

**New Mexico State Game Commission
Virtual Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, April 30, 2020

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Meeting Called to Order *[09:04:56 AM (00:02:01)]

Called to order by Chairwoman Salazar Hickey at 9:04 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Roll Call

All present: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Agenda

Motion by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry moved to approve the agenda as written.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lopez

Approved: Roll call vote – Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Consent Agenda

A. **Approval of Minutes**

B. **Approval of License Revocations**

Motion by: Commissioner Lopez moved to approve the consent items as written.

Seconded by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry

Approved: Roll call vote – Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Rule making Hearing of Amendments to the Hunting and Fishing Manner and Method Rule 19.31.10 *[09:13:26 AM (00:10:32)]

Stewart Liley presented the Department's proposal to delete Subsections DD and EE in the Hunting and Fishing Manner and Method Rule 19.31.10.12 NMAC to prohibit licensed trappers and cougar hunters from using traps and foot snares to harvest cougars. The proposed deletion from the Manner and Method Rule is necessary to align with the recently approved Bear and Cougar Rule 10.31.11 NMAC, which became effective April 1, 2020.

Motion by: Commissioner Vesbach moved to amend rule 19.31.10.12 as presented by the Department.

Seconded by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry

Approved: Roll call vote – Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Subsequent Discussion on the Migratory Bird Rule for 2020-2021 hunting season

*[09:04:56 AM (00:02:01)]

Stewart Liley presented the Department's proposed changes to the Migratory Game Bird Rule (19.31.6 NMAC) based on public comment, the latest information from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), recent survey information and management goals. Season selections and bag limits are determined in conjunction with the USFWS working through the Central and Pacific Flyway Councils.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: General Public Comments *[09:47:06 AM (00:44:11)]

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Closed Executive Session *[09:56:57 AM (00:54:02)]

Motion: The State Game Commission voted to adjourn into Executive Session closed to the public; pursuant to 10-15-1(H)(2) NMSA 1978, to discuss limited personnel matters relating to complaints and discipline; pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978, to discuss property acquisition; and pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(7) NMSA 1978, to discuss matters subject to attorney-client privilege relating to threatened or pending litigation.

Moved by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry

Seconded by: Commissioner Cramer

Approved: Roll call vote - Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Return from Executive Session [12:32:27 PM (01:00:05)]*

Moved by: Commissioner Lopez to move forward with potential land acquisition in Rio Arriba county.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bates

Approved: Roll call vote - Unanimously Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Commission Business *[12:38:29 PM (01:06:07)]

A. Strategic Planning: Committees

Finance: Committee Chair - Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry and supported by Commissioner Bates and Commissioner Vesbach.

Customer / Stakeholder : Committee Chair - Commissioner Cramer and supported by Commissioner Lopez.

Overarching / Organizational Profile: Committee Chair - Commissioner Soules and supported by other commissioners and committee leads as needed.

Hunt Structure: Committee Chair - Commissioner Vesbach and supported by Commissioner Soules and Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry.

Moved by: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey

Seconded by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry

Approved: Roll call vote - Unanimously Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

Past committee work on stream access – Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Cramer and Commissioner Lopez – Thanks to these commissioners for working on stream access issues. The commission is in litigation and is not taking any action on that committee work or doing any committee work on the stream access issue.

B. Commission Calendar for remaining calendar year 2020 [01:09:49 PM (01:37:27)]

The Commission opened discussion on future meeting dates and locations. They decided to maintain the previously approved schedule with the stipulation that future meetings will be held virtually as long as needed to be in compliance with COVID-19 public health orders.

Director Michael Sloane reminded the Commission of two pending Non-Navigable Waters applications that pursuant to rule require hearings to occur by May 24 and that rule further requires 21 days notice on the Department's website prior to the hearings. The Director advised the rule would therefore necessitate a Special Meeting on the applications on May 22, 2020.

Chairwoman Sharon Salazar Hickey stated the Commission and the Department are in litigation on the matter and it is likely judicial proceedings may overtake and overcome the need for a Special Meeting. She further stated if such meeting needs to be called, they could do so within the Open Meetings Act, by noticing it three days prior.

Moved by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry

Seconded by: Commissioner Cramer

Approved: Roll call vote - Unanimously Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach, Commissioner Bates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Adjourn at 1:17 PM *[01:19:12 PM (01:46:50)]

*Note: The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish utilizes AV Capture All to record audio at State Game Commission Meetings and time stamp the companion agendas so the public can easily navigate to items of interest. Time stamps in this document are inactive and intended only for reference to aid matching minutes to the interactive agenda in AV Capture All. To access the time stamped interactive document, visit the Commission [Meeting & Agendas](#) webpage and click on the Recordings tab. Meetings are listed by recording date.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

April 30, 2020

VIRTUAL MEETING LOCATION

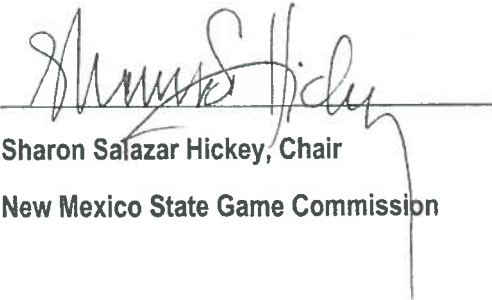
<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/webcast/>



Michael B. Sloane

9/15/2020

Date



Sharon Salazar Hickey, Chair
New Mexico State Game Commission

8/7/2020

Date

Final Copy