

**DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**  
**Minutes of the August 8, 2023 Meeting**

The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting was scheduled for 5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, in the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig Burnside, Chairman  
Paul Howell, Vice Chairman  
Mike Porter  
Kevin Kjer

**MEMBER ABSENT:** JT Chevallier

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm and determined a quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The recording secretary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairman called the roll and noted the absence of Member Chevallier.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to approve the agenda as presented; carried with Chevallier absent.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **MAY 2, 2023**

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Howell abstaining and Chevallier absent.

- **JUNE 20, 2023**

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Porter to approve the minutes as presented; carried with Howell abstaining and Chevallier absent.

**1. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 23 & 24, 2023 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS.**

Member Porter attended and stated it was a very positive experience. He reported on:

- Outgoing Chairperson Tiffany East's contributions to the Commission during her tenure as chair and the celebration dinner provided to recognize her dedication and accomplishments during her term as the first female chair of the Commission.
- The reports provided by the litigation and legislative committees.
- The discussion on the 13 vacancies in the law enforcement division of the Nevada Department of Wildlife. A warden will be stationed in Minden/Gardnerville once he completes the field training requirement.
- Regarding the 2024 County Advisory Board (CAB) budget requests, it was pointed out that some CAB members do not request reimbursement for expenses when travelling to meetings.
- Clark County CAB member Paul Dixon expressed a desire to hold electronic meetings and would like to see funds made available to do so.
- White Pine County thanked the Commission for their efforts for projects being carried out in that county.
- During the Upland Bird Stamp discussion, a request was made for more information on the release of turkeys on private lands and guidance on how to get permission to hunt on those lands.
- Member Porter took part in the field tours and highlighted the efforts being made on the Cave Lake Dam reconstruction. He also drove the Success Loop Road.

**2. DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE MULE DEER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE.**

The group has not met but some members will be attending the Mule Deer Summit in Winnemucca in a few weeks; it will be interesting to hear the concerns and issues facing other states and how those are addressed.

**3. The following items, 3a through 3d, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meetings, August 11 & 12, 2023 at the Churchill Administrative Complex, Commissioner Chambers, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada. The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may take the following action, or a variation thereof, on each item: support the item, not support the item or not take a position on the item. Public Comment will be allowed on each item.**

**3a–3d. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:**

**3a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 3*)

No public comment.

The consensus was to take no action on this item.

**3b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE THIRD READING OF 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. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 19*)

Chairman Burnside pointed out new language in the policy that allows the applicant to direct where their \$3 fee is used by the Department.

The members stated that language is a result of the passage of Assembly Bill 70.

No public comment.

MOTION by Kjer/Howell to recommend the Commission support the third reading of Commission Policy 23 – Predation Management; carried with Chevallier absent.

**3c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE FIRST READING OF COMMISSION POLICY 24 – HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES.** The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups, may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy to a second reading. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 20*)

Vice Chairman Howell thought the new language better clarified the policy.

Member Kjer emphasized the change to having demand based on a 3-year average of all 5 hunt choices. This will even out the numbers a little more.

Vice Chairman Howell feels this change will encompass more of what hunters do.

No public comment.

MOTION by Howell/Porter to recommend the Commission support the first reading of Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities; carried with Chevallier absent.

**3d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON ASSEMBLY BILL 70 - \$3 PREDATORY FEE.** The Department's will present the strategy for implementing the change in the Agency Management System (AMS) to allow tag applicants to choose where they want their \$3 fee applied: wildlife management or lethal removal of predators. (*Wildlife Commission Agenda Item 21*)

No support material was provided possibly due to the change in the Commission agenda after the posting of this agenda.

No public comment.

No action was taken on this item.

**4. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.**

Chairman Burnside received an email from Thomas Smith, Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife, on concerns with the Winecup Gamble Land Exchange. The ratio of exchange of public to private land; areas of proposed private acquisition; the possible closures to public access; the potential award of the majority of the landowner elk tags to a private hunting reserve; privatization of the land adjacent to a future electric transmission intertie would allow the development of energy projects while sidestepping necessary governmental reviews and public comment; and there is not sufficient data to base complete analysis were some of the concerns raised in the correspondence.

**5. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO ATTEND UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS AND TO REPRESENT THE FINDINGS OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD. ONE MEMBER WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD.**

Chairman Burnside will attend the Fallon meetings.

**6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.** The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 22 and 23, 2023 in Las Vegas, NV. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date, time, and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

**7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

- Report on Mule Deer Summit

**CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT.**

There was no closing public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to come before the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, the meeting adjourned at 5:42 pm.

The minutes of the August 8, 2023 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

Respectfully submitted:

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Craig Burnside, Chairman

