressed appreciation for the opportunity to address the advisory board, and provided background information on his hunting experience. He reviewed the proposal to create a special hunt for Nevada residents, 75 years of age, with a current Nevada hunting license.

Vice Chairperson Yanuck discussed the efforts of NDOW and the Wildlife Commission to create more hunting opportunities, and a brief history of other special interests groups which have made similar proposals to the Wildlife Commission. He noted that NDOW Director Kenneth Mayer had included, in correspondence to Mr. Clark, information on percentage success rate for age groups. He further noted the high percentage of success for senior citizen hunters. Mr. Clark acknowledged he regularly applies for deer tags in Nevada. Discussion took place regarding the youth hunt and the resident / non-resident party hunt petition, submitted several years ago by the CCABMW. Vice Chairperson Yanuck expressed support for Mr. Clark's proposal, but expressed the opinion the petition would not be considered by the commission "mainly because of the negative impact of giving something to this group that you don't give to everybody else." He responded to questions regarding the mechanism of the proposal in consideration of the draw process. Mr. Clark thanked the advisory board, and Vice Chairperson Yanuck encouraged him to keep applying for tags.

9. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE NOVEMBER 2 AND 3, 2007 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-1286) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck referred to the minutes included in the commission agenda materials. He provided an overview of discussion regarding the potential for a black bear hunt; formation of a county advisory board orientation committee and development of a handbook; the take me fishing permit; the junior hunt and the ability to carry forward bonus points; grey wolves; the Lake Mead fish hatchery; budgets; the appeal process; and the Silver State tag proposal.

- 10. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE DECEMBER 17, 2007 TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE MEETING (1-1507) Vice Chairperson Yanuck referred to the pertinent commission agenda materials, and provided an overview of discussion which took place regarding the TAAHC proposal to return a tag for any reason. He noted the amount of time invested by the TAAHC to receive input from county advisory boards and sportsmen / sportswomen across the state prior to making recommendations to the commission.
- 11. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are agendized for the February 8 and 9, 2008 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 (1-1583) Vice Chairperson Yanuck entertained requests to hear specific items separate from the consent agenda. Member Valley requested to separately hear items 11-A, C, and D. Vice Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. Member Valley so moved. Member Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
 - 11-A. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 07-01, AMENDMENT #1 -MIKE COX. The commission will consider revisions to the 2008 big game hunting seasons for selected hunt units (1-1665) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced this item and referred to the pertinent commission agenda materials. Member Valley expressed understanding for the proposed change to the archery antelope hunt. He provided an overview of the recommendation to split the archery mule deer season into early and late hunts. In response to a comment, NDOW Biologist Carl Lackey provided clarification regarding the boundaries of areas 192, 194, and 196. Member Valley advised of having heard a request from an archer to "split 194 and 196 into two separate hunts; keep the quotas the same ..." In response to a question, Mr. Lackey explained the intent behind splitting area 192 into an early and late hunt. He advised that the same migratory herd is found in areas 194 and 196. He described the migration route of deer herds from Loyalton, Truckee, and North Lake Tahoe. The herd in area 192 primarily migrates from Hope Valley, South Lake Tahoe, the Desolation Wilderness. Mr. Lackey didn't see any biological reason to split areas 194 and 196. "They're both going to have, ideally would have an early and late." Member Valley provided additional explanation as to the request to separate areas 194 and 196. He responded to questions of clarification, and Mr. Lackey expressed a preference to review this year's hunter success results. Discussion followed. Vice Chairperson Yanuck entertained a motion to support the recommendations of the department. Member Valley moved to support, as presented. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Vice Chairperson Yanuck recessed the meeting and reconvened.
 - 11-B. ACTION REGARDING ELK DAMAGE, ELK INCENTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT, AND REVISION TO NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODES 502.42259, 502.42261, 502.42263, 502.42266 CHAIRMAN CLINT BENTLEY AND RUSS MASON. The commission will consider and may take action on proposed changes to elk damage and elk incentive language.

11-C. ACTION REGARDING APPEAL OF TODD ECKHARDT - Mr. Todd Eckhardt appealed for reinstatement of his elk and desert bighorn sheep bonus points at the November commission meeting. Action was postponed to the February meeting pending research from the commission's legal counsel (1-1928) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced this item. In reference to Deputy Attorney General Nhu Nguyen's January 18, 2008 memo included in the commission's agenda materials, Member Valley expressed support for the recommendation that the commission deny Mr. Eckhardt's appeal based on the fact that the statute of limitations had run on his ability to challenge the loss of his bonus points. Vice Chairperson Yanuck provided an overview of discussion which took place at the November 3, 2007 Wildlife Commission meeting. He entertained a motion to support the Deputy Attorney General's recommendation. Member Clyde so moved. Member Zuber seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

11-D. ACTION REGARDING BIG GAME WAITING PERIODS - COMMISSIONER JEFFRESS. The commission will be asked to take action on a recommendation from the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee ("TAAHC") to allow successful draw applicants to return a tag for any reason (1-1955) - Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced this item, and discussed the TAAHC's efforts to meet with county advisory boards, the Wildlife Commission, and the sporting public. He reviewed the recommendations outlined in the commission agenda materials pertinent to this item. Member Valley advised of having requested clarification of Commissioner Jim Jeffress regarding the recommendation to impose a ten-year waiting period regardless of harvest for Rocky Mountain Elk. Commissioner Jeffress had explained the waiting period only applied to bull elk, not cow elk, and committed to clarifying the language accordingly.

Vice Chairperson Yanuck reviewed the provisions for returning a tag for any reason. With regard to waiting periods, Member Clyde inquired as to whether "the ones that are currently in it going to be grandfathered or is it from this date right now when we set this in stone, everybody that was in the wait period that had harvested ... a California bighorn sheep, all of a sudden, you're gone." Vice Chairperson Yanuck was uncertain as to whether this question had ever been asked, and discussion followed. Vice Chairperson Yanuck suggested that, from the standpoint of fairness, "it probably should take place, doesn't affect the people that are already in their wait period." The board members concurred, and additional discussion followed.

Vice Chairperson Yanuck reiterated the efforts of the TAAHC to receive input prior to developing recommendations. He noted the "mechanism for change" built into the TAAHC's recommended actions, and entertained a motion. Member Valley moved to support the recommendations of the TAAHC with bull as part of the definition of Rocky Mountain Elk, and with wait times to become effective as of a date certain, not to be retroactive. Member Clyde seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Member Valley recommended that the board members review the TAAHC's phase 2 wrap up, which was included in the commission's agenda materials, prior to the next meeting. At Member Valley's request, Vice Chairperson Yanuck agreed to invite Commissioner Jeffress to the next advisory board meeting.

- 11-E. ACTION REGARDING REVIEW OF THE 2008 JUNIOR DEER HUNT QUOTA DEVELOPMENT PROCESS WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST MIKE COX. The commission will be asked to reaffirm its position on the junior deer hunt quota development process.
- 12. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE FEBRUARY 8 AND 9, 2008 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 (1-2372) Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced this item, and entertained comments or questions of the advisory board members and the public.
 - 12-A. WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES DIRECTOR MAYER AND COMMISSIONER McNINCH
 - 12-B. CLARK COUNTY SHOOTING PARK COMMISSIONER LURIE
 - 12-C. STATUS OF GRAY WOLF DELISTING AND OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO NEVADA WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST KEVIN LANSFORD
 - **12-D. WILDLAND BLACK BEAR POPULATION ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC OPINION WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST KEVIN LANSFORD AND CHIEF OF CONSERVATION EDUCATION KELLY CLARK** (1-2391) In response to a question, Mr. Lackey advised that a black bear hunt would be completely separate from the existing nuisance bear problem. He discussed efforts of adjacent counties to address the nuisance bear problem. He provided background information on the Wild Land Black Bear Population Assessment. He responded to questions and discussed the behavior of wild land bears and the wild land bear population. He expressed support for a hunt, and advised there would be very few tags. He clarified the earliest a hunt could actually take place would be 2010 due to required regulation changes. He discussed an archery only, site specific urban bear hunt in Arizona.
 - 12-E. GREAT BASIN ECOSYSTEM HEALTH INITIATIVE WILDLIFE STAFF HEALTH SPECIALIST MARK ATKINSON
 - 12-F. HIGHLY PATHENOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA WILDLIFE STAFF HEALTH SPECIALIST MARK ATKINSON (1-2841) Member Valley discussed an interest in this item.
 - 12-G. TROUT PRODUCTION PROGRAM CHIEF OF FISHERIES RICH HASKINS AND WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST DAVE SANGER (1-2938) Vice Chairperson Yanuck noted Kevin Baily's interest in this item.
 - 12-H. STATUS OF SAGE GROUSE AND OTHER SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM ISSUES WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST SHAWN ESPINOSA
 - 12-I. DEPARTMENT BUDGET DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOUG HUNT
 - 12-J. AUDIT COMPLIANCE UPDATE DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOUG HUNT

12-K. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORT - DIRECTOR KEN MAYER

- **12-L. WHITE PINE COUNTY ELK MANAGEMENT PLAN, 2007 REVISION LARRY GILBERTSON.** The commission will hear a summary of the final White Pine County Elk Management Plan.
- 12-M. APPLICATION HUNT SYSTEM ("AHS") 2008 UPDATES CHIEF OF OPERATIONS BOB HAUGHIAN AND DON SEFTON
- **12-N. SILVER STATE TAG UPDATE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS BOB HAUGHIAN** (1-2951) Vice Chairperson Yanuck anticipated a detailed report on this item.
- 12-O. GREAT BASIN PARK UPDATE CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM
- **12-P. STATUS OF WATER AND WATER RIGHTS AT OVERTON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA CHIEF OF HABITAT DAVE PULLIAM** (1-2952) Vice Chairperson Yanuck anticipated a detailed report on this item.
- 12-Q. LITIGATION REPORT DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVID NEWTON
- 13. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM GIL YANUCK (1-2989) Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised of several meetings of the Governor's Conservation Team since last October. He advised of having suggested, to Shawn Espinosa, to gather information collected over the last eighteen months in order to fight the potential listing. The conservation team is gathering information, and updating the conservation plan with newer information, based on lek counts, sightings, population counts, etc. Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised that a listing would be "extremely detrimental to the economic pictures of Nevada as far as grazing, agriculture, farming." He further advised of planning meetings scheduled for February to discuss updating the plan over the summer in time to provide the Fish and Wildlife Service pertinent information to use in their report.
- **14. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET** (1-3153) Vice Chairperson Yanuck introduced this item, and advised that the budget process begins this month. He advised of having recently spoken with Dave Hansen, who will be providing budget materials to the county advisory boards to manage wildlife. He further advised that the advisory board's budget is directly related to the location of commission meetings.
- **15. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS** (1-3220) Vice Chairperson Yanuck advised he would attend the upcoming commission meeting in Las Vegas. He anticipates attending the March commission meeting in Winnemucca in order to participate in the orientation committee meeting. He invited other advisory board members to attend.
- **16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING.** The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission is scheduled for March 21 and 22, 2008 in Winnemucca. The next meeting of the CCABMW is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2008

- 17. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-3256) Ms. King referred to the written resignation of Chairperson Walker, copies of which were included in the advisory board's agenda materials. City Manager's staff will advertise the vacancy, and interviews will be agendized for the March 17th advisory board meeting. Ms. King responded to questions with regard to filling Chairperson Walker's unexpired term.
- **18. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (1-3634) Previously covered.
- **19. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT** (1-3688) Member Clyde moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Motion was seconded and carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the February 4, 2008 Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting are so approved this 17th day of March, 2008.

GILBERT A. YANUCK, Vice Chair