

Minutes of the Work Session Meeting of the
Arizona Game and Fish Commission
Thursday, April 3, 2008
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, Arizona 85086

PRESENT: (Commission)

(Director's Staff)

Chairman William H. McLean
Commissioner Robert D. Hernbrode
Commissioner Jennifer L. Martin
Commissioner Robert R. Woodhouse
Commissioner Michael M. Golightly

Director Larry D. Voyles
Deputy Director Steve K. Ferrell
Assistant Attorney General Shelley Cutts

Chairman McLean called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. This meeting followed an agenda dated March 31, 2008.

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1. Commission Budget Work Session

Presenter: Steve Ferrell, Deputy Director

Mr. Ferrell provided a presentation to the Commission on the draft Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 budget proposal. The purpose of the presentation was to inform the Commission of the proposed budget and respond to any Commission questions in preparation of the final budget proposal which will be presented to the Commission in June 2008. The Department's Funds and Planning staff were present to assist Mr. Ferrell in responding to any questions by the Commission. The Commission was provided with a draft budget packet that included a flowchart of the Planning and Budget Process, Department Fund Sources, FY2009 Increases to Original Commission Approved Budget, Program Enhancement Pie Charts for FY2010 and 2011, and detailed lists of Department programs and the projection of funds for those programs. Mr. Ferrell briefed the Commission and discussed with them the details in the materials provided.

Commissioner Martin questioned the funding for the Audubon IBA program on the FY2009 Increases to Original Commission Approved Budget. Initially, it was understood that Audubon was going to become self sufficient after start up support from the Department, but instead the Department has maintained the program year after year. Audubon should now start accepting more financial responsibility for the program. If the Game and Fish Department continues funding the program then it should be known as a Game and Fish program.

The Commission discussed the issues including outsourcing versus hiring Department employees for the program, potential loss of internal expertise for wildlife and wildlife habitat, and getting public support for a program that is not known to be a Department program.

Director Voyles will discuss the matter and potential options with Audubon. Further, Director Voyles pointed out the linkage between strategic vision and the budget, and stated that this discussion would be better served if it were supported by a Department analysis on the

development of strategic direction relative to the concept of outsourcing versus insourcing, including where it can benefit partnerships, leverage resources, and where it might lead to the loss of internal expertise. The Department can do that analysis and bring that back to the Commission for a discussion on strategic planning.

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Meeting recessed for a break at 10:27 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

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1. (Continued) Commission Budget Work Session

Commissioner Golightly commented that organizations receiving funds and support from the Department such as Audubon should be held responsible to the Department and Commission and should provide the Commission with a briefing on what they are doing with the money. They should be getting input from the Commission on what they do and how the Commission wants to be represented by them, and they should be carrying out the Department's mission.

The Commission discussed the funding for the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) and directed the Department to put this item on the May Commission meeting agenda. The Commission requested that the organizations associated with the SCTP program brief the Commission on what they have done to improve the program's private contributions, their changes in direction, and their anticipated cost.

Director Voyles offered that the Department will also bring a proposal back to the Commission that will provide incentives for the organizations to become self sufficient.

Mr. Ferrell confirmed with the Commission that the SCTP program will remain as is for now with a reduction of \$10,000 per year until 2012.

Mr. Ferrell continued with the review of Department programs and the proposed funding for those programs.

The Commission discussed the building of two new radio towers to be funded out of the Watercraft Licensing Fund and directed the Department to look into getting other law enforcement agencies to assist with the cost.

Mr. Ferrell stated that no other agencies were interested right now, but the Department will look into charging a lease or cost share for agencies who will want to use the towers once they are built.

The Commission discussed the cost and effect of OUI marketing versus hiring additional law enforcement staff and was in consensus that the Department should add more officers and spend less on marketing. The Commission directed the Department to provide a presentation at the May Commission meeting on alternatives for how this could work and how it would be funded. One of the alternatives should also be for no change to the OUI marketing proposal and should include the cost of effective advertising.

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Meeting recessed for lunch at 11:58 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:29 p.m.

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1. (Continued) Commission Budget Work Session

Mr. Ferrell continued his briefing and discussion with the Commission.

Commissioner Hernbrode asked about the design work for the harvest questionnaire.

Mr. Ferrell will add that into the game management software.

Commissioner Martin asked in regards to Access under the Wildlife Conservation Fund (Landowner Relations and Road Grader Programs), what the impact of the increase might be on opening up currently closed areas.

Mr. Ferrell stated that the Department could provide the Commission with that information by the May Commission meeting.

Commissioner Martin requested that the Department provide the Commission with a copy of the base budget broken down by fund that was generated during the budget process.

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2. Call to the Public

There were no members of the public present.

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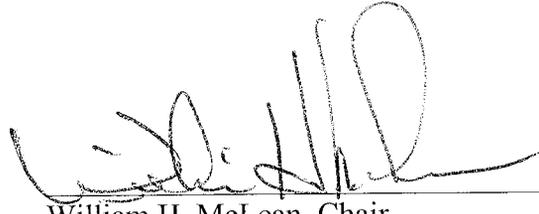
Motion: Martin moved and Hernbrode seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING.

Vote: Unanimous

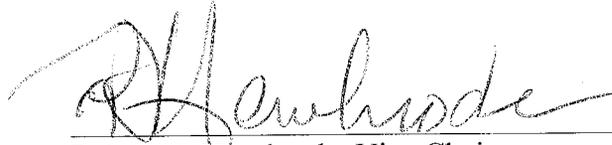
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Meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

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William H. McLean, Chair



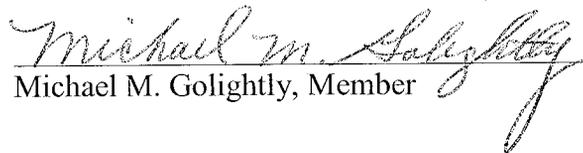
Robert D. Hernbrode, Vice Chair



Jennifer L. Martin, Member

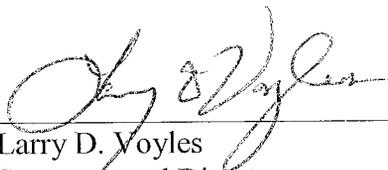


Robert R. Woodhouse, Member



Michael M. Golightly, Member

ATTEST:



Larry D. Voyles
Secretary and Director