

MINUTES
Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board
June 5, 2017

Celia Gould, ISDA called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Those in attendance were: Ed Schriever, Idaho Fish and Game, Todd Grimm, Wildlife Services; Donna Ralston, Wildlife Services; Toby Boudreau, Idaho Fish and Game; Katrine Franks, Governor's Office; Kelly Nielsen, ISDA; Brian Oakey, ISDA; Hagen Hunsaker, ISDA intern; Dallas Burkhalter, ISDA; and Janis Perry, ISDA. Attending by phone were Board members Tony McDermott and Richard Savage.

After introductions, Celia Gould asked for approval of the minutes. Ed Schriever corrected the minutes to indicate that there are 750 wolves (not packs) in the state. Richard Savage moved that the minutes of the February 14, 2017 meeting be approved as corrected. Tony McDermott seconded the motion. Motion carried.

No one presented public comments to the Board.

Kelly Nielsen then presented the FY 2017 Fiscal Report. He indicated that the report distributed today shows the updated balances as of today, since the livestock revenues have been increasing rapidly. He stated that the Board has received more revenues than it has currently spent. In response to a question from Ed Schriever, Kelly did say that spending is up compared to prior years. Ed Schriever commented that Fish and Game should spend all of its \$40,000 before the end of the fiscal year. Todd Grimm stated that Wildlife Services should spend \$540,000 to \$550,000 by the end of the fiscal year. Kelly reminded the Board that those expenses would be paid in FY2018.

Brian Oakey asked the Board what recommendation they would like to make to the governor's office for the FY19 Budget given that this would be the last request in the current statute and that the expectation is that the livestock revenue will fall below the \$110,000 ceiling. Richard Savage moved that the Board ask the governor's office for \$400,000 as it has the last four years. Tony McDermott seconded the motion. Ed Schriever stated that the request is consistent with the governor's expectation when the Wolf Board was created. The motion carried.

Todd Grimm presented the Wildlife Services report. He indicated that since the report dated May 15, 2017, 10 more wolf depredations have occurred and 20 control actions are open in the state. He reported that this winter the wolf population did well, while the deer and elk population struggled. He said they caught a wolf in Cascade recently and one in Council today. The Wildlife Services Work/Financial Plan for FY18 allows for work in some units to protect elk in cooperation with Fish and Game. Tony McDermott moved that the Board accept the Wildlife Services Work/Financial Plan for FY18. Richard Savage seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ed Schriever reported on the Fish and Game expenditures for wolf removal to assist in achieving elf management objectives within the Lolo Elk Management Zone. He then presented the proposed FY18 Work/Financial Cooperative Agreement between the Fish and Game and the Wolf Board for \$100,000 which would provide better monitoring of wolves in Unit 10. It would also broaden ungulate protection

to any area in the state. Celia Gould asked if this agreement along with Wildlife Services would max the Board out. Kelly Nielsen, indicated that the Board has cash balances that would cover them both. Tony McDermott moved that the Board accept the Fish and Game FY18 Work/Financial Cooperative Agreement. Richard Savage seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Katrine Franks from the Governor's Office indicated that the sunset provision to the current Wolf Board statute would have to be done this year and the legislative deadline is in six weeks. She asked the Board how it felt about extending the statute and what changes it would like to see made. Tony McDermott stated that he was in favor of extending the Wolf Board. He would like to see the Board be allowed to contract with private folks for wolf depredation. He explained the success that the Foundation for Wildlife Management had in North Idaho with contracting with sportsman to trap wolves.

Richard Savage indicated that the livestock industry would like to see the Board extended. He commented that the Board has shown the ability to do a good job partnering with the Wildlife Services to do a good job and it has worked well with less controversy than originally thought.

Ed Schriever commented that simple is good and would like the Board extended. He stated that Fish and Game will have a new wolf management plan in place in November that will identify new tools for hunters through rulemaking.

Katrine Franks stated that Carl Rey has been reappointed to his position on the Wolf Board.

Celia Gould called for election of officers. Richard Savage moved that the officers from last year continue to serve another year which would mean that Carl Rey would continue as Secretary/Treasurer and Tony McDermott would serve as Vice Chair. Ed Schriever seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Under other business Brian Oakey explained that the Strategic Plan is due to the governor's office July 1. With the Board's agreement, he will send an email draft updated with cyber security compliance by June 26. Board members are to respond by June 29 with any corrections or edits, so it can be submitted on time.

Brian Oakey will update the Performance Measurement Report after final numbers are in for FY17. This report is due September 1.

Brian Oakey also requested that the annual administrative fees that the Wolf Board pays ISDA for financial and administrative services be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 to keep it in line with fees that ISDA charges other boards. Richard Savage moved to approve the increase. Ed Schriever seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Brian Oakey announced that a Legislative Services Offices (LSO) audit of the Wolf Board will be conducted the week of June 19. After the report is complete, the Board will receive a copy of the report.

Celia Gould adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.