

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

155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406
January 21, 2026

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 21, 2026.

PRESENT: Member Peggy A. Hughes

Member Jim Curran

Member Jason Sibley

Member Andrew Howells

Deputy Clerk Tara Adams

ABSENT: Member Aubry Burgess

Deputy Clerk to the Board Pamela D. Moore

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 Tara Adams, Deputy Clerk, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 14th day of January, 2026, 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- November 5, 2025.

The Minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 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 November 5, 2025. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Appointments:

A- Consideration and possible action re: Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair to serve for a one-year term through January 2027.

The board will make nominations and election a Chair and Vice-Chair to serve for a one-year period through January 2027.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to elect Peggy Hughes as Chair and Jason Sibley as Vice-Chair to serve a one-year term through January 2027. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B- Consideration and possible action re: Discussion and possible action to request that the Department of Wildlife consider options of allowing blood trailing dogs or thermal imaging drones for recovering wounded and/or dead animals.

Member Sibley suggested that the board have some discussion to request that the Department of Wildlife consider options of allowing blood trailing dogs or thermal imaging drones for recovering wounded and/or dead animals. Member Sibley will bring in research he has compiled from other states who have addressed the issue.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said I have not had a chance to look at other states' regulations. We want the hunters to be able to recover animals that are wounded and/or dead, but we are really limiting their ability to do that. When it comes to thermal imaging drones, we should be embracing that technology. With a dead animal, it is going to be a lot harder to find, but you would be able to find a critically wounded animal, and be able to end that animals suffering, I think, in a much faster manner, and be able to harvest that animal.

Regarding the blood trailing dogs, Member Howells found that West Virginia has recently enacted a leashed dog assist when recovering wounded animals. Essentially, it is not allowing you dog to "run amuck" when you are out hunting. It requires you to keep that dog on a leash, so you have that dog in control, and you are utilizing the dog's ability to trail blood to harvest a potentially wounded animal. In the last couple of years, regardless of your opinions on it, people are taking a lot longer shots, people are getting a lot more comfortable shooting up to eight hundred yards. With that, you will run the risk of more animals being injured and a longer

blood trail. I think this is something that the department should at least look at, and consider, about how we enact something like this to assist the sportsmen on recovering their wounded game.

Chair Hughes said that she thinks it is a good idea, and asked Member Curran how to go about approaching the Commission on it. Member Curran said that they should probably submit a Petition, as it is the only legal way to get one in a Commission meeting to have a discussion. A wounded or dead animal should be changed to mammal, so we are making things separate. I do not recall in statutes where it states it is legal to use a dog. Member Sibley said it does not specify. Member Curran said twenty or thirty years ago, the state issued permits to take your dog to even go camping. For some reason that has been forgotten. Member Sibley said I think part of the concern is, currently, the way it written, it says in NRS 503.631, it is unlawful for a dog to run at large if it is actively tracking, pursuing, harassing, attacking, or killing any big game animal in the state. The problem is, they put tracking on there, so how do we change that to, instead of saying tracking, it is tracking a wounded animal, or something similar. Member Curran said, originally, the intent, so people did not use a dog to hunt. Member Curran said I think that is where there is some ambiguity in the law. That I think, if people started to do this, they could get in some trouble. I just want to make sure that maybe this is something we look at clearing up, just through some verbiage in the current NRS. Member Curran said maybe we could start by writing a letter to the department, to feel out whether they are willing to consider a change. Member Sibley said who specifically in the department should they reach out to, and Member Curran said I would probably send it to the director and let him route it.

This matter was tabled to the next meeting. Member Sibley will have a draft letter next meeting regarding this matter.

C- Consideration and possible action re: Draft Fiscal Year 2027 Predation Management Plan.

The draft Fiscal Year 2027 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review. Following this review, the draft plan will be updated and shared with the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC). All comments from the PARC, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW), and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2026 meeting.

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 Draft Fiscal Year 2027 Predation Management Plan as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D- Consideration and possible action re: Commission General Regulation 529 — Disability Permit Program Revisions.

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider regulation language amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) that would update business rules and requirements related to the archery, visual, and special assistance disability permits.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission General Regulation 529 as presented. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E- Consideration and possible action re: Petition from Joe Krathwohl for an Amendment to NAC 504.496 regarding wildlife rehabilitators.

The Petition requests an amendment to NAC 504.496 to allow licensed wildlife rehabilitators, with Department approval, to transfer non-releasable wildlife to permitted individuals or entities, beyond the dispositions currently allowable under existing law, which include: release, donation to an Associate of Zoos and Aquariums - accredited facility, or euthanasia.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve the Petition to amend NAC 504.496 regarding wildlife rehabilitators. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 25-07 Amendment #2, 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Big Game Seasons.

The Commission will consider adopting an amendment to the 2026-2027 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and moose, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics, hunt boundary restrictions.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Andrew Howells made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 25-07, Amendment #2, 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Big Game Seasons. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

G- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-01, 2027 Spring Turkey and 2026 Application Deadlines.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2027 spring turkey application deadlines and 2026 tag application deadlines and related information.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commissioner Regulation 26-01 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

H- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-02, 2026 Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026 tag application eligibility, tag limits, and related information.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Andrew Howells made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-02 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

I- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-03, 2026 Dream Tag Seasons and Quotas.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026 dream tag species, seasons, and quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-03 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

J- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-04, 2026 Heritage Tag Season and Quotas.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2027 heritage tag species, seasons, and quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-04 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

K- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-05, 2026 Partnership in Wildlife Tag Seasons and Quotas.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026 partnership in wildlife tag species, seasons, and quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-05 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

L- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-06, 2026 Big Game Silver State and 2027 Wild Turkey Silver State Tag Seasons and Quotas.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026 big game silver state tag and 2027 wild turkey silver state tag species, season, and quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-06 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

M- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-07, 2026 Black Bear Seasons.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-07 as presented. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

N- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-08, 2026-2027 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026-2027 hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations for mountain lion.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-08 as presented. Member Andrew Howells seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

O- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 26-09, 2026-2027 Restrtricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quotas.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2026-2027 hunting season and quotas fro restricted non-resident guided mule deer including hunting boundary restrictions.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 26-09 as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Informational Items:

This item was presented for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

A- Consideration and possible action re: Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for January 23 and 24, 2026.

Should the board want to discuss Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for January 23 and 24, 2026, which is provided for the board's consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Other

Consider Future Agenda Items:

Request that the Department of Wildlife consider options of allowing blood trailing dogs or thermal imaging drones for recovering wounded and/or dead animals.

Public Comment:

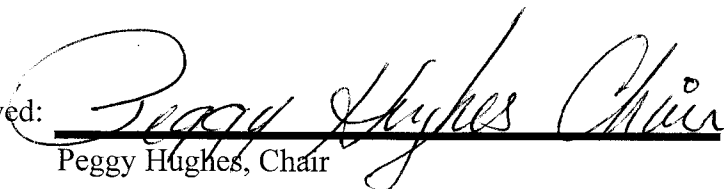
Chair Hughes asked if there was any public comment, but there was none.

Adjournment:

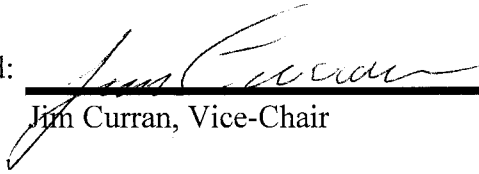
The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Approved: _____

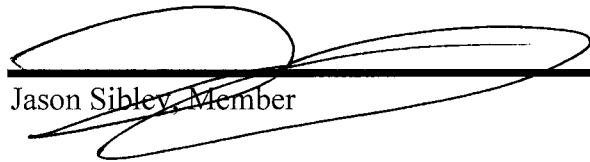
Peggy Hughes, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Peggy Hughes Chair", written over a horizontal line.

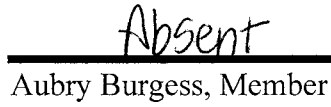
Approved:


Jim Curran, Vice-Chair

Approved:


Jason Sibley, Member

Approved:

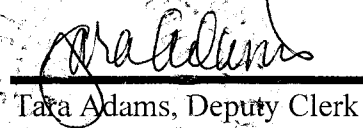

Aubry Burgess, Member

Approved:


Andrew Howells, Member

ATTEST:

Linda Rothery, Clerk/Treasurer


Tara Adams, Deputy Clerk