

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife –
June 20, 2023 minutes

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

Members in Attendance

1. Matt Melarkey, Chair
2. Coby Rowe, Vice Chairman
3. Steve Robinson
4. Jim Rhea
5. Ryan Browne

Others in Attendance

1. Travis Hawks, NDOW
2. Cooper Munson – NDOW
3. Sean Espinosa, NDOW

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

There was no public comment.

4. **Approval May 1, 2023 minutes**-[For possible action]

Vice Chair Rowe motioned for approval of the May 1, 2023 CAB minutes. Member Rhea seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Approval of June 20, 2023 Agenda**-[For possible action]

Vice Chair Rowe motioned for approval June 20, 2023 meeting agenda. Member Rhea. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chair Melarkey asked who would be able to attend the Commission meeting in Ely. Board members noted they would be unable to attend in-person and also noted there was no Zoom option.

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

Member Robinson said highlighted the upcoming the mule deer enhancement meeting. He also announced the passing of Rex Flowers and noted that Mr. Flowers was a vital asses to sportsman of Nevada. Member Robinson also gave an overview of the May Commission meeting. Member Robinson also updated the board on the Mule Deer

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Enhancement team and some of the projects that were being contemplated. He said the process for implementing the projects had been slow and that he and Chair Melarkey both hoped to see progress made in the coming months. Chair Melarkey said the team needed to continue to be more diligent each year to get projects approved so they could be implemented in a reasonable timeline.

8. FISHERIES INFORMATIONAL UPDATE – TRAVIS HAWKS – NDOW

Travis Hawks gave an update to the board on fisheries in the region and to also give the board an update on potential new regulation approvals. He said some possession limits will be changed for all waters. He said possessions will not supersede the daily limit though. He also updated the board on new urban ponds in Douglas County and Spanish Springs. He also said they were eliminating the seasons in the northern Washoe and Humboldt County waters. Mr. Hawks also provided an update about the boating use at Tahoe boat ramps and the navigation of funding, and the approval seals the Tahoe Regional Planning Authority must provide for boats. He also provided updates on various waterways in the region.

9. CONSENT ITEMS — [For Possible Action]

- a. **Fiscal Year 2024 County Advisory Board Budget Requests**
- b. **Heritage Funding Reallocation**
- c. **Fiscal Year 2024 Heritage Project Proposals**
- d. **Biennial Small Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025**
- e. **Duck Stamp Request**
- f. **Upland Game Bird Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis**

Member Robinson asked about the protection of sage hens in all of the projects. Sean Espinosa, NDOW said it was an internal check for the Department. He said it was also for updating the west's database on the species. Chair Melarkey asked if any board members would like to remove any items from the consent agenda. No board members requested any items be removed. There was no public comment.

Member Rhea moved to accept and approve the consent agenda items as written. Chair Melarkey seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Consent Calendar items pulled for further discussion– [For Possible

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Action]

No action was taken.

11. Commission Regulation 22-12 Amendment #1, 2022-2023 Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Bag Limits– [For Possible Action]

Chair Melarkey opened the item to amend regulations for upland game birds and mammals as well as furbearers for the 2023 season. Sean Espinosa updated the board on the changes and some of the alterations for turkey and sage grouse. On sage grouse, the Department decided to open hunt unit 015, reopening 075, opening 172 and 173, and closing area 16. There were also some modifications to the bobcats pelt sealing dates. There was no additional board discussion or public comment.

Chair Melarkey moved approve Commission Regulation 22-12 Amendment #1, 2022-2023 Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Bag Limits as written. Vice Chair Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Commission Regulation 23-10, Amendment #1, 2024 Heritage Tag Vendors – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes and Management Analyst Megan Manfredi– [For Possible Action]

Chair Melarkey opened the item to review the Wildlife Heritage Committee’s recommendations regarding Heritage Tag Vendor Proposals for 2024. There was no board discussion or public comment.

Vice Chair Rowe moved to approve Commission Regulation 23-10, Amendment #1, 2024 Heritage Tag Vendors as written. Member Browne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chair Melarkey said he would be reaching out for a drone presentation and a presentation on collar data. Member Robinson asked the game warden about the scope on crossbows and the interpretation of the law. The game warden said law enforcement would not be able to enforce the law until it was rewritten. Chair Melarkey also commented on the timeliness of the supporting materials for the CAB board and said he hoped the process could be improved upon

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which would allow for a more thorough review of the materials by the board.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

There was no public comment.

15. ADJOURNMENT [Non-action item]

Chair Melarkey adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.