

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the August 9, 2010 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 9, 2010, in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 N. Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

Present: Chairman Gil Yanuck
Vice Chairman Stan Zuber
Member Jim Davis
Member John Valley

Staff: Tamar Warren, 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's Office and are available for review during regular business hours.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM.** Chairman Yanuck called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present. Member Martin was absent.
2. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Member Valley moved to accept the minutes of the June 21, 2010 meeting, as presented. Vice Chairman Zuber seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
3. **MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS.** Tom Cavin, Commissioner, Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (NBWC), stated that a full commission was now in effect at NBWC. He reported that Scott Raine was reappointed, and Hal Shrum and Hank Vogler were also appointed to the Board.
5. **DISCLOSURES.** None.
6. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TRI-COUNTY DEER HERD RESTORATION WORKING GROUP.** Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and stated that a meeting was to be held on August 11th. Member Valley said he would attend the meeting and come back with a report at the next Board meeting.
7. **REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE JUNE 25 AND 26, 2010 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING.** (21) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and reminded the Board that the packet they had received gave a “pretty good view of what went on”. He also highlighted a few items of interest such as one regarding the “guzzler” that Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici had rewritten and wanted to reintroduce at that weekend's meeting. Chairman Yanuck also stated that the Heritage Project had “gotten a lot of attention”. Another item discussed at the meeting was the bighorn sheep disease issue. Chairman Yanuck stated that they could see an 89% loss of the sheep in the East Humboldt. He added that historically they have seen this happen periodically, but the herd had come back. Since the herd was not raised for profit, he continued, there would be no support from the pharmaceutical industry, due to the uncertainty of “who was going to pay for it or administer it”. In response to a question from Member Davis, Chairman Yanuck confirmed that there would not be any hunting in areas 101 and 102. However, there would still be hunts in area 7, according to Member Valley, who added that Rocky Mountain sheep tags were still available.

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Chairman Yanuck also reported that the department was still collecting information regarding the black bear management issue. As for the Basset, Cave, and Comins Lakes, he said that the pike had somehow been reintroduced at Comins Lake, and that there was a problem with mercury there too. In response to a question by Member Davis, Chairman Yanuck said that it appeared that the long-range plan was to drain and treat the lake for mercury. Non-resident tag issue would also be heard the following weekend, he said. In addition, Chairman Yanuck informed the Board that since the 2011-2012 meeting dates were set, that would help with the budgeting process. However, a special meeting for legislative issues could still be added, he said.

8. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA. (246) – Vice Chairman Zuber moved to accept the remainder of the consent agenda with the exception of items 8E, 8F, and 8H. As part of discussion, Mr. Cavin suggested removing appeals from future agendas, because they were confidential. Member Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

8-A. ACTION ON LICENSE APPEAL HEARING - MR. MICHAEL J. PRATT

8-B. ACTION REGARDING UPLAND GAME STAMP REQUEST - GAME DIVISION BIOLOGIST SHAWN ESPINOSA AND WILDLIFE STAFF SPECIALIST ELMER BULL

8-C. ACTION REGARDING 2010 AND 2011 HERITAGE PROJECTS: REQUEST TO MODIFY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - SECRETARY KEN MAYER

8-D. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 389, LCB FILE NO. R083-10 - CHIEF GAME WARDEN ROB BUONAMICI

8-E. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION NO. 391 - LCB FILE NO. - TEMPORARY - PROGRAM OFFICER III MAUREEN HULLINGER. (312) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and stated that non-resident tags were beneficial to the state since the visitors would spend money by occupying hotel rooms, buying gas, eating in restaurants, gambling, etc. He added that the only persons who did not benefit from it were the guides. Member Valley did not see any need for change as long as the tags were used. Member Valley moved to keep regulation no. 391 as it currently stands. Vice Chairman Zuber seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

8-F. ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION NO. 10-03 - WATERFOWL SEASONS 2010 / 2011 - GAME DIVISION CHIEF LARRY GILBERTSON. (484) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and read a report prepared by Member Martin who recommended that the Youth Hunt take place in February. Member Martin had stated that birds would be plentiful and in full plumage at that time of year, and that the Youth Hunt would not compete with any other hunting activity. Chairman Yanuck said that he had received an e-mail from Chris MacKenzie, a member of the board of directors of the Green Head Hunting Club, recommending that the Youth Hunt take place on October 2nd, instead of February 6th. Mr. MacKenzie believed that more youth would participate before the season in the north rather than after it. Chairman Yanuck thought that identifying the birds would be a challenge in October. Member Valley stated the pros and cons of both arguments. He said that the weather would be warmer in October which would make using sunscreen and insect protection mandatory. He also said that the success rate would be higher in the early season as the birds would not be as wise. The problem, he continued, would be the plumage

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issue, which would make bird identification difficult. Another problem, according to Member Valley, would be an early freeze, which would end the waterfowl season early, and breaking ice would not be fun for 12-year-olds. A public comment came from Mr. Cavin who thought it would be easier for a 12-year-old to succeed before the season, and encourage them to hunt again during the season. Chairman Yanuck stated that the experience would be more pleasurable when the weather is more conducive. Vice Chairman Zuber commented that free fishing days happened before the start of the season, to create enthusiasm. **Member Valley moved to keep the Youth Hunt as written, during the early season. Member Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.**

8-G. ACTION REGARDING WHITE PINE COUNTY ELK INCENTIVE ARBITRATION PANEL SELECTION - GAME DIVISION CHIEF LARRY GILBERTSON

8-H. ACTION REGARDING PETITION. (811) – Chairman Yanuck introduced the item and explained that Patricia Swain, from TrailSafe Nevada, had petitioned the Commission to review the current Nevada Administrative Code to prevent trapping in all Washoe County firearm congested areas. He mentioned that there had been supplemental e-mails sent to the Nevada Department of Wildlife, both from the Nevada Trappers Association, and the petitioner, updating her petition which was attached as supporting information. Chairman Yanuck commented that what he had read indicated discussion around which maps and what kind of traps to use. He said that Ms. Swain had indicated that “as long as the traps were humane, she was okay with that”. Chairman Yanuck mentioned that this issue had come up a few years ago at several commission meetings, where there were issues of traps being set close to trails, and that the Trappers Association had tried to police themselves. However, he believed that the last situation occurred because a feral cat was caught in the trap, and that it had taken a long time to wait for the trapper to return. Member Davis expressed concern about not having humane traps in a no-firearm area, as it left no options for controlling a situation. Mr. Cavin mentioned that the maps in question were automatically updated by the county commission; however, he thought that the way the petition was written was broad, and most likely, more than what the Trappers Association would accept. He also thought that there was a revised petition, which he had just seen in his e-mail. Chairperson Yanuck was under the assumption that the petitioner thought the traps were humane; however, not being able to have a trapper get to it on time was inhumane. Discussion ensued about what was an acceptable timeframe for a trapper to return. Vice Chairman Zuber stated that the map used was set up for firearms, but was being used for other purposes. He also believed that people should have a right to set a trap on their property and work issues with their neighbors. However, he was not comfortable with the county setting boundaries and applying it to a state agency, which, in turn, was doing the regulating. Member Valley believed that the petitioner and the Trappers Association were working together but, he felt, they had not reached a common ground yet. He also stated that he was not in favor of the petition as written, but that he would like to see the petitioner withdraw for another month, and have discussions prior to coming to the board. Chairman Yanuck said that he disagreed with the public safety claim of the petition, and believed that NDOW should be regulating the trapping of wildlife in the state. Member Davis questioned the number of people who had been injured by traps in the last 10 years, since this was a public safety issue. **Member Valley moved to deny the petition stated above. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Zuber. The motion carried 4-0.**

8-I. ACTION REGARDING WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - COMMISSIONER SCOTT RAINE

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8-J. ACTION REGARDING FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S BIENNIAL BUDGET - COMMISSIONER HOWELL

9. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE AUGUST 13 AND 14, 2010 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING

9-A. APPLICATION HUNT 2010 DRAW REPORT - DON SEFTON AND MONTY MARTIN, SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS

9-B. WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE - COMMISSIONER LENT, COMMISSIONER CAPURRO, AND SECRETARY MAYER

9-C. LITIGATION REPORT - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL NHU NGUYEN

9-D. REPORT ON LAWS REGARDING HARASSMENT OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS - DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL BRYAN L. STOCKTON

9-E. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES / LEADERSHIP TEAM NOTES - SECRETARY KEN MAYER

9-F. REPORTS ON MULE DEER EFFORTS WITHIN EACH COUNTY - CABMW MEMBERS

9-G. BIGHORN SHEEP DISEASE UPDATE - CHIEF OF GAME LARRY GILBERTSON

9-H. BLACK BEAR POTENTIAL SEASON UPDATE - CHIEF OF GAME LARRY GILBERTSON

9-I. WILD HORSE UPDATE - HABITAT BIOLOGIST STEVE SIEGEL

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MEETING WITH NDOT AND CARSON CITY REPRESENTATIVES RELATIVE TO THE USE OF DRAINAGE AREAS ADJOINING THE CARSON CITY FREEWAY BYPASS AS WATERFOWL AND BIRD WETLANDS. (1202) – Chairperson Yanuck introduced the item, and said that he had contacted Larry Werner, City Manager, and Robb Fellows, Chief Stormwater Engineer, regarding the use of the potential drainage areas created as a result of the freeway bypass. He added that Member Martin, in a previous meeting, had commented that this would be an ideal area to have a wetlands project. Member Martin, he continued, had a meeting with Carson City and NDOT representatives, and was surprised by the support he received from NDOT representatives, who thought it would not be a problem and not a nuisance. They had thought that the ducks and the birds would be beneficial for mosquito abatement, and, when effectively used, could save \$20,000 - \$40,000 in mosquito treatment costs. He stated that the meeting was very positive, and to stay tuned for future updates. Member Valley believed the area was ideal for bicycle trails, and said it could be used as an educational tool for the high school.

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11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON THE WILD HORSE ROUNDUPS BEING CONDUCTED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (1320) – Chairman Yanuck said that there were several articles and comments in the newspapers regarding the roundups, and that BLM was asking for public comments. He stated that the CABMW would also like to go on record and encourage people to send in their comments during the comment period. He believed that BLM should hear from as many people, and from both sides of the issue.

12. PRESENTATION OF A WATERFOWL SUMMIT REPORT; DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WATERFOWL SEASON (1362) – Chairman Yanuck commented that there was no waterfowl summit this year due to schedule conflicts. He also stated that they were hoping for a long season, weather permitting.

13. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM (1376) – Chairman Yanuck reported that the meeting had gone very well, and that a lot of time was spent discussing conservation agreements with assurances, which was a way of encouraging private land owners to designate conservation easements on their property, through which the sage grouse traveled. He said that a lot of private land owners had been reluctant to set up the conservation easement, not knowing what the future changes in the law would be. He added that the conservation agreement with assurances was created to ensure that what the land owners agreed to now, would always be the agreement between them and the government. He explained that the land owners could cancel said agreement within 30 days, but, he said, that had not happened yet. He also stated that attorneys had “worked out some of the bugs, and discussed several models that had been adopted in Oklahoma and in Utah”. He added that here, in Nevada, a unique sub-species of sage grouse was designated as category three, category one being the most endangered of species. Chairman Yanuck also said that there were some funds, such as \$500,000 brought in by Senator Reid, some of which would be used for facilitators, from the UNR extension program, at meetings, which had been beneficial. He added that he had been sending e-mails to people on his list, such as the Pine Nut and Bi-State groups, letting them know that they anticipate a kickoff meeting in the September or October timeframe.

14. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET (1524)- Chairman Yanuck mentioned that during the Finance Committee meeting on the upcoming Thursday, in the NDOW building in Reno, items such as new personnel added in June, and the department’s budget and the county advisory boards’ budgets, would be discussed. He also said that the budget for the Commission looked good, and since the meeting schedules and locations were set, the budget would pretty much stay on target.

15. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (1558) - Chairman Yanuck said that he would attend the upcoming meeting in Fallon, and the next meeting which would be on September 23rd and 24th in Las Vegas.

(1566) – Vice Chairman Zuber welcomed Member Davis, the newest member to the Board, and said he looked forward to benefiting from his experience. Member Valley wanted to know if there was a proposed map for the pipeline going through Elko. He said that during a recent trip through Jarbidge, he had noticed animal funneling across the highway, which he believed could be hazardous to the

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drivers. He added that Pinedale, Wyoming, was a major migration area, however, the antelope were not migrating, because of the noise created by the wells.

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING (1702) -

The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission is scheduled for September 24 and 25, 2010 in Las Vegas. The next meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2010, at 5:30 p.m.

17. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF - None

18. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None

19. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1812) – Chairman Yanuck entertained a motion for adjournment. Member Davis moved to adjourn and Member Valley seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The minutes of the August 9, 2010 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are approved this th day of September, 2010.

GIL YANUCK, Chairman