



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
Vacant – Dist V

MEETING MINUTES

September 29, 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 Jermstad, Horan, Byrne, and Harnage.
2. Adoption of Minutes of 9/29/21 and Agenda for 10/25/21– Both the Agenda and the minutes were approved.
3. Dignitaries present were CDFW Lt. Pera, CDFW Mitch Lockhart and Larry Nelson
4. Public Comment –Chairman Weddle read a letter from anonymous citizen regarding deer strikes on roadway in western part of county. Dennis to look at the area and bring suggestions back to the commission.
5. CDFW Biologists and CDFW Warden reports -
 - a. Biologist-Mitch reported multiple bear issues were occurring in the Tahoe basin. The wardens have been extremely busy with the Caldor Fire. Mitch emphasized the many challenges that faced their organization this past year. With personnel shortages, drought conditions and a major fire in our county impacted many areas of wildlife. Data will be slow to be collected to determine what this overall impact to fish and wildlife will be. Proactive measures are being put into place to plan/prepare for the upcoming year.
 - b. Warden-Lt. Pera reported the wardens were heavily involved in the Caldor operation responding to 44 mutual aid missions between the east/west slopes. Many Wardens were sent out of county as well. The bears in the basin were breaking into residences and in an unprecedented number of incidents. When the Basin was evacuated the bears nearly had free reign of the basin. The dove opener was poor as well as the deer opener.
6. Finance Report-

Finance report was read: Balance \$19,436.60 08/31/21 (Fund Balance)
Motion to move Sawmill Pond Fund into General Fund not passed and will be placed on Agenda.

7. Commission Reports –

At Large- Mike Denega (Absent) (See Weddle's report)

At Large- Steve Horan
No Report.

District 1- Dennis Byrne:

Dennis stated that the letter to SMUD needs to be written, a meeting with the DA regarding fines etc. needs to be set up, and he is doing follow up on the deer signs. (Discussion of meeting with DA was made)

District II-Eric Harnage

Eric wished to use Kathie's logo for hats and shirts. The logo will be used, and he will obtain vendors for the items.

District III-Kathleen Jermstad

Kathie was looking for approval on her logo and it was approved. She provided information on Jump-outs on Highway 50 (Jump-outs/escape ramps allow animals to escape from a (Fenced) road corridor. Kathie also provided Commissioners with information on wildlife crossings via email.

District IV-Pat Weddle

Patrick reported for Mike Denega that Bass Lake was still closed due to drought/low water conditions. Mike also recommended a book called Fuzz (When Nature Breaks the Law).

Patrick reported that BOS Novasel had put out a request for filling District V for our commission. He visited Bass Lake and sent the SMUD letter out. He spoke to Mitch regarding the impacts that the Caldor fire had on fishing, but the data is not complete (And will be slow to come).

District V-Vacant

8. Legislative Report-Larry Nelson
Information provided regarding CA Deer Association and dinner
9. Next meeting – 10/27/2021 – 6 pm - Video Conference (Zoom)
10. Adjournment was at 7:55pm

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.*