

Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board

Regular Meeting
September 3, 2014
Boise, Idaho

Board members participating in the meeting were Celia Gould, Jim Unsworth (for Virgil Moore) Tony McDermott, Richard Savage, and Carl Rey. Other participants included Brian Oakey, Chanel Tewalt, Kelly Nielsen, Angela Kaufmann, Brad Compton and Dennis Tanikuni.

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m. MDT by Chairman Gould. She introduced the agenda, which included two items: discussion of the Board's budget request and updates from ISDA staff. Chairman Gould explained that ISDA staff had provided a placeholder request to the Division of Financial Management (DFM) in the amount of \$400,000 for FY2016 to meet deadlines, but that the Board could amend the request as needed.

Kelly Nielsen explained that the request was simple in nature. The Board is not required to ask for spending authority for its fund as that authority is established in statute. Brad Compton asked about carryover funds. Mr. Nielsen indicated that carryover was possible and it would be added to the Board's fund.

Chairman Gould asked for a motion related to the budget request. Richard Savage asked if there were any thoughts on the request being insufficient. Mr. Compton recalled information from Todd Grimm, State Director of USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, which indicated that wolf activity was down from previous years and the current amount of funding in the Board's contract with Wildlife Services was sufficient to keep up with the activity as it currently stood.

Carl Rey recalled that the amount of the request was consistent with the intent and direction of the Idaho Fish and Game Advisory Committee. Mr. Savage indicated that he had been hearing less news of wolf depredation than in the recent past. Mr. Compton added that wolf activity could increase, however, at any time.

Mr. Savage moved that the Board accept a budget request of \$400,000 for FY2016 to be submitted to DFM. Tony McDermott seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Gould asked ISDA staff to present any housekeeping updates. Brian Oakey relayed that the Board members would be responsible for presenting its budget to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee during the next legislative session. Chairman Gould indicated that ISDA could assist in the preparation process, if so desired. She also discussed the option of having the appointed members of the Board give the budget presentation rather than one of the two agency directors so as not to create confusion about the nature of the Board. Mr. Savage suggested that Mr. Rey could present the Board's budget.

Jim Unsworth relayed that the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and Wildlife Services would be meeting in November or December to discuss winter activities related to wildlife and wolf depredation.

Mr. Rey asked if the third quarter reporting deadline for Wildlife Services should be waived due to the nascence of the contract. Mr. Savage said that the requirement would be good to maintain, and Mr. Unsworth continued that it would be akin to the normal procedure followed by Wildlife Services for other contracts. Mr. Rey emphasized being able to give Mr. Grimm some flexibility on reporting, which the Board could discuss later if needed.

No new business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.