6:00 P.M. -- CALL TO ORDER
Ken Wellington

-- PLEDGE

-- ROLL CALL
Ken Wellington- Present
Craig Stevens- Present
Rod Mothershed- Present
Tom Barns- Present
Candido Mendive- Present

ELECTION of VICE CHAIR
Nomination and election of Vice Chair for the 2009/2010 Elko County
Wildlife Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife.

Rod made a motion to appoint Candido Mendive as vice chair for the
2009/2010 year, Tom 2nd, motion passed 3-0 with Candido abstaining from the
vote.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:
Pursuant to advice from the Nevada Attorney General’s Office, this time is devoted to
comments by Board Members for general information or update purposes. No action
may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter
itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified to be an
action item.

No Board comments

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:
Pursuant to N.R.S. 241.020, 2(c) (3), this time is devoted to comments by the general
public, if any, and discussion of those comments. No action may be taken upon a
matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been
specifically included on a successive agenda and identified to be an action item.
Pat Laughlin asked Board member Candido about his stance on predator control now that he was voted Vice Chair. Candido told Mr. Laughlin that he believed predator management should be used as a tool.

**ELKO COUNTY:**
Informational update and all other matters related, thereto.

County not present.

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST:**
Informational update and all other matters related, thereto.

Kari with NDOW advised that the department has been busy with rough grouse trapping and transplants. She also advised that the US93 wildlife overpass would not be completed this fall. She advised that the fencing posts are in and that they believe the project would be completed this coming spring.

**Approval of Minutes--**
The ECABMW will review and approve previous meeting minutes from June 24, 2009 and August 12 the 2009.

Candido made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2009 meeting, with Rod moving to 2nd. Motion passed 3-0 with Ken abstaining because he was not present at that meeting.

Tom made a motion to approve the minute from the August 12, 2009 meeting, with Rod moving to 2nd. Motion passed 3-0 with Craig abstaining because he was not at that meeting.

**U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Travel Management Plan –**
Discussion and informational update concerning the U.S. Forest Service development of the Northeastern Nevada Travel Management Plan.

No information or update at this time.

**Wells Elk Resource Plan --**
Update of sub-committee meetings and information.

Ken advised that the sub committee had not met since the last meeting and that the planned tour of area had to be cancelled due to Commissioner Myers family member being ill.

Ken also handed out a draft letter that he and the committee will send out in an attempt to seek more input from Ranchers affected. Ken also said that the letter might be better served coming from County Commissioner Myers.

**Potential Conversion of the Wine Cup Ranch to Wild Horse Refuge**
Discussion and informational update concerning the U.S. Forest Service development of the Northeastern Nevada Travel Management Plan.
Ken updated the Board on action taken by Elko County Commission and future meetings with Wine Cup Ranching and County Commission on October 8, 2009.

George Corner speaking on behalf of himself wanted to see the public land freed up by the Ranch. A comment was made about the area has close to if not over 900,000 acres with the Ranch owning approximately 230,000 of the acres and the remaining being public land.

Pat advised that the Florida developer has the money to fight for the project.

**Unit Specific Mountain Lion Hunts-**
The Elko County Advisory Board will have discussion and possible action concerning Unit Specific Lion Hunts.

Ken advised that this item was placed on the agenda by request from sportsmen seeking a better way to manage mountain lions. Ken advised that he had asked NDOW biologist Kevin Lansford to attend the meeting via telephonic to seek advice and participation.

Ken said that he wanted to hear both pros and cons as to unit specific lion hunts. Ken asked Lansford for the background of why the hunt was changed from unit specific to begin with. Kevin said that this was done prior to his arrival and was done at the request of the sportsmen.

Ken opened the discussion with input from the public. Biologist explained that 75% of the lions presently killed are during the months of December and January. Approximately 22 to 25% were killed in February and March.

31% are taken during guided hunts. In some ranges the lion’s diet consists of wild horses and in others deer, sheep and other small game.

Some concerns expressed were how to monitor lions killed without going over unit quotas. Lions pursued across unit boundaries. Anti hunting groups getting involved. Sportsmen not telling the truth about area of kills. Sportsmen would need an avenue for NDOW to let them know where lion problems are. Issues concerning recent law suit in Wyoming concerning wolves. Other issues discussed included better quality lion hunts; the unit specific lion hunts would disburse more hunters into other areas as quotas are filled.

The Board all discussed not going backwards, but trying to create a better system than present and past.

Ken asked if the Board would approve a sub-committee to look into options and report back to the Board.

Ken asked if Craig and Candido from the Board would participate, Kevin Lansford, Russ our local Biologist, Pat Laughlin, Mike Martindale and Paul Downs.
All agreed and Tom made a motion to move forward with committee and Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

**Commission General Regulation Number 368**
The Commission may establish provisions pertaining to the electronic access to the 48 hour release of draw results.

Craig moved to support the department’s recommendations with Candido seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Commission General Regulation Number 369**
The Commission may establish provisions pertaining to defining edible portions in the case of big game mammal, other tame mammals, game birds and game fish.

Craig moved to support the department’s recommendations with a recommendation that the Commission clarify the neck meat portion. Candido seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Commission General Regulation Number 371**
The proposed regulation would remove an artificial lure only regulation for Crittenden Reservoir, limit method of take at Smith Creek Reservoir to only artificial lures with single barbless hooks and limit method of take at Dacey Reservoir to artificial lures only.

Candido moved to support the department’s recommendations with Rod seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Input Concerning Methods of Restoring Nevada’s Mule Deer Population**
The State Board of Wildlife Commissioners will be asking County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife’s and the public are requested to provide written recommendations for specific suggestions and actions that may be taken within their respective counties to enhance mule deer populations.

Input from public present was, use NDOW Biologist input, as this is who we pay for expertise concerning mule deer.

Look to make Hound Hunter Permit required has no policy or procedure in place for lion hunters.

Wild mustangs are affecting mule deer habitat.

More coyote projects in Ruby Mt.’s, specifically the high elevation dens.

Create a County sub committee to seek further input and evaluation.

Board recommendations/Suggestions were, predators being major concern in Ruby Mt.’s. The Board wanted to see a possible predator project in conjunction with large doe quota in Ruby Mt.’s.

The burn areas around Harrison Pass are not coming back properly. Feel like we should put more fuel reducers and/or green belts in around Ruby Mt. area.
Use of satellite collars for additional studies on deer habitat and fawning areas.

Craig asked if Ken could request a timeline from the commission and that possibly we could create another subcommittee to look into more suggestions.

**Translocation of Desert Bighorn to Utah Division of Wildlife Resources** –
Utah Division of Natural Resources is requesting translocation of 20 desert bighorn sheep from Nevada to Utah during fall/winter field operations in FY 2010.

Rod moved to support the department’s recommendations with Craig seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Commission Regulation Fishing Seasons and Bag Limits 09 – 09 –**

The Commission will establish fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, for the period of March 1, 2010, to February 29, 2012. Note: Please see Department publication entitled, “Recommendations for Fishing Seasons and Regulations.”

Craig moved to support the department’s recommendations with Rod seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Bill Kruger wanted to thank our Board for standing by the departments recommendations and wanted to know who from our Board would be at the Vegas meeting. Ken advised he was going and Mr. Kruger asked that Ken make sure no last minutes changes get passed through as in years prior.

**Commission Policy #1 –**
Discussion and possible action concerning petition for amendment to Commission Policy #1, Procedures, Regulations and Policy.

Ken explained that it was he who placed this item on the agenda after an incident occurred at the last Elko Commission meeting here in Elko.

Ken advised that this was not because of the last minute agenda change that wouldn’t look at public comment but because of an issue involving the Commission Policy 1 changes. Ken explained that during the discussions of Policy 1 at the State meeting, every County Advisory Board present asked that the new changes made that day be sent back to the Advisory Boards for review. Ken advised that the new Commissioner Capuro made a statement as to how many times do they have to hear this item. Ken felt this was very strange and suspicious due to Capuro never hearing it before.

Ken advised that 17 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) were created by the Nevada State Legislature to increase public input at the grassroots level concerning wildlife management, rules, and regulations. Each CABMW is made up Nevada citizens who represent agriculture, sportsmen, non-consumptive wildlife, locally elected public officials, federal land agencies, Native American groups and public at large (including business).
The CABMW consider input from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, including recommendations, biological data and information regarding the effects of wildlife. They also gather information from staff, the public and government agencies and make recommendations to the Wildlife Board in an advisory capacity. CAB chairs and Board members attend the Nevada Wildlife Commission meetings and present their County’s Advisory Board recommendations.

Ken said he was seeking suggestions from our Board, the public and other County Advisory Boards.

Ken suggested that one way to get our voices heard would be a change or amend Commission Policy 1. Ken suggested possible language like:

“Nevada State Wildlife Commissioners are required to consider County Advisory Board input and must respond in writing or verbally with an explanation, when they do not adopt a majority CABMW recommendation. Each Commissioner voting against the majority CABMW input must provide in writing or verbally for the record an explanation as to the opposing vote.”

Craig said that he opposed this option as it would be just like the micro managing we have opposed by the Commission over the Department.

Rod disagreed and would support such a change especially following the last Commission meeting in Elko.

Tom felt that we should not have to tell them what to do. Tom felt that the Commission needed to consider our input without telling them they have to listen.

Candido would support a Commission Policy manual advising the Commissioners on Rules and Regulations. Candido stated that we the County Boards have a manual to follow and so should they.

MEETING CALENDAR:
The next State Wildlife Commission meeting is scheduled for September 25th and 26th in Las Vegas. For the Set /Set/Revise Fishing Regulations. The following State meeting is in Reno on December 4th and 5th, 2009 to discuss Policy, Regulations, and Program Reports.

Elko County Wildlife Board’s future meeting date will be December 2, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

Tom moved to adjourn and Candido seconded the motion.