

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY
ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

**155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406
March 5, 2025**

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was called to order at 7:02 PM on March 5, 2025.

PRESENT:

Member Peggy A. Hughes
Member Jim Curran
Member Jason Sibley
Member Andrew Howells
Deputy Clerk of the Board Pamela D. Moore
Member Aubry Burgess

ABSENT:

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

Public Comment:

Chair Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Verification of the Posting of the Agenda:

It was verified by Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 27th day of February, 2025, between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 PM at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Agenda as submitted or revised:

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on:

A- January 22, 2025.

The Minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2025 are presented for the board's consideration and approval.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on

January 22, 2025 as presented. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Appointments:

A- Consideration and possible action re: Petitions filed by Joe Krathwohl to modify existing regulations pertaining to allowable fees charged for conservation education programs, presented by falconry licensees, and to regulations pertaining to the application requirements for possessing a golden eagle in this state.

The board will consider Petitions filed by Joe Krathwohl to modify existing regulations pertaining to allowable fees charged for conservation education programs, presented by falconry licensees, and to regulations pertaining to the application requirements for possessing a golden eagle in this state.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said it looks like there is a law right now that says that he cannot charge for educational programs? Member Howells said he can't charge more than it costs. Member Sibley said wouldn't that make it commercial at that point, though, if you are making a profit off of that? Doesn't that get into some ugly gray area? Member Curran said it just doesn't seem to be anywhere in the regulations that authorizes it or prohibits it. Member Sibley said it is right here - the NAC says: "he may purchase, sale, trade or barter any captive bred raptor" and then right below it: "may accept a fee for the program which does not exceed the actual cost". He can get reimbursed for it but he can't make a profit on it. Chair Hughes said his Petition doesn't say anything about going above that regulation. Member Sibley said he is asking us to change it so that he can charge a free market established fee for educational programs, which may include migratory birds. He says the fees charged shall never surpass the huge amount of lifelong investment required to provide a first-class licensed bird program. Member Howells said I don't think it is affecting very many people, so I don't see a problem with it. I am sure there is a ton of money involved in keeping birds. Member Sibley said it says it can't be paid for depredation control activities conducted against species listed in 50 CFR 21.43, which I do not know what is listed there. Member Howells said I do not see a problem with him charging for educational activities.

Member Sibley said the other part of this Petition is that apparently, right now, there is verbiage that states that if you have ever been convicted of violating any law or regulation of any state or federal government relating to animal welfare wildlife, which is a lifetime ban. He is asking us to revisit that. Member Howells said that is not written in his Petition, though. Member Sibley said it is written in #9. Member Curran said that is dealing with his license but I don't know why it is highlighted. Member Sibley said because it is two separate requests. The second one is a separate Petition from the same person. He is asking the Commission to revise the language to remove that language. It is currently in law that they cannot have a falconer's license if they have ever had a charge for a crime against an animal. Member Curran said I don't have a problem with it. People make a profit off of hunter safety classes. Member Sibley said I am fine with it. The crime against wildlife and animals is very vague. He is

asking for a 5 year probation. Member Howells said I think this is a reasonable request.

Member Andrew Howells made a motion to support the Petitions. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B- Consideration and possible action re: Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025, Amendment #3.

The Commission will review and may take action to approve an amendment to the Department's Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said it looks like they are increasing the number to be released from 20 to 25 to 40 to 60 for sheep in the Cortez Mountains.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to support the amendment to the Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C- Consideration and possible action re: Draft Fiscal Year 2026 Predation Management Plan.

The Draft Fiscal Year 2026 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for additional review. Comments or revisions from the State Predatory Animal and rodent Committee (PARC), the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMD), County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Commission for consideration. The Commission may provide changes or additional direction at this time.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Curran said I think we can make some good headway by making some personal requests with this. This was discussed at the last Commission meeting. I wish it would show in subsequent meetings like this what changes are made. You read the Minutes but you can't really tell.

Member Jason Sibley said he would like to have the board make a request to receive the results from the last two years of the Predation Management Plan from the Department of Wildlife.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the plan as submitted. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D- Consideration and possible action re: Commission General Regulation 524 - Bonus Points Associated with Junior Hunt Applications.

The Commission will hold an adoption to consider a temporary regulation mending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would simplify the issuance, use, and administrative management of bonus points associated with junior hunt applications.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said I think this is back again. Chair Hughes said it says bonus points junior hunt applications. Member Sibley said I think they are trying to make it to where it is no longer a junior bonus point – it will just be an antlered mule deer bonus point. When they turn 18, it will transfer over as an adult. I find that acceptable.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to support Commission General Regulation 524. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 25-07 Big Game Seasons for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve amended season dates for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 hunting season dates for a minor number of mule deer and antelope seasons that were portrayed incorrectly within the original Commission Regulation 25-07.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Curran said this is just to correct an error that was in the original recordation book for seasons.

Member Jim Curran made a motion to support Commission Regulation 25-07 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 25-11 Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds; Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and designated State Lands - 2025-2026 Season.

The Commission will consider recommendations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for migratory game birds for the 2025-2026 season and adopt regulations consistent with proposed regulation framework for the 2025-2026 hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Commission Regulation will become final pending adoption of federal frameworks. The Commission will also consider rules regulating public hunting on Wildlife Management Areas and designated state lands.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said how much does he really have power on this? A lot of this is set by the flyway, right? Member Curran said all they do is set the framework; the state has to set the general framework. Actually, a framework hasn't been established, yet. They set this and then, later, they get the framework and they could come back for modifications but they had advanced knowledge. Member Sibley said is this bag limits, as well? Member Curran confirmed that.

Member Sibley said I would like to request that we re-evaluate the number of swan permits provided every year. I know we increased by 100 but I still don't think that is anywhere near enough. I don't think we are taking anywhere near the percentages that we did 5 years ago. I feel like the last 3 years the success rate has been pretty low. I don't know that there is really a reason to have 700 tags. I think they need to bump it up to 1,000, similar to what Utah has and Utah is in the same flyway.

Member Curran said I see they increased the pintail to 3 and 9. That is a major accomplishment. That has taken years to get.

Member Andrew Howells made a motion to support Commission Regulation 25-11 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Informational Items:

A- Consideration and possible action re: Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for March 7 and 8, 2025.

Should the board want to discuss Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for March 7 and 8, 2025, which is provided for the board's consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Other

There was no further discussion.

Consider Future Agenda Items:

There were no future Agenda items suggested. Member Sibley asked where we are with our salvage permit. Did we submit it to the board? Member Curran said we haven't submitted a Petition. There is one Senator and one Assemblyperson who submitted a Bill Draft Request to authorize the Department to develop regulations for salvage of wildlife. Member Sibley said can we submit our letter and support from the other CABs to the group that is presenting it? Member Curran said you can go on their website and you write in your support or vote to support it. That is really important towards the end. They haven't even scheduled a hearing. Member Sibley said I am just talking about getting it to the people who have introduced this

bill to show the support that they have from the CABs so that, when they go to present this, they can show that these counties are supportive of it already. Member Curran said you would go through the website for this bill and provide it there and it will go to everyone in the committee. It has to get out of the Assembly before it goes to the Senate. It has been co-introduced in the Senate, as well, by Robin Titus. Action will probably not be taken until April. I have been watching to see if they have scheduled any hearings before the committee but there has not been for wildlife. The Department has introduced a bill to allow the Commission to establish fees on all hunting, fishing, and trapping and to take it out of the Legislature's control. That will be the most controversial bill so far. There are only about 5 or 6 Fish & Game bills in the Legislature right now. Member Sibley said he will log on and submit that.

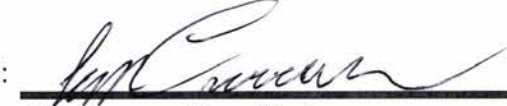
Public Comment:

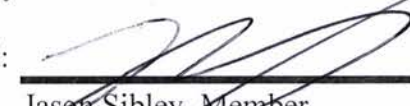
Chair Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

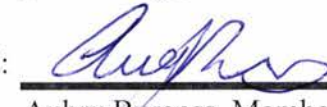
Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Approved: 
Peggy Hughes, Chair

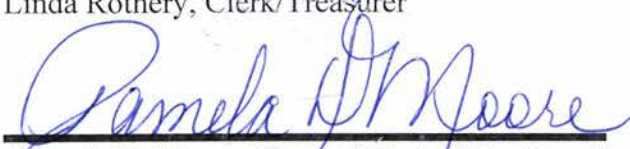
Approved: 
Jim Curran, Vice-Chair

Approved: 
Jason Sibley, Member

Approved: 
Aubry Burgess, Member

Approved: 
Andrew Howells, Member

ATTEST:
Linda Rothery, Clerk/Treasurer


Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board