

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife –  
August 12, 2024 minutes

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** [Non-action item]
2. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** [Non-action item]

*Members in Attendance*

1. Coby Rowe, Chairman
2. Ryan Browne, Vice Chairman
3. Steve Robinson

*Members Absent*

1. Matt Melarkey
2. Jim Rhea

*Others in Attendance*

1. Mel Belding
2. Wes Coons, NDOW

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**-[Non-action item]

There was no public comment.

4. **Approval of June 24th, 2024 minutes**-[For possible action]

**Vice Chair Browne motioned for approval of the June 24, 2024 CAB minutes. Member Robinson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

5. **BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT**-[Non-action item]

Chair Rowe asked who would be able to attend the upcoming Commission meeting. Vice Chair Browne said he would be able to attend virtually.

6. **COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES**-[Non-action items]

Chair Rowe noted he had not received correspondence for items that would be heard on the agenda.

7. **Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years, Amendment #2 FOR POSSIBLE ACTION - FY2024 and FY2025** [For Possible Action]

Chair Rowe opened the item to possibly approve an amendment to the Department's biennial big game release plan for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 to add two release sites for California bighorn sheep. Member Robinson said he

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had spoken with John Ewanyk, NDOW, and he expressed support for the item. Member Robinson gave some additional details he had heard regarding the proposal but overall said he was in support. During public comment, Mel Belding, said the proposal sounded great. He said he would like to see additional study on why there have been some die-off's in recent years. He said he hopes there is additional protection for the entire range.

**Member Robinson moved to approve the Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 24 and 25, Amendment #2, as written. Vice Chair Browne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**8. Commission General Regulations – Workshop/Public- [For Possible Action]**

Chair Rowe opened the item to make a recommendation to the Commission regarding a workshop to consider amending Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would change Heritage Project Awards from one to two years with the possibility for extensions. There was no discussion from the CAB or public comment.

**Member Robinson moved to approve the workshop to consider amending NAC 501, as written. Chair Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**9. Commission General Regulations – Adoption/Public - Commission General Regulation 522 – eTag Regulations [For Possible Action]**

Chair Rowe opened the item to make a recommendation to the Commission regarding an adoption to amend Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would update the process related to use of game tags in the field and allow the Department to offer game tags in an electronic format. Member Robinson asked Wes Coons, NDOW Game Warden, about some of the specifics of the proposal with regard to law enforcement's perspective. Members of the CAB and Mr. Coons continued to discuss how the use of game tags in an electronic format may impact hunting in Nevada. Additionally, they also discussed how other states implement such technology.

Vice Chair Browne said he did have some concerns with how the item was proposed. He said he believed there would be a better way to implement the proposal than what was being contemplated by the Commission. Chair Rowe asked if this was being used in other states, then Nevada should reach out to those states to get their feedback on what works well and what doesn't. Member Robinson and Vice Chair Browne said they would not be able to support the proposal as it what currently written.

There was no public comment. Chair Rowe said he had questions about the process as well and he had concerns about sportsman abusing the process.

**Chair Rowe moved to oppose Commission General Regulation 522 as**

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**written and to send back to the Committee to eliminate the durable material requirement and to also address the access to validation numbers for taxidermists and processors. Vice Chair Browne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**10. Future Meeting Agenda Items – Informational only- Public Comment Allowed**

Chair Rowe said the next meeting will be the CAB elections. During public comment Mr. Belding said he would like to see a presentation regarding wild horses in Nevada.

**11. Public Comment [Non-action item]**

There was no public comment.

**12. Adjournment [Non-action item]**

Chair Rowe adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.