

Kern County Wildlife Resources Commission

Kern County Administrative Building
General Services
3rd Floor Multipurpose Room
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

April 12, 2017
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Kern County Wildlife Resources Commission met on Wednesday, April 12, 2017. Chairman Bakman presided.

Present: Dave Freeland, District I; Bob Bakman, District II; Dave McArthur, District III; Landon Peppel, District IV; William Cooper, District V; Fred Kinoshita, at Large; Jack Gotcher, at Large.

Advisors: Bret Haney, Kern County General Services

Others: There were 5 others present.

NOTE: Ba, Co, Fr, Ki, Mc, Go, and Pe are abbreviations for Commissioners Bakman, Cooper, Freeland, Kinoshita, McArthur, Gotcher, and Peppel. As an example, Fr-Ba denotes Commissioner Freeland made a motion and Commissioner Bakman seconded the motion.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Flag Salute

Commissioner Bakman led everyone in the flag salute.

2. Approval of the Minutes of January 11, 2017

Go-Mc motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2017; all ayes, motion carried.

3. Public Presentations

None

4. Correspondence – Receive and File

Go-Fr motion to receive and file all correspondence; all ayes, motion carried.

5. New Business

- a. The Commissioners welcomed Landon Peppel as the new Commissioner in the 4th District. He lives in Lebec and is the manager at the Wind Wolves. He is a hunting and fishing enthusiast.

6. Old Business

None

7. Advisory Report

Tim Holloway reported that work is starting on the Temblor guzzlers.

The new portion of the hatchery is coming along but there have been some issues due to the high water table and planning has been slow due to the lack of fish.

The Boat & RV show was held.

Volunteers are going to Fresno tomorrow for raptor training. They will be transporting them from Huntington Beach.

Ben Lewis reported that they inspected 30 guzzlers and did bird counts in the Temblors. They hired a scientific aide. The game bird season is looking good. They are looking for funding to do brood counts in the desert next month.

Bill Asserton reported that he talked to Vicki from DFW about the Mountain Lion program being on hold for now.

Bill also reported that John Ortega, who worked as the Manager of Special Services and Game Management on the Tejon Ranch for many years, passed away recently. Prior to working on the Tejon Ranch, he was with the Ventura Police Department for 25 years and later served as the Police Chief in Arvin. He was an amazing man.

8. Staff Report

The 2016 funds that were granted to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Mountain Lion study were declined by the agency. The project was postponed.

Our portion of the State revenue for grants this year is approximately \$3,000 due to the courts reducing sentences and fines. We should have the exact final dollar amount in July.

9. Commission Comments

Commissioner Freeland gave a report on the Lake Isabella Fish Derby. There is lots of water in the lake due to the winter rains. This year we had about 1,800 participants, in years past we have had a peak amount of 8,000. The longest trout caught this year was 30 3/8" long and the winner received \$2,000. Second place was 13 lbs., third place was 25

7/8" long. The weather was windy and stormy but it was still a great success.

Earth Day celebrations will take place on April 22nd at both Kernville Park and the Wind Wolves Preserve.

Commissioner Peppel reported that the State funded \$250,000 to study the habitat of the tri-colored blackbird. Also the State is looking at a research proposal to delineate the giant kangaroo rat range, which is about 4 miles from the Wind Wolves Preserve area.

Commissioner Bakman reported that the annual fishing derby was held at Brite Lake. The biggest fish was caught by a very young boy.

There have been no recent problems with wild pigs. The elk herds are doing well.

10. Date and Location of Next Meeting

July 12, 2017 – Location to be decided

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.