

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

**155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406
August 9, 2023**

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was called to order at 7:03 PM on August 9, 2023.

PRESENT:	Member Peggy A. Hughes Member Jim Curran Member Jason Sibley Member Andrew Howells
ABSENT:	N/A

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 to the Board, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 26th day of July, 2023, 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 revised:

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Agenda as revised. 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- June 21, 2023.

The Minutes of the meeting held on June 21, 2023 are submitted for the board's consideration and approval.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

This item was tabled as the final Minutes were not quite finished or provided to the board.

Appointments:

A- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Policy 23, Predation Management.

The committee will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said, well, there was a change. Member Curran said the policy has been simplified and removed repetitive language. The policy was most recently updated to reflect the changes from AB 70. The policy will now be considered for the 5th reading. Member Sibley said they addressed NRS 502.253A. They changed it from developing and implementing an annual program to lethal removal of predatory wildlife. Now, instead of spending several hundred thousand dollars surveying ravens and things like that, it now looks like this money is now going to be earmarked to remove these predators. I am very much for this. From what it reads, it was initially to develop and implement an annual program. That doesn't require results, it just says to come up with a plan. Now it states what it is for.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Policy 23 as presented.

Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups.

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 24 and may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy for a second reading.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes said Policy 23 was last reviewed at the May Commission Meeting. The policy has been simplified and removed repetitive language after many Committee and Commission meetings. The policy was most recently updated to reflect the changes from Assembly Bill 70 of the 2023 Legislative Session. The policy will now be considered for a third reading.

Policy 24 was amended after the Commission decided to change the demand-success formula. The policy reflects those changes and will be considered for a first reading. The Commission may decide to make any other changes and advance the policy to a second reading.

Member Curran said I don't know what that will result in. Demand will be based on a 3-year moving average of all 5 hunt choices. That is quite a difference. I don't know what that will result in. There will be less muzzleloader tags and less archery. Member Sibley said I think it is based on demand. There are less people putting in for muzzleloader and archery, so are they going to do less tags. In some units, I am sure the ratio is probably worse for muzzleloader

versus any legal because there are so many tags in certain areas. It would take a lot to reach that ratio. For quota recommendations, demand will be based on the previous 3-year average for all choices, allocated separately by each big game species. Member Curran said it used to be just your first choice. Member Sibley said that is not First Come, First Served or alternate or anything like that. That is going to skew the whole average though. Like how can they just switch that right now if they are going to start basing demand on a 3-year average and they have not counted all choices up until now.

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission Policy 24 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C- Assembly Bill 70 - \$3 Predatory Fee, Data and Technology.

The Department will present the strategy for implementing the change in the Agenda Management System (AMS) to allow tag applicants to choose where they want their \$3 fee applied: wildlife management or lethal removal of predators.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: None; Informational Only

Member Sibley said it sounds like there are only 2 choices being wildlife management or lethal removal of predators. This item was presented for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

D- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas.

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas and may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy to a second reading.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said they added Pole Canyon. They have it underlined but it is in red. Is that an addition? Member Curran said I have no idea where it is. Member Sibley said they are talking about Pole Canyon. That is a new one. Member Curran said the Pole Canyon Conservation and Public Access Easements were executed in December 2022. It is a Cooperative Wildlife Management Area, which is a little different. Chairwoman Hughes said the Fort Churchill cooling ponds are a Cooperative Wildlife Management Area. Member Curran said that is already a cooperative one with the power company. This has to be with some private entity.

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve adding Pole Canyon Wildlife Management Area 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' Revised Agenda for August 11 and 12, 2023, which is attached as Exhibit "A".

Should the board want to discuss Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Revised Agenda for August 11 and 12, 2023, which is attached as Exhibit "A".

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: None; Informational Only

There was no further discussion of items on the state's Agenda.

Consider Future Agenda Items:

Member Sibley asked what needs to be done to move his request for salvaging wildlife forward. Members suggested that he contact all of the county advisory boards to ask if they would support such a request as he could be wasting his time if they are not supportive. It was agreed that Member Sibley write up a request letter and provide it at the next board meeting so that the board could take action on it and have the letter distributed.

Public Comment:

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

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Affidavit of Posting:

Approved: 
Peggy Hughes, Chair

Approved: 
Jim Curran, Vice-Chair

Approved: 
Jason Sibley, Member

Approved: 

Andrew Howells, Member

ATTEST:
Linda Rothery, Clerk/Treasurer



Renae Paholke, Deputy Clerk