

**THE WHITE PINE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE
WILDLIFE MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON
JUNE 20, 2023 AT 6:00 PM AT THE WHITE PINE COUNTY LIBRARY**

Present:

Mitchell McVicars (Board Chairman)

Ray Sawyer

Jake Rosevear (Via phone call)

Kayla Couch (Board Secretary)

Absent:

Adam Ruesch

Steve Marquez (Board Vice Chairman)

Visitors:

Kody Menghini (NDOW)

Trevor Marques

Called to order:

Board Chairman McVicars called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment Period: No public comment.

***Approval of Agenda:**

Chairman McVicars called for a motion to approve the agenda for the June 20, 2023 meeting.

A motion to approve the agenda for June 20, 2023 meeting was made by Board member Sawyer. The Motion was seconded by Board member Rosevear and the motion carried with no opposition.

***Approval of minutes:**

Board reviewed the May 1, 2023 special meeting minutes for approval.

Board Chairman entertained a motion.

A motion to approve the minutes for the May 1, 2023 special meeting, was made by Board member Sawyer seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***Payment of Bills:**

The Board was presented a bill for Kayla Couch, for secretary services for the June 20, 2023 meeting in the amount of \$150.00.

Board Chairman entertained a motion.

A motion to approve the payment of bills to Kayla Couch in the amount of \$150.00 was made by Board member Sawyer, seconded by board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

***Correspondence:** Chairman McVicars reported that Chairman Tom Caviglia of the State Commission had sent a text with an update on the status of the youth transfer of tags. Caviglia's update stated that the bill was passed through legislature and sitting on the governor's desk to be signed. Chairman McVicars also reported that Shane Borne asked for a letter of support to run for commissioner. Board member Sawyer announced that he would like to send his condolences to Curt Baughman's family for their loss.

***Reports:**

Cave Lake Project-Kody Menghini (NDOW) reported that the dam is getting smaller, and the lake is filling. Menghini stated that there will be a fish salvage held on June 21, 2023.

Chairman McVicars reported that he would like to suggest extending the concrete and that the Comins lake project is near complete with a few items including electrical to finish.

Commission Agenda items:

6B.* Litigation Report- Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett- Informational.

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

6C* Legislative Committee Report- Committee Chairwoman Tiffany East- Informational.

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

6D.* Resident and Non-resident Landowner Wild Turkey Hunts – Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa – Informational

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

7B.* Fiscal Year 2024 County Advisory Board Budget Requests – Committee Chairman Shane Rogers – For Possible Action.

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

8B.* Heritage Project Extension Requests – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes.

Board discussion: Menghini reported that there will be a restoration of aspen trees located in various areas of the county, such as the Snake range, and Weaver Creek, along with hand cutting continuing and the maintaining of Majors to Cooper Canyon. Smith Valley habitat restoration includes acres of maintaining erosion repairs.

Public comment: None.

8C.* Heritage Funding Reallocation – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes.

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

8D.* Fiscal Year 2024 Heritage Project Proposals – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes.

Board discussion: Menghini reported that springs restoration project near Weaver Creek have roughly 3,000-5,000 acres of hand cutting and de-mastication. The Steptoe Valley project pertains to a well that will be put in to supplement the filling of Cave Lake. Menghini stated that habitat restoration funds will mainly be put toward the properties that have been purchased near Blue Diamond and Success Loop, for fencing and rehabilitation and the collaring project in area 13. Chairman McVicars asked if the recreational areas, such as the camp sites at on Success, would still be accessible to the public. Menghini stated that it is still to be determined and that the department is still working through titling issues for some properties. Trevor Marques asked if the land purchased will be public or private. Menghini stated that it would be under the public land division. Chairman McVicars mentioned poor fencing in the Sage Hen area. Menghini reported that he has intentions to reach out to the landowner for repairs or demolition.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support Fiscal Year 2024 Heritage Project Proposals as written, was made by Board member Sawyer, seconded by board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

16.* Biennial Small Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 – Eastern Region Game Division Biologist Matt Jeffress.

Board discussion: Board member Sawyer asked what the difference is between the Merriam and the Rio Grande was. Menghini responded that the Merriam breed of turkeys seems to do better in this climate than Rio Grande.

Public comment: Trevor Marques mentioned predator control in the park area.

A motion to support Biennial Small Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025, was made by Board member Sawyer, seconded by board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

17.* Duck Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis.

Board discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support the Duck Stamp Request, was made by Board member Sawyer, seconded by board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

18.* Upland Game Bird Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis

Board discussion: Menghini clarified that the funding would go towards weed control in White Pine County.

Public comment: None

19A.* Commission Regulation 22-12 Amendment #1, 2022-2023 Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Bag Limits – Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa.

Board discussion: Menghini reported that they are opening areas in Washoe, Nye and Elko counties, for sage grouse.

Public comment: None.

A motion to support the Duck Stamp Request, was made by Board member Sawyer, seconded by board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

Next Commission meeting scheduled for June 23rd, and 24th, 2023 the location of the meeting is subject to change due to direction of the Governor during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission may change the time and meeting location at this time. The Chairwoman 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.

Board discussed having the next advisory meeting on June 16th or 20th, 2023 at 6:00pm at the White Pine County Library.

A motion to support the attendance of the State Commission meeting that will be held on June 23rd and 24th at the Bristle Cone Convention Center by any White Pine County CAB members, who are available; as well as the approval for the next CAB meeting date of August 7th, 2023. was made by Board member Sawyer seconded by Board member Rosevear. The motion carried with no opposition.

Public comment: Trevor Marques stated that he would like to see the Governor's tag alternate units for elk as they do for sheep. Marques voiced, sportsmen that have waited years to become eligible in the draw to hunt a once in a lifetime bull, lose out on the opportunity when the same units are hunted during the Governor's hunt. Chairman McVicars agreed and stated that it should be rotated with all species. Kody Menghini encouraged the topic be brought to the Commission's attention at the next meeting.

Board Vice Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:53pm

A motion to adjourn the White Pine County Wildlife Advisory meeting on June 20, 2023 was made by Board member Rosevear, seconded by Board member Sawyer. The motion carried with no opposition.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53pm.