

Minutes of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Meeting-Draft Minutes
October 30, 2023 EOC Building, 205 South "A" St, Hawthorne, NV-Training Room

Present: Glenn Bunch, Chairman,

Members Present: Wayne Larson,
Johnny Peterson
John Lockwood

Also Present: Marlene Bunch – Adm Assist.

Absent: Darren Hamrey

Meeting Called to order by Chairman Glenn Bunch at 6:03 PM

- 1*** **FY 2024 and 2025 Biennial Big Game Release Plan** –The Board will review and may make recommendations to the Commission relative to the Game Division as they will provide a summary of proposed big game releases intended to take place during State Fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Chairman Bunch reported that he looked it up and the transplanted is north Hwy 50. He stated that he is surprised about that is that it is one of the areas that is one of the areas of the expansion of the range. North of Hwy 50.

Johnny Peterson recommended to agree with the plan as presented. Consensus of the Board to agree.

- 2** **Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities** – The Board will review and may make recommendations to the Commission relative to their decision Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups Second Reading –The TAAHC Committee reviewed Commission Policy 24, made changes, and sent it back to the Commission. The Commission may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Chairman Bunch reported, the recommendation as follows:

When given the option, hunters overwhelmingly choose any legal weapon hunts on their big game application. However, hunters generally experience higher success rates during any legal weapon season than other weapon groups (i.e., muzzleloader, archery). Higher success rates yield fewer tags when expanding desired harvest to tag quotas. The Commission has adopted a Fixed Allocation-Tag Success formula for determining tag quotas. In most cases, this will result in the redistribution of desired harvest from any legal weapon to primitive weapon groups, yielding a greater number of tags available for primitive weapon hunts.

Chairman Bunch reiterated fixed allocation in the deer, what they are recommending the standard hunt is 57%, Archery is 10%, Muzzleloader 8%

With Elk, is 75%, Archery is 15%, Muzzleloader is 10%

Antelope, the archery is 10% and Muzzleloader is 8%

Chairman Bunch would like to recommend 15% for both archery and Muzzleloader seasons

le: this year in our area we had 49 tags and 49 with the 8% put us at 3 tags for Archery. 49 with 10% is 5 tags. But it would be nice to give archery and muzzleloader each 15%

Wayne Larson stated that he never understands in the area that they hunt, they put out 300 rifle tags. They put out 125 archery tags and it covers from Eureka to Elko. That is a big area. You go over to the Ely area, they turn loose 125 tags and 25 tags for archery.

After further discussion it was moved by Wayne Larson, seconded by Johnny Person to request a 15% allocation for archery and 15% allocation for Muzzleloader tags. Motion Carried.

- 3. Bighorn Sheep Ram Specialty Tag Regulation Review** – The Board may will review and may make recommendations to the Commission as they will review bighorn ram specialty tag seasons and unit closures and may decide to make changes to the method used to limit the maximum number of specialty tags for every unit group that has an open season. The Commission Regulations presented at the January 2023 Commission Meeting have not provided the expected results and the Department is seeking an improved method for limiting the number of rams that can be harvested from bighorn ram hunt units or unit groups by specialty tagholders.

Chairman Bunch made note that support material was not provided for this agenda item on the Commission Agenda. Therefore, there is not much we can do with it because we do not have information to discuss.

- 4. Review the remainder of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner's Meeting Agenda for November 3-4, 2023:** The Board may discuss the remainder of the Commission's Agenda.

No further items were discussed.

5. Public Comment

Johnny Peterson wanted to put into the records that when he and Wayne were hunting antelope over in the Garfield flat area ran into 20 to 25 Sagehen. He further stated that he had never seen them over in that area before in his lifetime. He further stated that they were both class 2 and 3 birds. They both saw them.

Chairman Bunch stated that he has seen Sagehen in places where he had never seen them before too. They were in the big nob area above Aurora. They weren't down in the flats where areas were cleared out for them.

Johnny Peterson also noted that inside the fenced area of the base there was a herd of antelope.

John Lockwood stated that north of the reservoir up by Schurz there are 2 herds of around 60 head.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.