

MODOC COUNTY
FISH, GAME & RECREATION COMMISSION
202 W 4TH STREET
ALTURAS, CA 96101

MINUTES – January 30, 2019

The meeting of the Modoc County Fish, Game and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Chris Ratliff at 1:00 pm.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Paul Molder, Pete Carey, Chris Ratliff, Cheryl Kunert, Dewayne Matthews, Curt Talbott, Lorissa Soriano and Mark Moriarity.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Aaron Freitas, Stacy Freitas, Brian Gallaher, Jacob Nicholas, Gary Sides, Patricia Cantrall, Dan Nessling and Sean Curtis.

Minutes from the November 28, 2018 meeting were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

California Fish and Game Commission

- Notice that Commission took first step toward developing a new strategic plan.
- Notice of agenda for January 10, 2019 meeting.
- Notice of proposed regulation changes concerning archery equipment and crossbows.
- Notice of proposed regulation changes concerning the 2019-2020 mammal hunting season.
- Notice of agenda for February 6, 2019 meeting.
- Notice of proposed regulation changes concerning waterfowl regulations for the 2019-2020 season.
- Notice of proposed regulation changes concerning Klamath River Basin sport fishing.
- Notice of agenda for February 5, 2019 Tribal Committee meeting.

California Department of Fish & Wildlife

- December 12th Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention Program Webinar.

Modoc National Forest

- News Release – Fire prevention poster contest winners.
- News Release – Modoc wild horse adoption update.

California Sportfishing League

- Newsletter

Cheryl asked if someone on the Commission would be willing to go through the items that are received from the California State Fish and Game Commission and bring back to our Commission any items that we need to address. Curt Talbott volunteered.

MATTERS INITIATED BY THE PUBLIC:

Dan Nessling reported to the Commission that he and Pat Rees would like to start up an archery club in the county. Their hope is to have members mentor a youth. They would also like to do some 3D events at the ski hill in the summer months but they need to find a place to have indoor events. Right now they are needing some help and ideas.

Pete Carey commented on how bad the duck populations are this year. Stacy Freitas stated that ducks are more opportunistic, meaning that if there is not a reason for them to move they will not. Aaron Freitas commented that landowners in Washington are flooding their corn fields to get the ducks to stay.

AGENCY REPORTS:

DFW: Aaron Freitas commented that the antelope season was pretty slow in the Clear Lake area. Waterfowl season was unpredictable.

Brian Gallaher relayed to the Commission that the restitution monies may change with the new District Attorney.

Jacob Nicholas reported to the Commission that they are still short staffed and spread thin. He also reminded the Commission that starting July 1st the non-lead ammo would take full effect.

Lower Klamath Refuge: Stacy Freitas commented that it had been a pretty decent season. Water resources are a big issue.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Jr. Chukar Hunt: Cheryl reported to the Commission that the hunt went really well. Not as many kids attended but more parents, volunteers and dogs were present.

4-H Top Shot Lunch: Cheryl relayed to the Commission that the event would be taking place April 7, 2019 this year and that she would not be able to put everything together for the lunch this year. She asked if anyone else would like to take it over or should we relay our regrets to the event manager so that they can find someone to do the lunch. After discussion, it was decided to relay our regrets.

OLD BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Curt Talbott made the motion to retain the present officer's for 2019 which are Chris Ratliff as Chairman, Paul Molder as Vice-Chairman and Cheryl Kunert as Secretary/Treasurer; seconded by Lorissa Soriano. All present in favor.

Guzzlers: Paul and Chris attended a meeting with the CDA and Paul would like to ask them about doing another inventory on the guzzlers. The last inventory was done about 6 or 7 years ago.

Paul commented that he thought that the new highway signs had been completed. He had heard that there is the possibility to put them in the right-of-way and that CalTrans will install them.

Host 3D Archery Event: Since Mr. Nessling and Mr. Rees are looking into doing an archery club it was decided to remove this from the agenda.

Tulelake Wildlife Area Draw Times: Stacy Freitas commented that this was changed due to budget cuts and there is not enough staff. The staff is being shared with all recreational programs. The draws went well and after the start of the season they had very little negative feedback. They have compensated by putting up a self-serve board for those who cannot make it for the draw. The board shows what blinds are already taken, late hunters can fill out a card and pin it to the vacant blinds.

Modoc's Deer Population: Gary Sides is concerned with the absence of deer in the Warner Mountains. He asked that Richard Shinn come to the next meeting to comment on what might be happening to the deer populations. Cheryl will contact Mr. Shinn to see if he is available to attend the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

None to report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Sean Curtis commented that the USFS is talking about putting up directories at camp sites and asked if someone could come and give an update on this. Lorissa will contact Ken Sandusky.

Lorissa commented that she had attended the International Sportsmen's Expo in Sacramento to promote our area. Their booth was well received, they handed out lots of information and answered a lot of questions about the area.

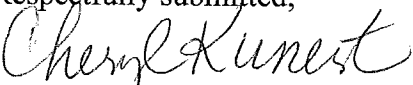
She also stated that the local Sportsmen's Day would be April 13th & 14th, and the Veteran's Sportsmen's Day would be April 27th & 28th, both events will be at the Likely Place. She asked if the Commission would support the Veteran's Day again this year. The Veteran's Day will be added to the next meeting's agenda.

Lorissa asked if the Commission could donate to the Outdoor Education program again this year. Put on next agenda.

The Outdoor Sportsmen's Expo will be June 22nd & 23rd, add to next month's agenda.

There being no further business to come before this Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Cheryl Kufert, Secretary

