



EL DORADO COUNTY

Fish & Game Commission

Larry Nelson - At Large
Grady Garlough - At Large
Dennis Byrne - Dist I
Mike Denega - Dist II
Kurt Mikkola - Dist III
Pat Weddle - Dist IV
Victor Babbitt - District V

Minutes

April 27, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

330 Fair Lane - Conference room A
Placerville CA

1. Call To Order by Commissioner Nelson a 7:09pm
 - 1) Roll Call – Nelson, Denega, Byrne, Mikkola
 - 2) Shelly Blair DFW Environmental Scientist, Kathy Jermstad USFS
2. Adoption of Minutes of 3/30/16 and Agenda for 4/27/16
 - 1) Nelson adopted the meeting minutes and agenda as written.
3. Public Comment
 - 1) Kathy Jermstad mentioned the upcoming Reno Wildlife Society conference.
 - 2) Denega summarized the recent River/Stream Public Access Issue meeting and some discussion ensued. Agreement was made to craft an advisory letter to the BOS to inform them of the issues along with this Commission's recommendation for remediation.
4. Biologists and Warden Reports –
 - 1) Shelly Blair shared FW staffing changes due to promotions and other various other reasons.
 - 2) Shelly shared her interests in the wildlife connectivity issues and Kathy shared similar interests
 - 3) Shelly updated us on her deer study and has had yet another deer show signs of death and she will investigate.
 - 4) Shelly spoke about a DNA study being put together by her unit's biologists.
5. BOS communication
 - 1) Denega shared an email that Commissioner Weddle sent with some updates and comments which included Patrick's desire to look into how this commission can get support to have DFW change the take limit. Multiple reasons were brought up including lack of available fish plus currant take levels equal's poor fisheries.
 - 2) A question was posed and debated on how we can help our local game wardens in the ongoing pursuit to protect our County's natural resources.
 - 3) Denega shared a summary of Patrick's recent meeting with Supervisor Ranalli.
 - 4) Web site updates were discussed including photos to be added to the derby links. Next derby we should look into permission forms to allow us to post photos of the happy kids fishing.
6. Finance Report
 - 1) Mikkola reviewed the bottom lines of the accounts and recent activities including a claim voucher for Lumsden Fish, potential funds to deposit from a donation from the Rotary, and other upcoming expected activity.
7. Auburn SRA Management plan
 - 1) Nelson discussed the plan and mentioned the commentary term is open and can be viewed on line.

8. Fishing Derbies

- 1) Mikkola passed around a couple of thank you letters from the City of Placerville for our support of the Lumsden Pond Kid's fishing derby. Byrne asked to share the letters with our BOS.
- 2) Mikkola shared communications about the upcoming Lake Walton Kid's Fishing Derby scheduled for 6/4/16. Mikkola was tasked with reaching out to Jane VanCamp with DFW to see if she would be interested in joining us at the Walton Derby.
- 3) Nelson mentioned the date of the upcoming Sawmill Pond Kid's Fishing Derby is scheduled for 6/11/16.
- 4) Denega discussed the possibility of a future derby to be held at Finnon Lake.

9. Tahoe Area

- 1) No updates and due to time constraints this topic was tabled.

10. County fishing access

- 1) Denega had already shared comments earlier under the public comments regarding illegal fencing issues that deny public access to public waterways.
- 2) Denega shared a plan that will create an ongoing fish derby at Finnon Lake.

11. Central Sierra Assoc. of Fish & Game Commissioners

- 1) Commissioner Byrne has spoken with John Turner and recent lack of interest points to the demise of this association of Commissioners.
- 2) Denega suggested an alternate approach and Dennis agreed to discuss it with John in his next discussion scheduled soon and will report back.

12. Legislative Report

- 1) Mikkola summarized a few legislative reports passed on by Supervisor Veerkamp.
- 2) Nelson discussed position vacancies and appointments to some open positions.

13. Commissioner Reports

- 1) Byrne summarized his discussions regarding our budget proposal and expects an update in 4 – 6 weeks. Dennis also gave details regarding his findings with the Dist I beaver issue.
- 2) Denega shared a recent fishing surprise he encountered while fishing at the Wakamatsu Pond. Fish have seemingly survived the drought.
- 3) Mikkola shared local lake levels.
- 4) Nelson talked about his upcoming hunter's education class in Cameron Park and some of his activities on the State Big Game Budget Advisory Committee including reviewing grant proposals.

14. Next meeting – May 25, 2016, 7:00 PM, USFS/Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, 35 College Dr., South Lake Tahoe, 96150

15. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.