



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

June 29, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

330 Fair Lane - Conference room A
Placerville CA

1. Call To Order by Commissioner Nelson at 7:01pm
 - 1) Roll Call – Nelson, Denega, Byrne, Weddle, Garlough, Mikkola
 - 2) Patrol Captain Mark Jeter CDFW, Lieutenant Stacey LaFave CDFW, Butte County DA Environmental Investigator Hal Thomas, Bruce Shepherd interested citizen
2. Adoption of Minutes of 5/25/16 and Agenda for 6/29/16 approved unanimously
3. Public Comment – There were no public comments.
4. F&G violations and related problems –
 - 1) Commissioner Weddle introduced Butte County's DA Environmental Investigator Hal Thomas who began his presentation with explaining some F&G codes. Mr. Thomas described the problems this County, as well as many others, and the Wardens face with respect to how prosecution of our wildlife and environmental crimes are handled. After describing the complex problems he offered up some sound advice as to how to resolve the problems our Warden and this County faces regarding successful criminal prosecution of fish and wildlife violations. The CDFW Captain and Lieutenant shared their recent experiences and other pertinent information. The discussion led to many ideas which will be put on the July meeting agenda for detailed strategic ideas on how we can help preserve our County's natural resources.
5. Biologists and Warden Reports – Commissioner Mikkola shared the latest Warden reports. Mikkola also shared Shelly Blair's email requesting interest and help in the deer study and collaring efforts.
6. BOS communication
 - 1) Commissioner Byrne announced the budget proposal that we submitted has been passed. Commissioner Weddle cautioned that his understanding from Supervisor Ranalli was that it hasn't been funded yet.
 - 2) Commissioner Denega summarized the progress resulting from the "Public Access" letter sent to the BOS and to Code Enforcement. The County DOT is the entity responding back to the questions posed and as of yet no official word has been given.
 - 3) Denega reported on the warm water fisheries project and electroshocking of Bass Lake with CDFW fishery biologist Mitch Lockhart and others. It is likely that the DNA study of Bass Lake and Finnon Lake will be conducted at the same time.
7. Finance Report
 - 1) Mikkola reviewed the bottom lines of the accounts and recent email communications with our contact with the Auditor-Controller's Office. Reviewed the recent claims and deposits.
8. Auburn SRA Management plan
 - 1) Commissioner Garlough summarized some aspects of the Auburn SRA. Not much

is happening yet but some comments were made.

9. Alder Creek Project –

- 1) Commissioner Weddle opened up discussion about the Alder Creek Project. Mikkola commented it was just in the concept phase. Reportedly a 90 million dollar cost to construct. Weddle and Denega summarized their recollections of the public workshop to launch a cohesive strategy of the South Fork American River.

10. Fishing Derbies

- 1) Mikkola and Byrne shared their experience with the recent Lake Walton Kid's Fishing Derby. A good time was had by all. Pictures can be found on the web site.
- 2) Denega attended the Sawmill Pond Kid's Fishing Derby and said there was a good time being had by all also. Lt. LaFave mentioned he saw some enormous Lahontan cut throats being planted into the pond recently. Photos of the derby on the web site.
- 3) Denega discussed the possibility of a future derby to be held at Finnon Lake in late fall.

11. Tahoe Area

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

12. Central Sierra Assoc. of Fish & Game Commissioners

- 1) No report at this time due to time constraints.

13. Legislative Report

- 1) Nelson reported two new commissioners were appointed and also discussed the upcoming State Fish and Game Commission meeting to be held in Lake Natomas to be held in August.

14. Commissioner Reports

- 1) Mikkola discussed what we need to come together on with regards to holding a Fish and Game Commission Logo contest. He will coordinate with Lori Veerkamp to get ideas and help. New logo with a slogan designed by students.
- 2) Weddle discussed how we can create a committee to strategize on how to initiate a change in regulations for the F&G Commission. He passed out literature and we discussed the topic.

15. Next meeting – July 27, 2016, 7:00 PM, 330 Fair Lane Conference Room A, Placerville

16. Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.