

CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the July 24, 2000 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 24, 2000 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Chris MacKenzie
Norm Pedersen
Larry Blank

STAFF: Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(ABMW 07/24/00; 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 (1-0003) - Chairperson MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. A quorum was present. Members Davis and Mason were absent.

2. ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 12, 2000 MEETING (1-0007) - Vice Chairperson Pedersen moved to approve the minutes as presented. Member Blank seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0-2-0.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING ASH CANYON FISH PLANTING, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2000 AT 5:30 P.M. (1-0014) - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed the notice included in the agenda materials. Vice Chairperson Pedersen indicated that he would attend with his grandson.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FROM PAT SOLLBERGER, OF THE NEVADA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE, TO SCHEDULE A MEETING IN AUGUST 2000 REGARDING THE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN (1-0050) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the June 19th letter included in the agenda materials. Board consensus was to schedule the meeting for Monday, August 14, 2000. Chairperson MacKenzie will check with Mr. Sollberger regarding his availability.

5. INTERVIEW APPLICANTS FOR VACANCIES ON THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE (1-0142) - Chairperson MacKenzie deferred this item until later in the meeting. (1-1565) Discussion took place regarding the method by which to conduct the interviews. Member Blank discussed the confusion regarding his membership status as he was not informed, upon his appointment, that he was filling an unexpired term. Vice Chairperson Pedersen explained the reason for the two and three year terms which make up the advisory board. Chairperson MacKenzie was advised by Member Mason that he would be leaving the board as of July 1st. Following further discussion, consensus of the Board was to conduct the interviews and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the position vacated by Member Mason and the two positions for which Chairperson MacKenzie and Member Blank were seeking reappointment. Chairperson MacKenzie and Member Blank agreed to abstain from voting on their respective applications. Chairperson MacKenzie recessed the meeting at 8:37 p.m., and reconvened the meeting at 8:42 p.m. A quorum was still present.

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(1-1757) - Gilbert Yanuck. Member Blank requested a brief summary of Mr. Yanuck's background relevant to wildlife, including fisheries issues, education and/or experience which would qualify him to assist in developing recommendations to the Wildlife Commission. Mr. Yanuck advised that he had moved to Nevada just over a year and a half ago. Prior to that, he was a very active sportsman in California and participated in a number of activities with the California Department of Fish and Game related to conservation and wildlife habitat studies. He supports Quail Unlimited and participated in creating large areas of quail habitat throughout the California desert. The projects in which he participated received a great deal of support from the State in the form of manpower and vehicles, and from private industry in the form of materials. He discussed his appreciation for wildlife biologists as a result of his work with Fish and Game representatives.

Mr. Yanuck provided information on his managerial and professional experience with large companies, and commented that he has a good understanding of the importance of supporting the Board in its activities and mission. He is semi-retired and indicated he would have plenty of time to research information on behalf of the Board. He expressed support for joining forces with advisory boards from adjacent counties in order to increase the Board's position and effectiveness with the Wildlife Commission. In response to a question, Mr. Yanuck advised that his volunteer work was associated with Quail Unlimited, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Desert Rifle and Pistol Club, and various animal rescue groups. He indicated he would generally have no conflict with attending Board meetings or Commission meetings. He acknowledged that he is a registered voter and a Carson City resident. In response to a question, he advised that he had previously hunted elk and deer with rifle tags, that he had participated in a black powder hunt last year, and was invited to do so again this year. Chairperson MacKenzie advised that the Board's recommendation would be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for a decision at their August 17th meeting. The Board members thanked Mr. Yanuck.

(1-2102) - Steve Walker. Vice Chairperson Pedersen requested information on Mr. Walker's background as a sportsman. Mr. Walker advised that he has lived in Carson City for 25 years. He belongs to Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever. He expressed an interest in volunteering his time and effort, and commented that with new people come new questions, new ideas and new paths. In response to a question, he indicated he had drawn an archery deer tag for northern Washoe. He has attended several Wildlife Commission meetings, and discussed his understanding and opinion of the bonus point system. He acknowledged he will be available to attend Board and Commission meetings; as an independent contractor, his hours are flexible. He discussed his opinion of assigning attendance to the Wildlife Commission meetings. Vice Chairperson Pedersen provided historical information on scheduling attendance at the Wildlife Commission meetings, and discussed the difficulties the Board has had over the past year due to the high turn over in membership.

Member Blank inquired as to Mr. Walker's ideas for stimulating public interest in the Board meetings. Mr. Walker suggested posting in more public places, word of mouth, and publishing in the newspaper. He inquired as to whether the Board ever meets with any of the other sixteen county advisory boards, and made suggestions with regard to the same. In response to a question, Mr. Walker advised that he works as an independent heating and air conditioning contractor, and that he has been a licensed realtor for eleven years. Chairperson MacKenzie discussed past networking efforts with the adjacent county advisory boards, and recent membership changes on the Washoe County Advisory Board. He thanked Mr. Walker, and advised him that the recommendation would be submitted to the Board of Supervisors at their August 17th meeting.

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Vice Chairperson Pedersen invited Mr. Walker to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting and to provide comments regarding his interest in the advisory board. The Board members thanked Mr. Walker.

(1-2533) - Ken Brown. Chairperson MacKenzie inquired as to Mr. Brown's interest in serving on the advisory board. Mr. Brown advised that he is a native Nevadan, and has hunted and fished throughout the State. He expressed an interest in being more involved in facilitating regulations, and advised that this is the fourth time he has applied for a position on the Board. In response to a question, he advised that this was his second interview. He acknowledged that he does a lot of hunting and fishing. He shot an antelope last year and drew a deer tag this year. He hunts chukar and fishes as often as possible. In response to a question, Mr. Brown advised that he does not belong to any hunting or fishing organizations. He advised he has been self-employed for three and a half years, and worked for the Public Service Commission and the Gaming Control Board prior to that. He acknowledged a familiarity with the Board's activities, and indicated a personal interest in maintaining accesses. He further acknowledged availability for Board and Commission meetings, and advised that he has a current pilot's license. He acknowledged an interest in fly fishing, and discussed his interest in range conservation. Chairperson MacKenzie advised of the August 17th Board of Supervisors meeting wherein the advisory board's recommendation will be submitted for review and approval. The Board thanked Mr. Brown for his time.

(1-2839) - Member Blank acknowledged his interest in being reappointed. He discussed the misinformation provided, upon his appointment, regarding the length of his term. He was only recently advised that he was filling an unexpired term. (1-3385) Member Blank disclosed a long-term project, on which he is working in the Philippines, which will require his being out of town for two to three weeks at a time. He pointed out that he has never yet missed a meeting, and advised that he often works his schedule around meetings.

(1-2883) - Chairperson MacKenzie requested that he be allowed to serve out the year as chairperson and serve an additional two-year term.

Vice Chairperson Pedersen expressed a concern over Member Blank serving out an unexpired term with the possibility of not being reappointed. He requested that this concern be addressed with the Board of Supervisors as the advisory board's understanding was that Member Blank was filling at least a two-year term. He provided historical information on the tenure of former member, George Groth. Chairperson MacKenzie discussed the difficulty caused by the amount of turn over in the past year. Member Blank suggested meeting twice a month for a period of time in order to "catch-up" on business which needs to be addressed. Chairperson MacKenzie requested input regarding the meeting format. Vice Chairperson Pedersen commented that the meetings are well conducted. He reiterated the need for clarification regarding Member Blank's position. Discussion ensued with regard to improving communication among the Board members.

6. REVIEW AND ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPOINTMENTS TO THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE (2-0075) - Each of the Board members provided comments on the applicants' qualifications and experience. Following discussion, **Member Blank moved to recommend Steve Walker to the Board of Supervisors to fill Jim Mason's vacancy. Vice Chairperson Pedersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-1-2-0.**

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Vice Chairperson Pedersen moved to reappoint Member Blank to his very short term. Chairperson MacKenzie seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0-2-1, Member Blank abstaining.

Chairperson MacKenzie passed the gavel to Vice Chairperson Pedersen. **Member Blank moved to highly recommend Chris' reappointment by the Board of Supervisors to refill his membership. Vice Chairperson Pedersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0-2-1, Chairperson MacKenzie abstaining.**

7. DISCUSSION REGARDING REVIEW OF THE JUNE 2000 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-0155) - Member Blank advised that he had attended the meeting in Fallon, Nevada. He discussed the presentation, by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS"), on the alternative plan for Stillwater. The primary focus of the presentation was on the preferred plan. Differences between the plans have to do with water allocation, water usage, and how water flow into Stillwater is controlled. Member Blank explained that the preferred plan is a deviation from the status quo, which attempts to maintain an approximately even level of water flow throughout the entire year. The preferred plan would greatly increase water flow in the springtime and would be timed in such a way as to attempt to precede primary nesting times, begin tapering off at about the time primary nesting begins, and continue tapering off throughout the summer. He recalled that a part of the plan included a slight increase in water flow in the fall, which would not be natural. The purpose of the plan seemed to be geared toward water fowl and game birds and an attempt was made to appeal to the hunters.

Member Blank advised that the USFWS is operating under a new federal mandate to implement plans for rehabilitation of areas such as Stillwater. The details of the mandate were not clear; however, Member Blank's impression was that the USFWS has a great deal of flexibility in interpretation. The stated objective is to revert waterflows back to the way they were during the mid- to late-1800s. USFWS representatives admitted that the objective is unattainable because the system and uses of the water have completely changed since the mid- to late-1800s. Member Blank advised that no information was provided regarding problems with the existing system. There was no mention of plans to remove existing dikes, diversion works, or roads.

Member Blank commented that the presentation was lengthy because the USFWS representatives were constantly interrupted with questions from the commissioners. He had the impression that the majority of the commissioners were not overly impressed with what they were hearing. A variety of biological discussions took place regarding pros and cons to the preferred plan. Member Blank indicated that, although the USFWS representatives seemed to present the information in as balanced a manner as possible, he was not satisfied with the presentation. He noted that it was good of them to indicate the shortcomings of the plan; however, they did not seem convinced the plan is "the right thing to do." Two alternative plans were presented in addition to the status quo and the preferred plan; however, the presentation focused mainly on a comparison between the status quo and the preferred plan.

Vice Chairperson Pedersen inquired as to impacts of the plan on existing and future hunting conditions. Member Blank referred to the materials provided by NDOW in which the four plans were delineated. He indicated the reduction in hunting area, as shown on the maps. He advised that, as he is not personally familiar with the area, he was unable to determine if prime hunting areas are being eliminated. Member Blank noted that the presentation was completely lacking in evidence that motorboats, traffic, and hunting

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are actually having an effect on the vegetation and the ecosystem. Chairperson MacKenzie commented that in every option except the status quo, fishing is also being eliminated. Member Blank discussed the Boundary Waters Canoe Area established by the federal government in northern Minnesota. He commented that restrictions could be imposed in the Stillwater area without completely closing it to hunting. Chairperson MacKenzie thanked Member Blank for his presentation.

8. DISCUSSION REGARDING BUDGET STATUS (1-0375) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised that he had attempted to contact the person in charge of the Board's budget. Member Blank offered to research the budget status between now and the next meeting, and report back to Chairperson MacKenzie.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ATTENDANCE AT THE NEXT WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING ON JULY 28 AND 29, 2000 IN ELY, NEVADA; THE SEPTEMBER 8 AND 9, 2000 MEETING IN TONOPAH, NEVADA; THE OCTOBER 20 AND 21, 2000 MEETING IN RENO, NEVADA; AND THE DECEMBER 1 AND 2, 2000 MEETING IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA (1-0400) - Discussion took place regarding attendance at the next meeting in Ely. Chairperson MacKenzie requested that the Board members consider their availability for the September, October and December meetings. Vice Chairperson Pedersen advised of his tentative availability for the September meeting. Chairperson MacKenzie will ask Member Davis about his availability for the July meeting.

10. DISCUSSION REGARDING JULY 14, 2000 MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY CRAWFORTH, NEVADA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATOR, REGARDING COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS (1-0445) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the memorandum included in the NDOW materials. Vice Chairperson Pedersen commented that Mr. Crowthorn was attempting to convey a message to NDOW personnel regarding the need to improve communication with the advisory boards.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMMENTS AND INPUT ABOUT THE JULY 28 AND 29, 2000 WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA:

a. ITEM 2: COMMISSION WILL BE TAKING PUBLIC INPUT AND FORMULATING WRITTEN COMMENTS TO SUBMIT TO THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REGARDING THE STILLWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE PLAN (1-0495) - Chairperson MacKenzie distributed, for review and comment, a draft letter which will be sent to the Stillwater Wildlife Manager. No formal action was taken.

b. ITEM 4: COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER REVISIONS TO NEVADA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE POLICIES, AS FOLLOWS: POLICY #4, ALLOCATION OF DEER TAGS; POLICY #5, WILDLIFE HERITAGE TRUST ACCOUNT; POLICY #6, WILDLIFE HERITAGE TAGS AND VENDORS; POLICY #7, CONTROL OF NONRESIDENT HUNTERS; AND POLICY #9, AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (1-0556) - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed and discussed the proposed amendment to Policy No. 4. He briefly reviewed the proposed amendments to Policy Nos. 5, 6, 7, and 9. He explained the purpose of the proposed amendment to Policy No. 9 has to do with ADA access to Wildlife Commission meetings. Vice Chairperson Pedersen explained the proposed amendments to Policy Nos. 7 and 9 for the benefit of the public in attendance. Vice Chairperson Pedersen

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moved that the Board agree with the proposed revisions to Policy Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9. Motion died for lack of a second.

Member Blank discussed the existing non-resident tag application policy, and suggested staggering the drawings. If the non-resident drawing occurred in July, it would allow residents who had been drawn for certain areas to inform non-resident friends to submit applications for the non-resident tags available on the same hunt. Member Blank advised that he will be researching this matter further as he is not aware of the full history behind the existing policy, and is unwilling to suggest consideration of his proposal by the Wildlife Commission at this time. He pointed out that since residents and non-residents are currently not allowed to submit an application together, residents would most likely be hesitant to submit a joint application if the perception is that non-residents have less likelihood of being drawn, thereby disqualifying the entire group of hunters.

Wayne Glazner commented that an additional consideration is non-resident hunters should not be allowed to prosper as a member of a party hunt with residents. Member Blank noted that the point system is also managed differently. He acknowledged there are good reasons to not allow residents and non-residents to apply together, and reiterated that staggering the drawings may provide a better opportunity for non-residents to hunt with residents or vice versa. He pointed out that safety is an additional consideration as non-residents would typically be less familiar with hunting areas. Chairperson MacKenzie suggested that the proposal could be presented to the Commission in the form of a petition at the appropriate time. No formal action was taken.

c. ITEM 6: COMMISSION WILL HEAR THE WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE PETITION TO SPLIT UNIT 051, IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY, INTO TWO (2) UNITS. THE COMMISSION WILL EITHER ACCEPT THE PETITION AND INITIATE RULE MAKING OR DENY THE PETITION (1-0801) - Chairperson MacKenzie advised that unit 051 is the California Bighorn Sheep hunt. Mr. Glazner commented that splitting the area would allow more access and several more tags for bighorn sheep hunters. He expressed support for the petition. He acknowledged that Humboldt County borders Oregon, and described its boundaries. Member Blank inquired as to whether or not the proposed split has to do with an interstate agreement between Nevada and Oregon regarding migratory deer herds. Chairperson MacKenzie suggested there may be a concern over hunters congregating in a certain portion of the unit. Mr. Glazner advised that unit 051 is the location of the primary herd of California Bighorn Sheep in Nevada. He acknowledged that the number of tags in the area with greater access would be reduced, thereby reallocating some of the hunters. Vice Chairperson Pedersen pointed out that if the petition is supported by the Commission it will be submitted for review by the county advisory boards. Consensus of the Board was to acquire additional information before formally supporting the petition. No formal action was taken.

d. ITEM 7: COMMISSION WILL HEAR THE CLARK COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE PETITION TO CHANGE THE PARTNERSHIP IN WILDLIFE TAG REGULATIONS TO CONFORM WITH AUCTION TAG REGULATIONS. THE COMMISSION WILL EITHER ACCEPT THE PETITION AND INITIATE RULE MAKING OR DENY THE PETITION (1-0920) - Member Blank commented that the Clark County Advisory Board should be required to conform to the new regulations regarding petitions. The two line requests to the Commission are unacceptable as no details are provided as to what the Commission is being asked to do. Discussion

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took place regarding the possible intent of the petition. Vice Chairperson Pedersen displayed the petition for the benefit of the public and read the same into the record. **Vice Chairperson Pedersen moved to monitor the status of the petition. Member Blank seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

e. ITEM 9: NEVADA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE IS REQUESTING AMENDMENT OF COMMISSION POLICY TO INCLUDE RECENTLY ACQUIRED STEPTOE VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA AND UPDATE LANGUAGE IN THE POLICY (SECOND READING) (1-1095) - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the June 20th letter to Larry Barngrover of NDOW from the Las Vegas Fly Fishing Club. Member Blank inquired as to whom the recommendation is being made, and Chairperson MacKenzie referred to the cover sheet of the policy, included in the agenda materials. Member Blank commented that some of the recommendations made by the Las Vegas Fly Fishing Club are not within the authority of the Commission. Discussion took place regarding motorized vehicles and speed restrictions. Vice Chairperson Pedersen reviewed some of the recommendations contained in the June 20th letter for the benefit of the public.

Mr. Glazner provided background information on Comins Lake, including its depth, and its history with regard to pike. He suggested it is a good lake to keep at a minimum impact and agreed with the recommendations. He acknowledged that the lake is deep and cool enough for trout. Chairperson MacKenzie agreed with the proposed restrictions. **Vice Chairperson Pedersen moved that the Board is in favor of treating this newly acquired body of water like other wildlife management areas with applicable rules and regulations to govern it.** Discussion took place with regard to the motion, and Vice Chairperson Pedersen clarified that in the absence of a proposed plan, the Board could take action to indicate support for managing the lake like other wildlife areas with reasonable restrictions. **Member Blank seconded the motion**, and concurred with the suggestion to obtain a copy of the policy to determine whether or not the Board will have the opportunity to provide special input. **Motion carried 3-0.** Discussion took place regarding anticipated action by the Commission. Vice Chairperson Pedersen suggested faxing comments indicating the Board's position, and Member Blank agreed to provide a draft.

f. ITEM 10: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 290 AMENDMENT REGARDING LICENSING AGENTS (1-1422) - The Board members had no comment regarding this item and no formal action was taken.

g. ITEM 11: COMMISSION REGULATION 291 REGARDING CLARIFICATION OF ELK INCENTIVE TAG SEASONS (1-1427) - Chairperson MacKenzie noted that there was no information provided for this item. No comment was provided by the Board members and no formal action was taken.

h. ITEM 12: COMMISSION REGULATION 00-10 AMENDMENT OF DATES FOR TRAPPERS TO CHECK IN HARVESTED BOBCATS (1-1445) - Member Blank noted that the check in dates for Fallon are being consolidated into one day. Vice Chairperson Pedersen noted that 29 sealing dates are being reduced to 22. Chairperson MacKenzie noted that since the petition was brought by the Nevada Trappers Association, he is satisfied that their interests are being looked after. No formal action was taken.

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i. **ITEM 13: COMMISSION REGULATIONS FOR SELECTING VENDORS AND ESTABLISHING LIMITS, SEX/AGE, HUNTING AREAS, SEASON DATES, LEGAL WEAPONS, AND AUCTION PROCEDURES FOR 2001 WILDLIFE HERITAGE TAGS. DEER (2); ANTELOPE, ELK, DESERT BIGHORN (2); CALIFORNIA BIGHORN, TURKEY (5) (1-1481)** - The Board members had no comment or concern with regard to this item, and no formal action was taken.

j. **ITEM 14: SPIKE BULLS (INFORMATIONAL ONLY) - COMMISSION WILL RECEIVE INPUT FROM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND THE PUBLIC REGARDING INITIATION OF SPECIAL HUNT IN 2001 AS AN ELK HERD MANAGEMENT TOOL (1-1490)** - Chairperson MacKenzie referred to and discussed input provided by other states regarding success rates. He noted that the item was informational only. Vice Chairperson Pedersen commented that the NDOW biologists had been supportive of this proposal at the May 3rd Board meeting. He suggested supporting the proposal at the appropriate time. No formal action was taken.

k. **ITEM 15: JARBIDGE ELK PLAN (INFORMATIONAL ONLY) - ELKO SUB-PLAN (1-1553)** - Chairperson MacKenzie reviewed the information included in the agenda materials. No formal action was taken.

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME AND LOCATION - As previously noted, the next meeting of the Board was tentatively scheduled for August 14, 2000 at 7:00 p.m.

13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (2-0420) - (Vice Chairperson Pedersen returned the gavel to Chairperson MacKenzie following the action taken on item 6.) Chairperson MacKenzie advised of a conversation with C.K. Bailey regarding the urban pond. Discussion took place with regard to the same. Vice Chairperson Pedersen provided a status report on his search for gifts commending former Board members George Groth and Roger Heath.

14. ADJOURNMENT (2-0546) - Member Blank moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. Vice Chairperson Pedersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Minutes of the July 24, 2000 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this _____ day of August, 2000.

CHRISTOPHER MacKENZIE, Chairperson