

**CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

**Minutes of the January 29, 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, January 29, 2001 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Christopher MacKenzie  
Vice Chairperson Norman Pedersen  
Greg Davis  
Steve Walker

**STAFF:** Kathleen King, Recording Secretary  
(ABMW 01/29/01; 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 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Member Blank was absent.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 20, 2000 (1-0004)** - Member Walker clarified information provided regarding the petition by Ransom Spurlock to allow scopes on muzzle loaders. Vice Chairperson Pedersen moved to approve the minutes as published with the clarification noted by Member Walker. Member Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
3. **MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0062)** - None.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (1-0072)** - None.
5. **DISCLOSURES (1-0073)** - None.
6. **RECOGNITION OF FORMER MEMBERS (1-0078)** - Chairperson MacKenzie recognized Jim Mason, Roger Heath, and George Groth in appreciation for their service to the Board. He presented a gift to Mr. Mason. (It is noted that neither Mr. Groth nor Mr. Heath were present at the meeting.) Vice Chairperson Pedersen pointed out the inscription on the knife blade, and Mr. Mason thanked the Board members. Chairperson MacKenzie thanked Mr. Mason on behalf of the City. (1-2006) Mr. Heath arrived at the meeting and Chairperson MacKenzie presented him with a gift in appreciation of his service on the Board. Mr. Heath thanked the Board members.
7. **C.K. BAILY - CARSON URBAN FISHING POND FISH ALLOCATION REQUEST (1-0120)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed Mr. Baily's proposal to change the trout allocation of Carson City to include the Carson Urban Fishing Pond, a seasonal fishery located at Ross Gold Park, to be stocked by the Nevada Division of Wildlife ("NDOW") with a minimum of 500 trout in the fall and an additional 500 trout upon ice out in the spring. Mr. Baily provided background information on the proposal, and thanked the Board for their support of the fishing pond. He discussed his vision for the pond and requested the Board's formal support of his request. He displayed a newspaper article and photograph of Pat Sollberger, NDOW

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Western Region Biologist, planting the first 500 fish. In response to a question, Mr. Sollberger explained the purpose of a put and take fishery, and expressed the opinion that 500 fish is a reasonable number for the present time. He provided statistical information on the hatchery and discussed management of the Carson River over the past few years. Mr. Sollberger acknowledged that there is presently no additional allocation of 1,000 fish for Carson City, and that the numbers would have to be taken from the allocations for the Carson River or Ash Canyon Creek. He advised that the numbers are down to the "bare minimum" for the Carson River. He responded to questions regarding allocations to Minden's Lampey Park, Churchill County's new urban fish pond, the estimated number of fish harvested from the Carson River, the lack of reproduction in the Carson City stretch of the River, and the estimated survival period and water quality at Ross Gold Pond.

Chairperson MacKenzie inquired as to the possibility of increasing the allocation to Carson City based on an additional body of water. Mr. Sollberger advised that NDOW develops a new recommendation every two years, and that the current recommended allocation is in place until 2003. He indicated that the chances of getting more fish are slim. He advised that he carefully manages the waters over which he is responsible to determine if the stocked fish are being utilized. He referred to the recent stocking reduction at the East Walker River and indicated that additional fish may be available as a result. He commented that a great deal of creativity would have to go into consideration of a larger urban fishery in Carson City. In response to a question, Mr. Baily indicated that his hope was the hatchery would be able to accommodate an additional body of water. He stated that reallocation is the only other viable alternative. He discussed consideration given to improving the Carson River, and the possibility of purchasing fish to stock Ross Gold Pond.

Mr. Sollberger referred to NDOW's Comprehensive Strategic Plan, and reviewed the desired outcome of the Wildlife Population Section. He read the objective and the strategy for promoting urban fishing opportunities into the record. He indicated that because urban fisheries are so important in the strategic plan, NDOW will find a way to make the Ross Gold Pond work either by stocking smaller size fish, reallocating fish, or allowing purchase of fish. He discussed the agreement with the City of Sparks to stock fish at Sparks Marina Pond and suggested that this may be an option for Carson City. He commented on the cooperative efforts of the City and the Bureau of Land Management to improve the Carson River. In response to a question, Mr. Baily discussed the possibility of purchasing fish. Member Davis suggested that Mr. Baily discuss the availability of Question 18 funding with Parks and Recreation Director Steve Kastens and Parks Superintendent Scott Fahrenbruch. Discussion took place regarding water regulation.

(1-1015) Dick Biggs expressed concern over the pond's water quality, and opposition to reallocating fish from the Carson River.

(1-1060) Bob McCulloch acknowledged the work done by Mr. Baily and commented that he has done most of it "on his own." He provided information on the fluctuating depth of the pond over the course of each year, and expressed the opinion that it will not support fish. He advised of his opposition to reallocating fish from other Carson City waters. Mr. Sollberger reiterated that the pond will be considered a put and take fishery, the object of which is not long-term fish survival. Mr. McCulloch commented that he has seen very few people fishing the pond, and expressed the opinion that the citizens are not aware of the opportunity. Mr. Sollberger acknowledged that the pond needs more publicity, and explained the reason the fish were not planted until November. He commented that 1,000 fish is not a significant number, and

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that NDOW will only plant fish in Ross Gold Pond if they are available. In response to a question, Mr. Sollberger advised that NDOW doesn't plant fish at Kings Canyon Creek because the majority of it runs through private property. He indicated that NDOW is not able to stock fish specifically for children. He advised that he always works to get extra fish, and commented that Ross Gold Pond is a "golden opportunity" for an urban fishery.

Mr. McCulloch agreed with the need for an urban fishing pond but expressed the opinion that Ross Gold Park is not the proper location. He suggested that the City should take responsibility for draining and cleaning the pond. Mr. Sollberger discussed the current condition of the pond, and the goal to attract anglers. He advised that a memorandum of understanding will be established with the City for maintenance of the pond. At the request of Member Davis, Mr. Sollberger addressed the concern expressed regarding the pond's water quality. He discussed the warnings posted at the Carson River regarding mercury poisoning, and advised that there should be no health safety concerns at Ross Gold Pond as long as the fish are cooked properly. He commented that this would be his suggestion for fish caught from any water.

Mr. Sollberger committed to getting as many extra fish for the Carson River as water conditions will allow. He advised that there is no reason to discontinue planting at Ross Gold Pond. Discussion took place regarding liability insurance, and Chairperson MacKenzie suggested that Mr. Kastens would need to address this issue and possibly request a district attorney's opinion. Mr. Baily expressed the hope that the Board is in agreement with having an urban fishery in Carson City.

Chairperson MacKenzie closed public comment and requested input from the Board members regarding reallocation of Carson River fish to Ross Gold Pond. Member Davis expressed the opinion that the Ross Gold Pond is not the ideal location for an urban fishery. He expressed faith, however, that NDOW will be able to find extra fish and that the City will maintain the pond. He suggested that continued consideration be given to a better location for the urban fishery, and requested that someone keep track of the status of the first 500 fish planted. He commented that the urban fishery will most likely do very well with appropriate publicity and indicated that, if it doesn't work, the City is only "out 500 fish." In response to a question, Member Davis indicated that he would like to see how fast the first 500 fish are caught. He suggested having census forms available or asking the fly fishing club to keep track. In response to a question, Mr. Sollberger indicated that spring fishing is a better test of how fast the fish will be caught. **Member Davis moved to plant an additional 500 fish in the spring. Member Walker seconded the motion.**

Vice Chairperson Pedersen expressed support for the idea of an urban fishery. He indicated that he has discussed the initial fish planting with several people since November, and the only negative comments have been that there are not enough kids fishing the pond. He commented that the viability of the fish will determine the water quality, and suggested that Mr. Baily continue to seek funding for fish purchase. Chairperson MacKenzie expressed appreciation for the work done by Mr. Baily. He agreed that the Ross Gold Pond is not an ideal location for an urban fishery. He expressed support for the proposal with the following conditions: that the City agree to good faith cooperation for improving and maintaining the pond; that Mr. Baily continue to seek donations and funding for purchasing fish so that the allocation is not totally reliant on NDOW fish; and that Mr. Baily continue to work on a location for a permanent urban fishery. Chairperson MacKenzie clarified that he does not want to see the pond continue in its present condition.

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Member Davis clarified that his motion was to allocate, for this year only, an additional 500 fish in the spring and to subsequently evaluate the success or failure of the pond. He advised that continued allocation would be dependent upon the City doing its part and the public fishing the pond. He advised that he would not commit to an ongoing allocation at the Ross Gold Pond fishery. With regard to measuring the success of the urban fishery, Mr. Sollberger advised that he would need to rely on other people to report the number of anglers fishing the pond. He indicated that the purpose of an urban fishery is to get people out to fish, and that success of the project will also be measured in the lack of dead fish in the pond once spring arrives. Chairperson MacKenzie clarified that the Board would not rely on Mr. Sollberger to monitor the pond. Mr. Biggs expressed support for the urban fishery with the exception of the water quality. He volunteered to be available to report on the number of anglers and the fish caught during the summer months. Mr. McCulloch expressed the support of the Ormsby Sportsmen's Association as well. Member Davis commented that the water quality is the "big question mark." Chairperson MacKenzie called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 4-0.** (1-2028) Mr. Baily thanked the Board members for their time and expressed appreciation for their service to the community. Discussion took place regarding alternative locations for the urban fishery.

**8. DISCUSSION REGARDING ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE NEVADA WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING - FEBRUARY 9 & 10, 2001 IN RENO (1-2184)** - Chairperson MacKenzie advised of his plans to attend the meeting, and Member Davis indicated that a quorum of the Board will most likely be present. Chairperson MacKenzie advised of the Board meeting scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>. In response to a question, Member Walker indicated he had nothing further to report from his attendance at the last Commission meeting. He commented that the Clark County Advisory Board will be pushing the muzzle loader scope issue. Member Walker volunteered to attend the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Commission meeting in Las Vegas, and discussed his interest in the scheduled tour of the Overton facility as a part of that meeting. He expressed a desire to see the "same thing happen" at Washoe Lake State Park.

**9. REVIEW OF AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 9 & 10, 2001 NEVADA WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING**

**a. HATCHERY REFURBISHMENT PROJECT (1-2275)** - Member Walker commented that there isn't a decent fishery in the Carson City area. He discussed Commissioner Moran's comments regarding the maintenance budget, and expressed the opinion that the Board should support funding for the project.

**b. BIGHORN SHEEP TRANSPLANT (1-2319)** - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the information included in the Commission agenda materials and solicited comments from the Board members. Discussion took place regarding the requested numbers, and the reciprocal policy. Member Walker read a portion of the request into the record, and the Board members expressed support for the request. No formal action was taken.

**c. PETITION - TOM GALLAGHER (1-2365)** - Chairperson MacKenzie provided background information on this item, and discussion took place regarding the application. Member Walker expressed the opinion that the Board should support the existing system, and the Board members concurred. Consensus of the Board was to oppose any changes in the discretionary authority of the data entry office staff. No formal action was taken.

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**d. PREDATOR MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - GREGG TANNER (1-2415)** - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to Commissioner Quilici's comments, as reflected in the Commission minutes, proposing a \$5 donation for predator management. Member Walker discussed a proposition for including predators on each license. Mr. Heath expressed opposition to Commissioner Quilici's proposal. He suggested that the current cost of licenses should cover the fees necessary to manage predators. Member Davis indicated that the donation would be voluntary, and Mr. Heath commented that voluntary donations usually turn into mandatory fees. Vice Chairperson Pedersen discussed the quarterly report from Animal Damage Control and indicated that he has never read anything regarding budget constraints. He provided statistical information on the service provided, and commented that if the agency providing the service isn't reporting a problem maybe there isn't a problem. Member Davis expressed support for predator management prior to transplanting game. Vice Chairperson Pedersen discussed a possible "tug-of-war" between the ranchers and the sportsmen. Discussion took place regarding the Commission's proposal to form a monitoring committee, and Board consensus was to wait for the outcome of this matter.

**e. PETITION - RANSOM E. SPURLOCK II (1-2700)** - Member Walker reviewed the discussion of this matter which took place at the last Commission meeting. Discussion took place regarding the benefits and detriments of using scopes on muzzle loaders, hunter success statistics, and the number of other states which have allowed scopes. Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the discussion and action of this issue from a previous meeting, and entertained a motion to revisit the issue. Member Walker moved to revisit this issue. Motion died for lack of a second. No other formal action was taken.

**f. COMMISSION POLICIES - MIKE COX (1-3058)** - Chairperson MacKenzie indicated that this item was carried forward from the last agenda, as the agenda materials were not received prior to the last meeting. The Board members had no information on this matter. No formal action was taken.

**g. HUMBOLDT COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD BUDGET - FRED STEWART (1-3110)** - Member Walker provided an overview of this item, and Board consensus was to support the request for a budget augmentation. No formal action was taken.

**h. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION NUMBER 293 (LCB FILE NO. R116-00) - FRED MESSMANN (1-3130)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed the proposed amendments, and Board consensus was to support the same. No formal action was taken.

**i. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION NUMBER 294 (LCB FILE NO. TEMPORARY) - STEVE BREMER (1-3169)** - Mr. Heath reviewed Internet research regarding fees in neighboring states, and discussion took place regarding the proposed increase and possible additional increases to be implemented by the legislature. Mr. Heath expressed the opinion that applicants should not have to pay an additional \$7 for the second drawing. He discussed the hardship experienced by some families. Member Walker pointed out that the statutory cap is \$10, and discussed the costs covered by the application fees. Member Davis expressed support for the increase. Vice Chairperson Pedersen expressed agreement with the issues raised by Mr. Heath, and

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Member Walker suggested presenting these questions at the next Commission meeting. Member Davis suggested that increasing non-resident big game tag fees may generate needed revenue. He referred to the documentation provided in the November Commission agenda materials, and discussion took place with regard to the same. Board consensus was to present Mr. Heath's questions at the next Commission meeting. No formal action was taken.

**j. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION NUMBER 295 (LCB FILE NO. TEMPORARY) - STEVE BREMER (2-0020)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed the provisions of this proposed amendment. Discussion took place regarding the purpose of the proposed amendment, and Board consensus was to wait for the outcome of this matter.

**k. COMMISSION REGULATION 01 - 13 BIG GAME SEASONS FOR 2001 - 2002 - MIKE COX/PATTY WAGNER (2-0088)** - Chairperson MacKenzie advised that this is the item to be addressed at the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. An NDOW representative will be present to review seasons and quotas. Chairperson MacKenzie suggested reviewing the hunter survey responses to assist in the decision-making process. Mr. Heath requested that the Board consider recommending that the muzzle loader season begin on Labor Day weekend.

**l. UPLAND GAME AND MIGRATORY BIRD RELEASE PLAN - STAN STIVER (2-0135)** - Chairperson MacKenzie noted this was an informational item.

**m. BIG GAME RELEASE PLAN - MIKE COX (2-0140)** - Chairperson MacKenzie noted this was an informational item.

**n. ELKO COUNTY ELK PLANS - LARRY GILBERTSON (2-0142)** - Chairperson MacKenzie noted this was an informational item.

**10. NEVADA LAND USE SUMMIT 2001 (2-0148)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed some of the scheduled topics, and discussion took place regarding Board representation. The item was tabled until the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in order that the Board members could further review the information.

**11. WAYNE E. KIRCH WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AWARD NOMINEES (2-0209)** - Chairperson MacKenzie requested input regarding proposed nominees; however, none was provided.

**12. COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - ALLEGED PROPOSED LEGISLATION (2-0213)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed the provisions of a proposed bill which will essentially allow Clark County additional seats on the Wildlife Commission. In response to a question, he indicated that there was no rational reason outlined in the bill for increasing the number of seats from three to six. He advised that the other provisions in the bill are administrative in nature. Board consensus was to request Chairperson MacKenzie to write a letter, and he advised he would have a draft ready for the next meeting.

**13. SET ELECTION OF CCABMW OFFICERS FOR MARCH MEETING (2-0300)** - The Board members concurred with the proposed schedule.

**14. BUDGET STATUS - LARRY BLANK (2-0305)** - Deferred.

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**15. CCABMW NEXT MEETING (2-0307)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reiterated that the next meeting is scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>.

**16. NEXT NEVADA WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 23 & 24, 2001 - OVERTON & LAS VEGAS (2-0309)** - Member Walker volunteered to attend this meeting, and the Board members concurred.

**17. GENERAL DISCUSSION (2-0322)** - Discussion took place regarding delivery of George Groth's appreciation gift, and Vice Chairperson Pedersen offered to contact him. Vice Chairperson Pedersen requested information on a disease, similar to mad cow, which is reportedly affecting deer and elk in this area. Discussion ensued with regard to the same.

**18. ADJOURNMENT (2-0386)** - Vice Chairperson Pedersen moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 p.m. Member Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the January 29, 2001 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2001.

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CHRISTOPHER F. MacKENZIE, Chairperson