



EL DORADO COUNTY

Fish & Wildlife Commission

Mike Denega-At Large
Stephen Horan-At Large
Dennis Byrne-Dist I
Eric Harnage sec/ tres- Dist II
Kathleen Jermstad VC -Dist III
Pat Weddle, Chair – Dist IV
Victor Babbitt – Dist V

MEETING MINUTES

March 31, 2021

ZOOM Meeting 6:00-8:00 pm

1. Call to Order & Roll Call – Chairman Weddle called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. This meeting was conducted by video conference due to COVID-19. Present were Denega, Weddle, Horan, Byrne, Harnage, Jermstad and Babbitt.
2. Adoption of Minutes of 2/24/21 and Agenda for 3/31/21– Both the Agenda and the minutes were approved.
3. Dignitaries present were CDFW Biologist Blair and Larry Nelson.
4. Public Comment – None
5. CDFW Biologists and CDFW Warden reports -
 - a. Biologist- Shelly Blair presented information regarding the information that the media was putting out on the bear encephalitis to make sure we were aware. She said that they did have the Kanaka Valley Turkey Hunt and there were some issues with unauthorized hunters on the property. These persons were spoken to and placing signage was suggested to help alleviate these issues. After discussion of signage, Shelly will reach out to obtain further information from BLM.
 - b. Warden – Lt. Bob Pera provided an email update to commissioners in his absence.
6. Finance Report-
\$21,805 in General Assets
7. Lumsden Park Fishing Derby-
The commission approved the sponsorship. Amount \$3011.15
8. Walton Lake Sponsorship-
Commissioner Harnage had been in contact Jen House. She was going to be contacting the owners of Lake Walton to see if they would be having the derby. As of this meeting she had not contacted commissioner Harnage. This will be placed on April's agenda.
9. Turkey Decoy Replacement for CDFW-
The commission approved purchase of the Turkey Decoy Amount \$1900.00
(Not to Exceed one thousand nine hundred dollars)
10. Serrano Lake Grant Writing Fund and Serrano Lake Sponsorship-
 - A. Commissioner Byrne requested \$2000 dollars funded for a grant writer for the purposes of eliminating nonnative plant life in Serrano Lake.
This request was approved by the commission. Amount \$2000.00
(Not to Exceed two thousand dollars)
 - B. Serrano Lake Sponsorship.
The commission approved the sponsorship. Amount \$1000.00

11. Signage for Tahoe Basin and Caples Creek-

Commissioner Babbitt requested signage for the Tahoe basin and Caples Creek areas due to the recent change in law. Commissioner Babbitt requested one thousand five hundred dollars for the signage.

The Commission approved the request.

Amount \$1500.00

12. Commission Reports –

At Large- Mike Denaga

Bass Lake is fully open to the public and they are currently developing a stewardship to have persons be available to answer questions about the lake, methodology, equipment, etc. Mike provided talking points and they are in the process of putting the package together. The lakes water level is at a safe level for fishing and a fishing report was not available.

Mike is meeting with the persons of Lake Wakamatsu Friday morning to look at the physical conditions for stocking the lake (Water levels, organisms for food). They will be stocking fewer fish but larger fish due to the fact that the smaller fish are not available now.

Mike also was concerned about the possibility of drought conditions and having sufficient water levels for stocking of fish in the future.

At Large- Steve Horan

Steve and Dennis have been working on the collection of fines from the courts. Susan Sandoval would be providing a breakdown of three large fines to give them a good sense of the case management breakdown. Steve explained that the big trophy fines may not yield a large collection due to the collection being a priority 3 collection (Priority 1 and 2 collections take precedent) and would depend upon the violators ability to pay. Steve reported that the case management system in use is accurate and has a good record of accounting. They will provide the breakdown of the trophy cases to the commission when received.

District 1- Dennis Byrne:

Dennis and Steve met with courts regarding the model (Collections and Fines) and they should be getting the information on the three cases by the end of the week.

Dennis stated that Erin Tognetti (DA's office) was leaving and that John Hidahl had prepared a letter of appreciation that would be delivered to Erin. Dennis stated that Erin was very helpful in dealing with issues of poaching.

District II-Eric Harnage

Eric provided information on use of a taser as a possible bear/animal deterrent and was seeking direction. Shelly would consider bringing this idea to a bear biologist in the Basin.

District III-Kathleen Jermstad

Kathie reported that she met with Shelly and visited Bass Lake. She additionally updated our website to include best fencing practices. Should persons have questions regarding fencing they may be directed to this site.

District IV-Pat Weddle

Pat advised the commission to sign up for the implicit bias training that the county has put out. He met and thanked Lori Parlin for her assistance with the courts and collection of fines. Pat learned that there is a study in progress for a water conservation study for the Alder Creek area. Pat will monitor that. Pat has been in contact with Matt Lishman regarding the Lumsden Fishing Derby and has more business with him this month. Pat will be working on the annual report to the BOS and will be asking for input from the commission before submitting the report.

District V-Victor Babbitt

Victor expressed concerns over keeping ongoing connections due to his departure in the future. He will look for someone as a replacement that hopefully lives in the Basin.

13. Next meeting – 04/28//2021 – 6 pm - Video Conference (Zoom)

14. Adjournment was at 8:00 pm

COUNTY POLICY COVID-19

The Chairman will be responsible for posting or verifying that the approved masking sign is conspicuously posted outside of the entrance of the meeting room. The chairman will make sure the maximum number of people in Conference Room A does not exceed 8 people per the posted signs. Seating is already established in the 15' X 25' conference room. The chairman will also enforce that all commission members wear face coverings consistent with CDPH guidelines without exception while;

- Interacting in-person with any member of the commission and/or public while performing any function relative to the commission's duties.*
- Working in any space visited by members of the public including our regularly scheduled conference room; regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time.*
- Working or walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities, and restrooms.*
- In the conference room or other enclosed area where other people are present regardless of physically distancing a minimum of 6 feet.*
- While outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance of 6 feet from other persons in not feasible.*