

MEETING MINUTES

NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION
New Mexico Highlands University
Adele lifeld Auditorium
800 University Avenue.
Las Vegas, NM 87701

Wednesday, October 5, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A P P E A R A N C E S

Game Commissioner Thomas Salopek

Chairman Paul Kienzle

Vice Chairman Bill Montoya

Game Commissioner Robert Espinoza

Game Commissioner Ralph Ramos

Game Commissioner Bob Ricklefs

Game Commissioner Elizabeth Ryan

A B S E N T

None

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good morning, calling the meeting to order. I need a Roll.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Espinoza?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ramos?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ryan?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Salopek?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Vice Chairman Montoya?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, I believe we have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you, the Pledge of Alliance.

[Pledge of Alliance ends]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Can I get a motion to approve the Agenda?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: So moved.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. All right, let's go around the room and introduce ourselves. Who wants to be up first?

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, members of the public. My name is Steve Clemens, I'm the Assistant Director of the Resource Division for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman, Commissioners. Greg (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Mike Phillips from the Turner Endangered Species Foundation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Director Sandoval, members of the public, my name is Greg Samson. I'm the Chief of Education, New Mexico Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, my name is Lance Cherry, I'm the Assistant for Information and Education for New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, my name is Chris Chadwick Assistant Director of (indiscernible) Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. I'm Deb (indiscernible) Fisher, I'm the Shooting Program Coordinator of the Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Mr. (indiscernible) Production Company (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) with the Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman, Commissioners and members of the public. I'm Stewart Lyle, Chief of Wildlife Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm Robert Griego, Colonel of Field Operations for Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: David Bowser [phonetic] (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Valerie (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Jack (indiscernible) on behalf of New Mexico (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Max (indiscernible) in New Mexico Wildlife Federation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Susan (indiscernible) with the New Mexico Wildlife Federation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Garret VeneKlasen with the New Mexico Federation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm Colleen Payne, with New Mexico (indiscernible) Director of the (indiscernible) Foundation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Jason Morrell [phonetic], (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm Donald Keys with the (indiscernible) San Diego Farmers (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman and Commissioners, public, (indiscernible) Mexico Conservation Officers Association. (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Kyle Jackson, a board member for the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association (indiscernible) Sargent.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, (indiscernible) Ryan, I'm a member of the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association and Corporal for the Farmington District.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman and Commissioners, (indiscernible). I'm the Program Director for the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association and an Investigator for the department.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman and Commissioners, (indiscernible) Berg, I'm a member of the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association in (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Commissioners, Sean Parrell [phonetic], the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Kerrie Romero, New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible), Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ray Sanchez, Northern Ranger New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: (Good morning Commissioners, indiscernible) Operations Officers Association of (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Matt Ladkey [Phonetic] (indiscernible) Officer and member of the (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm Kurt Patton, Assistant Chief of Fisheries for New Mexico Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Alisa Graysmon [phonetic], (indiscernible) Cattlemens Association..

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm (indiscernible) Taylor, I'm just a (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, my name is (indiscernible), student in Biology (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm Mike Sloane, Chief of Fisheries Division.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're not getting out that easy Mike. Thank everyone for being here today. Can I get approval of the minutes for our last meeting?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: So moved, Mr. Chairman.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. I got a request to read a letter from Kevin Powers. He appears to be an Attorney out of Los Alamos, New Mexico and this is concerning New Mexico Hunter and Fishing Course by New Mexico Game and Fish Department, Camp Gorham on September 16 through 19, 2016:

“Dear Director Sandoval, Chairman Kienzle and Commissioners, I would like to extend a very warm thank you to you and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Staff for hosting the recent New Mexico Hunter Education Course of the Boy Scouts of America, Camp Gorham held on September 16, 17, and 18, 2016. I attended this course with my 11-year-old son, Clancy Powers to provide him both, the written and hands on Hunters Education and Training. The department staff, including instructors and area Game Wardens as well as volunteer staff provided a safety and comfortable environment to learn very important skills of weapon and hunting safety led by Department Officer Megan (indiscernible) as well as Wardens Mathews

and Wyatt Carswell. You seem to gain clear insight to the importance of respect for the environment, tools used to harvest safely and guns. The department's instructor Jeremy was such a well-liked by the youth and did an excellent job of instruction. In fact, all staff presented themselves as true and caring professionals and carried out their duties with utmost respect for each individual present. Please extend my sincere gratitude to them for a job very well done. Finally, although the camp as I understand, was sponsored by Safari International, including everything, including food and lodging was provided free of charge for those attending, there was rarely mention of their involvement or sponsorship. This is rare and indicates a (indiscernible) response to public event, which seem to want to wave their corporate flags in hopes to gain future followers. Here, staff and volunteers only seeming intent was to educate our youth for the safe and responsible ways of hunting. In concluding, we thank you, to you, your staff, volunteers and their involvement to youth of the state to ensure that they become responsible and safe hunters. Yours truly, Kevin J. Powers.”

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So Greg, a big thank you to the department and staff and volunteers. It sounds like a great event. Director, can we put a copy of this in the personnel file?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Yes, we will.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay, great. Thank you. Agenda Item Number 7: Presentation by Turner Endangered Species Foundation on Black-footed ferret, Bolson Tortoise and the Mexican Wolf. Mr. Phillips? Garret, very disappointed that she cut your hair.

GARRET: Cut it off.

[Laughter]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You finally had enough?

GARRET: I finally had enough and Anna and I did the best that we could (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: It was a worthwhile cause.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, Director, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I will be brief, I know you've got a whole Agenda and my dream is to simply follow through first on the Black-footed Ferret Project. In your (indiscernible) you gave us through your permit, we're still operating under that permit. I simply wanted to update you that in 2014 and 2015, the (indiscernible) event at the (indiscernible) Park Ranch (indiscernible). We now think that at this point that there are 80 free ranging Ferrets on the ranch. That's just a rhythm of nature the Fish and Wildlife Services were working on more effective, like that (indiscernible) we don't intend to secure toward a fence or at least any Ferrets until probably 18 at the earliest. We move that prairie population to rebalance this sufficient prairie population in place but we're still going forward. I did provide some photographs, the first is a Black-footed Ferret (indiscernible) and years ago, we (indiscernible) and if you go to the second photograph, that was a young male (indiscernible) photograph from the 3rd of November, 2008. That was the (indiscernible) the first Black-footed Ferret born in the wild in New Mexico and then in many decades, that was (indiscernible) and we hope that we can continue (indiscernible) research and look forward to (indiscernible). So we're basically not moving back the Ferret. The next picture refers to the Bolson Tortoise, another that specie that permitted under your authorities to be (indiscernible) in captivity at the Ladder (indiscernible) Ranches Program began many years ago, back in 2006 with 26 adults at the ranches and then four adults at the Living Desert Zoo in Garden State Park in Carlsbad. Through very careful (indiscernible),

we've now produced well over 500 Ashland that are growing up. Our permit to hold the animals will expire at the end of 2016. We will submit to the Director a request for a new permit and that request will also certainly involve also the potential and the authority to release Bolton Tortoises at the Ladder and (indiscernible) Ranches in an attempt to restore (indiscernible) populations. Also, listed under the Endangered Species Act and then we're excited about contributing to the recovery of (indiscernible) species as well. You can see, it's a big animal and (indiscernible) and the pictures show (indiscernible) probably 70 plus years of age and when we got early in hand, you know you've got a big tortoise in hand. The next picture I just provided because the silver (indiscernible), this little guy, (indiscernible) in one of the adult pens and please understand these pens don't leave anything out, they're defined by about two foot high chicken wire fence. We'd love to show you (indiscernible) at your convenience and we're very proud of this effort. The adult (indiscernible) anything out (indiscernible), keep the adults in and this little guy, I got this (indiscernible) is known as 09-bw-1. 09 stands for 2009, bw stands for be well and number 1 stands for number 1. He was the first (indiscernible) actually. He did show up in the pen one day and he was obviously born to (indiscernible) and was wandering around getting food. (Indiscernible) first Bolton Tortoise born in the United States in 15,000 years. It really is a (indiscernible) population that occurs in Central New Mexico. So what we submitted to the Director is a request for a new permit by the end of this year and we would appreciate your support in (indiscernible). Finally, we're here to (indiscernible), the record we just submitted on Monday, a request to extend our (indiscernible) new permit to hold Mexican Wolves in captivity at the Ladder Ranch. The permit that was recently issued concludes at the end of 2016 and so it was appropriate to request to continue. The only (indiscernible) in our request is that it be applied for a three-year period of time which is appropriate, if the Director chooses for

(indiscernible). We (indiscernible) value in the Ladder Ranch and an important piece of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program. We apologize that the family of 11 still has not been shipped to Mexico. The Director has been very accommodating with continued extension to our (indiscernible). It's simply no (indiscernible) the difficulty of trying to advance Mexican Wolf Recovery in Mexico, lots of pieces of paper need to be put in place. We stand ready for the animals to be shipped. It was never the intent that they be at the Ladder this long. Right now the gain is for the transport to actually take place in mid-November. The Director gave us the authority to hold through the end of December, 2016. I'm hoping that we do not come back to the Director with yet another request. So, (indiscernible) we ask that (indiscernible) not being taking place but we hope that you'll consider our request for a new permit (indiscernible) and that's all really I have Mr. Chairman, Commission, Director in this Agenda Item.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, questions?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Phillips, as far as facilities and all that, I mean you had a lot of expectations and how's that going? Are we still complying and maybe Stewart can also you know, influence us on my opinion.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Commissioner Ramos, Chairman and Director, we have taken steps that were suggested, Stewart had visited the facility. We had removed the shelter boxes from the main enclosure, they weren't going to be used by the wolves. The only reason we put a big shelter box in the wolf pens is sometimes some animal dies in the shelter box. When you come into (indiscernible) if they do that. (Indiscernible) is they shut the door and you got in the box, you can take a (indiscernible) or (indiscernible) getting out of the (indiscernible). We're also trying to get involved more prairie items and their food (indiscernible) so we'll continue to

(indiscernible) and then (indiscernible) contact and we are certainly looking into the notion of the remote device that would open the door (indiscernible) long after we're gone, if that would help but honestly, the very best way we can do it, is there's no attention when we do it. Let's just continue to insist that the only animals released from the Ladder Ranch (indiscernible) in New Mexico. The (indiscernible) hens, 800 (indiscernible), eyes are still closed, ears are still closed, but that was the provision that we (indiscernible) that you guys don't even want to (indiscernible) the permit but this is a stipulation (indiscernible). There's no way (indiscernible) an eight day old (indiscernible) when the eyes aren't open, the ears aren't open and if you hold the (indiscernible) you know these are a lot of adults on (indiscernible) or there may be different ways (indiscernible) matter to address genetic (indiscernible). So then you have (indiscernible) and so Commissioner Ramos, we're excited to be involved in that part of the program. We have to get that's the only animals that that are ever released from the lab and (indiscernible). We'll continue to manage the animals on the (indiscernible) but that's what we've gained. So to ensure that their not any more comfortable in the sights and sounds of people then actual (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: And to get this to reiterate, these wolves that are probably handled after this family of eleven, they are to be released or (indiscernible) to get into New Mexico (indiscernible) not in the United States.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos that's correct.

COMMISSIONER: Okay and that's basically to support the three populations which will help regroup them off the Endangered Species List, perhaps we want separate three separate boundaries or (indiscernible). Is that correct?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos it's likely that the recovery factor, there's a lot of relisting. We'll involve certain numbers of sub-populations and so that would be your reference to three. It's conceivable that that you should get by with two (indiscernible) that one (indiscernible). Those itineraries have been settled. I will say that the team that you have assigned is critical on the Mexican Wolf or however you find in the workshop process. The (indiscernible) have done a great job in proving the intellectual process being used to generate those criteria. They haven't been settled on yet. We have another meeting in a few weeks in (indiscernible). I understand that we have yet another meeting in early 2017. I understand the service is required by a court order to finalize that Recovery Plan by late 17. At that point we'll all see what it will take for the Mexican Wolf to be listed and it's quite likely that it will be more than one (indiscernible), two or three sub-(indiscernible) and have some potential to connect with one (indiscernible). But given that I had a good portion to be involved in this for 20 years, I don't know what they're going to say. Commission Officers has more than once refused me on how we're going to get from A to Z (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: I know you've been very instrumental and I appreciate your efforts and all of that as well but you know, I hope that you to continue to be in those conversations and stay involved.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, I'm not sure everybody agrees with you but ...

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: No, they appreciate your comments.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Phillips, are you on the recovery plan team, the one that's coming up with the new recovery plan? Are you part of that effort?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I've been on the current recovery team in New Mexico since 1995 and I was the one that was under the previous Director in March of 2013 under the (indiscernible) at that point, the Service decided more or less, just to have the Recovery Team. They have not reconvened the Recovery Team, what they have done is assemble a bunch of us, including (indiscernible) Game and Fish. So to participate in the Recovery Plan and workshops and the Service takes (indiscernible) workshop meetings and now I understand there exactly this is what supposedly will work and they will write the Recovery Plan. I think in close collaboration with state agencies and then ultimately, probably late summer-17, we'll (indiscernible) to the public and (indiscernible). But there is no formal Recovery Team in place. There are a group of us that are honored to be invited to these Recovery Plan Workshops.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So there is a (Indiscernible) to get an updated or the recovery plan in place?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes, sir. (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So when they do a workshop or series of workshops, do you attend all of them, one of them, some of them?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I attended all but one. I was not able to attend the recent meeting in Mexico City.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And how many more of those workshops are scheduled that you know?

MIKE PHILLIPS: We had one in November and the result of that, I believe the Service is intending for a wrap-up meeting in the (indiscernible) of 17. You guys had great influences so I

would suggest you consider this. That wrap-up meeting will be very important. I have suggested that the Service (indiscernible) the consideration of the Recovery Program stitched together and this (indiscernible) really want to (indiscernible) because years before we had considered the aspects of recovery in some way, like a piece (indiscernible) process and that's the only way it can be (indiscernible) demographic issues, what we're hearing about habitat issues over here. It's been a bit disappointing and that's okay, if it's what it has to be. But at some point (indiscernible) and see it all stitched together so you have a rhythm, that's the rhythm of the (indiscernible). I think that's what the (indiscernible) finally in 2017. Unfortunately, as important that that meeting is, it's unlikely that I would be able to attend, the Montana legislative session begins in January (indiscernible) again in April and I would like (indiscernible) senate seat. It's very hard to miss three or four days of (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Are you satisfied with the workshop process so far?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, with the process, yes. This is very good. The states have contributed (indiscernible). The feds have provided a good opportunity for contributions. There's been more involved in how we (indiscernible). So, in total, yes the processes are very good and one of the reasons and this is important to what—you can't overestimate the importance of the IUCN, International Union of Conservation Management. The role played by the Conservation (indiscernible). Dr. Bill Nolan is an outstanding Conservation (indiscernible). He's an expert moderator and you could talk to most of them. My explanation, Bill's presence and presence as (indiscernible) has made a world of difference. (indiscernible) because you can go back and (indiscernible) the Governors took a shot at CDSJ [Phonetic]. Governors (indiscernible) up critical process before you even begin and specifically cited CDSJ as an inappropriate (indiscernible), not (indiscernible) for the (indiscernible). Bill (indiscernible) made

a world difference with his expertise and (indiscernible) process is (indiscernible). Bill's participation...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Is a current process.

MIKE PHILLIPS: That's correct, yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let me back up a few steps then, on those other recovery teams or other planning efforts, what stopped this? I mean, what stopped the process where you didn't get a final product out of it?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman and the rest of the Commission, I don't rightly know why the state (indiscernible) took so long to provide (indiscernible) and then the part of the lease part, you know, (indiscernible) the one that posted the taxes in the (indiscernible) in the world. Other times (indiscernible) Washington had to make (indiscernible). They had to represent (indiscernible). I have to believe that politics played a role because I can find the (indiscernible). It's a good process and I think the Service is going to find their way forward. I think that we could give credit due to the states for using legal process for the (indiscernible) on the Recovery Plan. I believe that's part of the process, guide us to where we are. The Mexican Wolf Recovery Program for twenty years with just the (indiscernible) and they still don't make an extensive use of (indiscernible). It doesn't have to be this hard.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So on the prior recovery teams, just to use an image or metaphor, everybody's sitting around a round table and of course, everyone's sort of equal participants with Fish and Wildlife Service, how did that process work?

MIKE PHILLIPS: The most recent Recovery Team.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Not the workshops but going to.....

MIKE PHILLIPS: The team, we don't have a team in (indiscernible Recovery Plan and Workshop Process there. (Indiscernible) previous team. When we get through that we're and that was the work (indiscernible) March of 13. It was a congregated Recovery Team. Those are paid Recovery Team and in all kinds of (indiscernible). There was a state agency sub-group, there was a tribal sub-group and there was a Council agent advocacy sub-group, there was a science and plan sub-group and it was the science and plan sub-group that was in charge to developing in (indiscernible) with science that was relevant to the species in question. In retrospect, it was not sufficient state representation on the science and plan issue group. We're fortunate Dr. (indiscernible) who was (indiscernible), very well (indiscernible), deeply committed Conservation Scientist who is not the Science and (indiscernible) subcommittee. (Indiscernible) Game and Fish, another solid (indiscernible). That was it and so the state's likely felt uninvolved in the (indiscernible) Recovery Plan in which is the Recovery Process. There's little room for the Endangered Species Act, (indiscernible) invested in our science and the states weren't sufficiently involved.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So on that subcommittee, did Fish and Wildlife Service personnel serve on that as well?

MIKE PHILLIPS: They sure did in an advisory capacity.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay.

MIKE PHILLIPS: And they particularly served in advisory capacity in the workshop behind the process. I would actually like to have you more involved.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And that's what I'm getting at. What concerns me is that ultimately it's the service that comes up with a plan, right? They defer to whether its committee, subcommittee, teams and other things and I think that really they just need to get their arms around it and take a position. They're going to get sued by somebody, right? It could be the left, the right, the middle, up, down, we don't know but I mean they really just need to stay at a position and be done with it and then let's let the chips fall where they may. So, to the extent you can and you'll have a continuing dialog with them. You may not talk to them every day but you'll talk to certain people in that service, just encourage them to do and this is hard work and thus is not, it may be cut and paste but the political part of it you know, maybe that's hard work too. I mean, there's hard work to be done here and I encourage you as you visit with them, say look, do the best you can. You are never going to get this exactly perfect. They're not going to make me happy a 100%. They're not going to make that guy over there happy 100%. It's just never going to happen and I think half the loaf, a quarter of a loaf, three-quarters of a loaf, I mean they just have to get something out there and use their best efforts to do it. So as you visit with them, you know, encourage them and let's just get this done and get something out there recognizing that it's never going to be perfect from anyone's perspective.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I completely agree that they need to finish the job. I will caution you and the Commissioners and the Director to insist that the plan be a good one. People are involved (indiscernible) so we have a great deal in this too with what we've done. Many would have you believe that the Service said one thing and did another. They kept moving the Gold Posts and that the conservation community should be (indiscernible) but really, it seems like nothing was ever done. You know the real foundation with that problem of this moving the Gold Posts, there's no evidence that the Recovery Plan in the Northern Rocky Mountains was

ever sufficient. It was written in the late 1980's. By the time that they began working on D-Listing, that time was old. I would say the Commission Officers in 2001, 2002 was (indiscernible) a plan because you know you're going to achieve (indiscernible) against a faulty plan and why not take the (indiscernible) where it updated in 2003 or 2004 so people understand litigation. They said (indiscernible) what we're going to do Mike is ask a bunch of you guys a question, (indiscernible) process to make sure that the recovery (indiscernible). The (indiscernible) on this is, do you think we make a 300 Prairie Wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountains constitutes a viable population. That was the question and most of us said, sure. There's some connection between the wolves. Some said, no, 300 (indiscernible) and they took that as evidence that the Recovery Plan (indiscernible) issue would stand up in court. (Indiscernible) you can't even find the word viable in it. There isn't viability in demographic (indiscernible). Sure, there's more to recovery than just that. The question should have been, do 300 wolves constitute recovery? If not, does it constitute viable population? There's some species like the Ferrets for example, we need many viable populations. So, the Chair, they weren't even asking the right question and so what (indiscernible) what happens is the plan was (indiscernible). So whatever happens in the southwest, at least learn from that, (indiscernible) become issue that no one recognized or replace a good plan that is indeed, literally defensible, given your recommendation as observing. (Indiscernible) so why not win? The Service should take note. They've got the win. They'll get (indiscernible) for everything as it relates to Wolf Recovery over the last 10 or 15 years. That record means something. And I think it (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Well, even beyond that, they haven't even gotten to the point where they can't get it right because we don't have an updated plan to test if this works and so I agree

with you, that a good or a great plan should be the goal but underlying all of that is you've got to have a plan first and so I know that's frustrating to the Commission. The good news is, it sounds like 2017 we will have such a plan. So let me go back to where I was before and you need to get your crystal ball out and you need to be a mind reader in all of this kinds of things but are you reasonably certain that we're going to get a plan out of this workshop process?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I mean this will not be the workshop process to nowhere, kind of like it's been before?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes. Although, as we all know that they'll be shipped in January with a (Indiscernible) and I don't that at any fact, the workshop part of the process that's underway, we all should be proud of it and (indiscernible) and the workshop should be to a plan at least by May-17.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay. Yes, sir?

COMMISSIONER: Mike, I appreciate their finally letting you turn a light on at the end of the tunnel because again, I've been pretty havoc and I'm not going to move until we get a plan and it looks like we're looking at one pretty set well and I appreciate it. A year's better than it was five years ago so, I appreciate it. I do appreciate the effort.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Look, the state's accepted it so that's actually a (indiscernible) at the Ladder Ranch (indiscernible). In other words, the states should go (indiscernible) and beef up security in Arizona (indiscernible). The states (indiscernible) and they really, really set their sights on this workshop process (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We have one more, we have a couple of questions and I got still have a question for you in a second. The 25 wolves at the Ladder ranch issues a whole, as simply holding and operates.

MIKE PHILLIPS: That's correct.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And then, how many wolves are currently being held?

MIKE PHILLIPS: There are twelve animals there now, the 13th was just shipped to the Foster (indiscernible) in Texas yesterday is my understanding.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And then the 11 animals we talked about, their still to go to Mexico, is that part of the number that you hold?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay.

MIKE PHILLIPS: So, Mr. Chairman, I've produced what I have. The Ladder Ranch has valued against the rosters book and the Game Department saw it and was very (indiscernible-coughing) responding to requests that (indiscernible) Act. We can't do that without the Director's authority. We can't ship an animal out. We can't (indiscernible) without the Director's authority. We have (indiscernible) if we get the (indiscernible) authority, mark it as a kind of go as needed by the (indiscernible) Officers. So far the department has said, no we want to see each and every rule. It's hard (indiscernible) against that because their teams been very responsive to the Director, they're very quick and get right back to us, so it works. But it's (indiscernible). Animals come and go and the value of the Ladder is (indiscernible) as it sits close to the Blue ranch. It sits close to Mexico and I would hope that you guys will continue to celebrate its value

under the site where it can be something you live with. Cattlemen come and go in herd, (indiscernible) survived without a (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What's the most wolves in an (indiscernible)?

MIKE PHILLIPS: A lot of people want to know if we add an addition to (indiscernible), with the (indiscernible) that we had, it really pushes (indiscernible) 25 in there and that would be (indiscernible) and that's why (indiscernible) always (indiscernible) without people in mind.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Sayer, I have a question for you. In regards to the litigations that's making its way through the Pellet Court, is anything new here on Agenda Item Number 7 have good or bad, negative- possible impact on that litigation?

MR. SAYER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, for the most part, no. Many of those comments good and bad and indifferent and I think there is an outside chance that it could best be a positive thing, I think for the most part it isn't a non-factor.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay, thank you.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman just one last, couple of comments. Mike, you said it was Gold Posts moving all the time. I hope that this team continues to really look at the original (indiscernible) range where they were located and now it's (indiscernible) the range on that. I hope they really look at that because I think they've already extended the original site as well as the original (indiscernible) animals. The other thing I'd like to also point out is that I know that Director has the authority to allow the release in and out, you know, from your facility but I also hope that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is extremely transparent as far as (indiscernible) releases that are you know, as far as locations as well.

MR SAYER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, If I had the (indiscernible) for whatever my opinion is worth, I suspect that when the animals are released in the Fall of 17, we'll focus on at least for the next 28 years, recovery actions in the course over (indiscernible), which was more effective, the U.S. or Mexico? I'm skeptical as to whether or not (indiscernible) the recovery. I hope I'm wrong, but I understand the logic (indiscernible). As far as transparency, I got to talk to the Service about that plan. It was on (indiscernible) years, went on and got to work for the agency again in my position and transparency should be an easier correction or they shouldn't be doing they're not proud. (indiscernible) and I wanted to make clear, when we're speaking in and out at the Ladder Ranch, it's just animals coming into a pen or animals going into a shipping crate, typically (indiscernible) not going in. But we have no authority and never tried to secure any authority to release any animals to the wild. The Director (indiscernible) is very good at getting immediately (indiscernible) can we receive an animals and place it in a pen and we take the animal from the pen and put it in a shipping crate but we (indiscernible), that the animals never leave under any authority we have because we don't have authority nor do we want authority to let them go to the wild. But it does serve the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program to have the facility and since that we respond a lot to different needs and that's needs to (indiscernible) nature of the loss for other animals that come in to something (indiscernible). The Director and her team we're very good about helping us maintain that revolving door (indiscernible) recovery.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Stewart, so tell me more about our or the departments continuing oversight of the facility. I know we and (indiscernible) have (indiscernible) of conversations on how perhaps to improve, if that's the word to use, things at Ladder Ranch, so tell me how the process would work.

STEWART LYLE: Yes, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have (indiscernible) and visited with the caretakers at the Ladder Ranch over the (indiscernible). We've looked at ways as Mr. Phillips looked into (indiscernible) more natural, less domesticated as it was used before to make it more worthwhile. Like Mr. Phillips said, in boxes or what they call captive boxes (indiscernible) so those are no longer there. (indiscernible) as more natural then it would experience in the wild rather than a cage. (Indiscernible) but it's not (indiscernible) and looking at opportunities and options to (indiscernible) fee, (indiscernible) monitor wolves as well so they (indiscernible) some of those (indiscernible) they are looking into that remote food deliveries. They're (indiscernible) that will be on the (indiscernible) of Turner (indiscernible) but they are in the process of looking at that. So yes, (indiscernible) facility is secure and even under situations that (indiscernible) possible.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Garret, are you satisfied that we made progress from where we were at earlier this year?

GARRET VENEKLASEN: Yes, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What about you Mr. Phillips? Are you satisfied we've made some progress?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, yeah, sure. I'm proud that we—I think Stewart's (indiscernible) answer is a sign that you guys are always welcome. If there's anything that we can do to improve, we're all in it. But, we we're already (indiscernible) the agreement. I have (indiscernible) to truly (indiscernible). To violate that notion, there's a random component in that. We don't have (indiscernible), we can be very (indiscernible) about this. We (indiscernible) but that's some (indiscernible), if you're going to really do it that way,

you know, pay for (indiscernible) numbers and be on the first day and the fifth day and the ninth day, (indiscernible) better, that's what nature presents to you all. That's a pretty common game and at the end of the day it probably doesn't matter that much. The key is, no more contact if absolutely necessary. The remote cameras (indiscernible) I would be able to use those for learning suspension of business that we didn't know in the past and then, because the programs (indiscernible) twenty years into this, that is a long time. The feds recognize there's not a pressing need for (indiscernible). Keep them focused on this need for genetic rescue the Blue Ranch population is not what it should be today. That probably (indiscernible) that simply don't have (indiscernible) capabilities that (indiscernible) and Mr. Chairman, (indiscernible) to improve ways to ensure people that all (indiscernible) fences are done, Stewart's advice and then letting (indiscernible) and kind of go over that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That release issue or the ability to release is presently out of your control. I mean isn't it the feds that say release and then you do it?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, that's always been (indiscernible). We are (indiscernible) just a small banana in a bunch.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think you've told me on more than one occasion that you appeared in front of that you've pushed for the earliest possible.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, if you look at what I've been (indiscernible) the last four years, those (indiscernible) purposes (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) two or three-year-old (indiscernible). I sent to you guys months ago because we wondered about that one wolf that was (indiscernible). If there was any (indiscernible) done along by the services, today that animal had every chance possible to (indiscernible). We simply (indiscernible) old, a time for

release is (indiscernible). Let me say the reason why, that's an old wolf. You look at (indiscernible) all kinds of studies, 4, 5, 6 years of age, the wolves die. I cannot believe 8-year-olds has more rounded edges than a two-year-old and you want those sharp edges. We want animals that are nervous and skittish and don't like people. We want to (indiscernible). I think that promotes a (indiscernible). She gets under a bush and gets (indiscernible). That's a difficult (indiscernible) but the (indiscernible) especially in the southwest of (indiscernible) at the time of the releases. (Indiscernible) the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program just need (indiscernible) Wolf Recovery program.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: My condolences.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, Mike, first off, I'm going to try and go to the beginning of the ferrets and tortoise (indiscernible), I haven't made it to the Ladder but I just want to compliment you again the Turner Endangered Species Foundation, for kind of putting their money where their mouth is, you know do it what you do to believe. You do it for the right reasons, to get species D-Listed, bring them back into the wild (indiscernible) proof of and you said, 5,000 deer or something?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Fifteen.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: 15,000, you know that's an accomplishment that it wouldn't happened unless you guys had these. I know a lot of people appreciate and a lot of people criticize you as well but you've done a lot. So I just wanted to put that out there that you guys do do it. But I do have a quick question for you regarding the process in the wolf right now. You said you get involved 20 years or so and you've seen it grow up from the beginning to where we are now. The recovery plan that will eventually come out 2017, are you being involved, to you

feel that that recovery plan is going to get the Mexican Gray Wolf to a point that they might give us it and I guess, this person, do you feel good about operation in any of that?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, first, thank you for the analogy. We work with Team Turner, we're proud. The line you said (indiscernible) goes to Mr. Turner and you all should know that he has taken steps to ensure that we have in the past to contribute to New Mexico's Conservation (indiscernible). The term conservation trust will matter to the state for a long time and I'm honored to be a small part of it. Now, you just asked me a very difficult question and I can sit here and give you the (indiscernible) to your answer and say, sure, sure the (indiscernible). I don't believe that. I think the process is solid enough you should be proud of the process. I have said before and I'll continue to say, I don't see how you can satisfy the Endangered Species Act by placing the (indiscernible) in Mexico and then you might say, why is that? It (indiscernible) and that's true, it's true. There are two (indiscernible) that continue to and I struggle with it, (indiscernible) but my thoughts are going on what you see here today so I (indiscernible). What we know about Wolf Recovery and that is based, depending on two things. It's dependent on the law that's enforced with the Endangered Species Act. It's dependent on large tracks of public land and it's dependent on large population to the (indiscernible). It's not coincidental that the (indiscernible) Gray Wolf (indiscernible) in the continent of the United States except, a few marked in the superior natural wolves. It's not surprising the Red Wolf Recovery Program in an allocated (indiscernible) national effort. It's not surprising that the (indiscernible) Rocky Mountains and (Indiscernible) the large tracks of national forest (indiscernible) and also the National Park and (indiscernible) National Forest (indiscernible). This is not the least bit surprising and the Blue Range population was declined out of Gila and (indiscernible) National Forest. In this country, (indiscernible) public land and made the

difference (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) populations in Mexico, New Mexico (indiscernible) 99% private land. There are no horse tracks in public land. They have no (Indiscernible) and they have some difficulty even (indiscernible) enforcing the laws that can (indiscernible). For those reasons, I think that recovery will be very difficult to achieve south of the border. Now Commissioner (indiscernible) I see recovery written in restoration because (indiscernible) populations where you (indiscernible), that's great. It's not recovery, recovery (indiscernible) more wolves than that or (indiscernible), many more wolves than that and likely (indiscernible) crosses the United States in some degree in high activity that would be difficult to achieve. So, if you (indiscernible) first of all, (indiscernible) twenty years, I don't think we'd be looking at D-Listing (indiscernible) but I appreciate the (indiscernible), we have to do everything possible and enforce (indiscernible) before we move on. Now I think that's what the Service is about maybe intending to do and I think that's a justifiable decision. I'm not sure that's the answer you wanted but that's what I think.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Well, no, I would ask your opinion. That's what I asked, your opinion. But I appreciate not politically correct saying (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I have a few comments. Mike, thank you for being here and for you being honest. You gave us a (indiscernible). So I really appreciate that from, through you and I appreciate the Turner Ranch and what I would like to see is, you know for assurance (indiscernible) and practices. That raised the barr on that because it not only, it corrals a lot of the criticism on both sides because you know, when you have that model you're not only protecting (indiscernible) so I appreciate your involvement to move in that direction and (indiscernible) for example for other things around the United States. I have one question about

you were saying that TBSG involvement and (indiscernible) Miller has made a great contribution to the (indiscernible) and I just wanted to know what that contribution was and how?

MIKE PHILLIPS: The Conservation Agreement Specialist who works around the world on issues just like Mexican Wolf Recovery. They are well trained Conservation Scientists and expert we can use. So, what Phil does, Phil is our Principal, so if you were to come to a workshop, Its Phil standing in front of the group, (indiscernible) moving the meeting along, taking our comments and make sure made sense in a scientific comments. An important part of Mexican Wolf Recovery is (indiscernible) to imagine population (indiscernible) based on (indiscernible) things we can consider today. Things like (indiscernible) today and (indiscernible) lost over time. That model is known as Fortex, takes all the materials and pushes them over the (indiscernible). Phil (indiscernible) the most experienced Fortex model in the world and so consequently Phil's now driving around working closely with the files (indiscernible) participating (indiscernible) in the state and the legal team in the states have published. We commented on the variables that should go into the model and Phil said next year's variables are the best they can do them (indiscernible) on the model. So not only is he an expert mediator in (indiscernible) because he's smart and he sees a long recovery (indiscernible) at times and having somebody that's got a sense of humor (indiscernible). He's very personable. He is an outstanding scientist. So he delivers to the workshop process everything that he would hope of a general manager. He is no manager. You get guys to see him operate and (indiscernible) exactly what (indiscernible) and talk to your team, it's about (indiscernible) and getting additional officers tells us that he entered the workshop process, thank you so much, now we're going to run the department and the one thing instead (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) in the form of Phil Miller continues to be involved and crafted the document that's been reviewed

by the states, before it's released for public review. He's just that good. He is a constant General Manager for these types of issues. He gets involved and it's absolutely key. Now, I am biased, I worked (indiscernible) on post issues over many weeks. You guys probably won't remember this but we brought SESG in to do a population habitat (indiscernible) many years ago. That would have been probably 1998, 1999. Outstanding contribution at that time too. So I think the world of (indiscernible) suggested TBSG many times (indiscernible) officers and they called me about two years ago and said Mike, we want to team this up again, what do you suggest we do and I said you got reach (indiscernible) involved and you got to get CDSG involved. Anytime you get certain assignments (indiscernible) involved, they got most of them (indiscernible) but Phil Miller and CDSG said yes and it has made a world of difference. He is a constant General Manager.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Thank you for that explanation. I wasn't familiar with them or Mr. Miller. Let's talk about the permit that (indiscernible) subject of it and why the critics as granting the permit to hold these wolves last time, the critics said, well their going to end up holding those wolves forever and then sure enough, there's a lot of red tape and I would like for you to talk about that red tape. I heard something about vaccines and I would like for you to address (indiscernible) why we should (indiscernible), can you give us some of the details?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, here's what (indiscernible) right now. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has released a (indiscernible) exportation permit. So U.S. Federal decided the animals are now authorized to go to Mexico. Mexico needs to receive (indiscernible). Commission of the National (indiscernible). They need to receive an importation permit and (indiscernible) permit. Have they applied, they're waiting on those two permits to be issued. The animals have to be handled within 30 days of those permits upon when

they were issued. (Indiscernible) this is like there's a (indiscernible) window and it starts when the final permit is issued. Right now, the schedule is to handle the animals in mid-October at the Ladder Ranch, to do the last health checks and administer the last vaccinations. So they're inside the (indiscernible) window in transport to Mexico and (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) pay for the process. So I'll get back to how we got the result here, (indiscernible). The other moving piece that relates to these 11, is the acquisition of (indiscernible) because the 11 that are transported to Mexico can't be postponed. The transfer the Mexican Colleagues had in hand to apply (indiscernible), so they got to buy new (indiscernible). That (indiscernible) in place.

MALE SPEAKER: It was a sad (indiscernible).

MIKE PHILLIPS: I know. (Indiscernible), they struggled, Commissioner. (Indiscernible) is a fine man, he's deeply involved in the project. (Indiscernible) was time (indiscernible). If it wasn't for (Indiscernible) we couldn't have, it's tough in Mexico (Indiscernible). The facility (Indiscernible). Now how did we get to this point in the first place? People didn't back-up from, we need help, he sits down, let's back up and see what was it we (indiscernible), just everybody have a proper schedule (Indiscernible) these permits and then the puppies would die from (Indiscernible), it's an intestinal problem disease, (Indiscernible). It's not uncommon (Indiscernible) the puppies. Typically, they (Indiscernible) they develop a (Indiscernible) and a problem that they had from their Mother, it can cause diarrhea and is typically not a problem. But because the (Indiscernible) crossed the National Border, they have the (Indiscernible), so they had to be treated for (Indiscernible). That's just a series of vaccinations, no big deal but it's another (Indiscernible) so it was difficult to move them (Indiscernible). So that's how we got to where we are. I have actually said, I think I said to the Director that I'm not (Indiscernible) to ask again for yet another extension (Indiscernible) assume from the 31st of December comes and

goes and their still at the Ladder Ranch. (Indiscernible) for us to hold them on the 1st of January, we could be in a (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So where do they go?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I don't know. Mr. Chairman, I don't rightly know. At a certain point it's (indiscernible) that the Fish and Wildlife Service (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: In this country we move livestock from state to state and place to place all the time and it requires sort of a similar process to make sure their (indiscernible) through all those kinds of things. It can't be that difficult.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I agree.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, this is not, you've done all that you can do. This isn't, this Federal Government, Mexican Government type of deal. So you've done all that you can do and your waiting for the feds.

MIKE PHILLIPS: And I have made clear to the Fish and Wildlife Service that this has the capacity to grow our relationship with you. (Indiscernible) we're facing (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I understand what (Indiscernible) and I wish everything got done yesterday but it doesn't and so I understand delay but this is, when I asked earlier about recovery plans and the history of it, this just seems to be of a hole. I mean we continue to delay and we just don't do that which we should do and it's frustrating to me, I don't know about the rest of the Commissioners, but this, you want all the animals to go on either side of the border, I get that, but this is not rocket science when it comes to permits and other things and you know, people just and maybe it won't be perfect. Again, you want to help the animals but you know,

get the permits, dot the “i’s”, cross the “t’s” and then let’s move these animals on. I understand that it’s not your fault and you’ve done all that you can do but it’s someone at your organization on the phone, earlier in the emails saying, hey, what’s the status of this?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, yes. We all (Indiscernible) motion to be pushed.

(Indiscernible) talks and in my own modest way I should turn the pressure on the United States (Indiscernible) Service.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: But I would see this as a feather in their cap. I mean, this is an accomplishment and so I don’t understand the-and maybe you might be able to explain it to me. It’s a rhetorical comment but I don’t understand the inability to sort of close the deal on some of these things because these are demonstrated good accomplishments and you know, something their resume builders but if you do want to call them and it does build good will and it’s something of a mystery why those things don’t get done. You don’t need to answer that question. I know you’re working to close the loop on it yourself but they, somebody just needs to step up and get some of this stuff done.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I will comment on that. I think it’s hard here in New Mexico. I think that pushing Mexican Wolf Recovery vigorously in Mexico over the persistent logistical administrator (indiscernible). I understand (Indiscernible) but you all have to also understand that you’re looking for (Indiscernible) that shows the Mexican Wolf cannot be recovered in (Indiscernible). So that is greater than (Indiscernible) officer, that will allow the Service to go across (Indiscernible) Ranch, that’s the way the Federal Law is constructed, so (Indiscernible) it will really come to that. The only break we ever had (Indiscernible) is that there is a big scale program in place. But basically a program unless it’s something like this, (Indiscernible) for

three to five years. Texas monitors (Indiscernible) collided with the guys that said the wolves (Indiscernible) to live or die. That's very hard to do. (Indiscernible-voice muffled). Correct? (Indiscernible) the wolves of Mexico are fed a lot by people, diversion of feed and keep them at bay from trouble. Like you said, Fish and Wildlife says it's still using it for nursing and feeding. The Blue Ranch people have thought that diversion their feeding may (Indiscernible), a huge debate. Mr. Chairman, this is going to be a tough road to haul. (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let me ask this question. How many times have we released or done this process in New Mexico?

MIKE PHILLIPS: (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: No, no, no, going from the United States to New Mexico. Is this the first time?

MIKE PHILLIPS: No, the first time (indiscernible) was the Ladder Ranch, but animals have been at the Ladder and all those (Indiscernible) facilities (Indiscernible) but yes, first time (Indiscernible) was in the Ladder Ranch.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So how many times through other facilities have we gone to Mexico?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Not often because over there a handful of them, U.S. (Indiscernible) and then released in Mexico.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What's the most recent successful, most recent time?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I'm not sure Mr. Chairman. I would have to look at the date, I don't know. They keep (Indiscernible) in the future of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program (Indiscernible) again, it's a state agency wide.....

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That's not what I'm getting at. I'm just curious as to again why there's, what's now amounting to significant delay on this. It should be an administrative process.

MIKE PHILLIPS: It should be and it should get smoother as time goes by so (Indiscernible). The key is (Indiscernible) captive wolves in Mexico. Then you don't have to move animals across the border. The Mexicans have that facilities in place and they released some of their (Indiscernible) if we can call it that. Increasing (Indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Mike, my final issues are (Indiscernible) but your position was continues to, he blamed for them to prove me wrong, that they continued to act right and prove me right that state management and recovery (Indiscernible) you mentioned all the states involved in the workshops and helping the process is so more efficient and a way to get things actually done and so I am hopeful that in the future that (Indiscernible) but I appreciate (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Mr. Chair, I'm proud that our Director was invited to testify in congressional oversight committee and resources. One of the problems and there's probably, I think anybody, it's not just my opinion. I think everybody realizes that the Fish and Wildlife Service put (Indiscernible) and their management has many flaws through the years. I get the sense from your testimony that the Ladder Ranch is just basically a holding facility. I take it from Fish and Wildlife or the (Indiscernible) facilities handing back to the Fish and Wildlife and (Indiscernible) decision and job to do something with you but I'm sure you must have considerable influence on some of their actions, when they release (Indiscernible) they release,

findings and so forth. I understand that a lot of times they do listen to you. I feel that's for sure but it is a team work effort and so many problems and years in this program. Can you comment on that, please?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ricklefs certainly. You know, I don't know. With the (Indiscernible) I had, maybe I've been around too long and I have made recommendations that the Service probably would say, would be pretty next to impossible. For example, if I had been the Director the Recovery Plan would be many years old by now. I'm convinced of what needs to be done to advance recovery of the Mexican Wolf. I would never per say, have supported re-listing the Mexican Wolf. (Indiscernible) some specific level (Indiscernible). I would never have listed (Indiscernible). That boxes you into a (Indiscernible) that does not advance recovery in the southwest historic ranges (Indiscernible) at the gray Wolf, they don't really apply because they have they facet of water over great distances. So I would have changes the (Indiscernible) considerably. Many years ago, the (Indiscernible) called me and said Mike, we're going to submit a petition to try to re-list the Mexican Wolf and (Indiscernible) and we happen to say, no, no, I won't and I'm not going to (Indiscernible) Turner Foundation for my support and finally he said, I agree with you. So Commissioner, I would (Indiscernible) but the fact is I'm not (Indiscernible) so I'm just a guy that (Indiscernible) a small amount of profit and we are just a holding facility, that's all we've ever been. Now we can do some things at the Ladder Ranch because they were focused that made it barely considered a pre-release facility and we're proud of that. But I (Indiscernible) officers many, many years ago. I'm honored and continue to try to contribute but you can't tell from my tone, I am growing increasingly frustrated in (Indiscernible) to water and that's why I'm sitting here. I'm not sure I

would ask for another extension if they can't get the job done. I mean there's never any (Indiscernible) but at a certain point I feel like I'm (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Stemmed on profit or not, the Service wouldn't be where it is today without your efforts and so the ingratitude or I mean, they end up having to carry a lot of water for them and so it just sort of stinks. I mean your put in a difficult position on putting out, you know valuable nonprofit dollars for a governmental organization that doesn't show its gratitude, at least not through its actions. I'm sure they tell you, they give you a pat on the back and say, "at a boy", but it's frustrating to not be able to totally carry out the that you've got because you don't have a partner in this that wants to get the job done or can't get the job done or whatever the phrase is.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, like I said, I (indiscernible) a vast (Indiscernible) questions and your answers and I appreciate both. I would like to add one comment (Indiscernible). (Indiscernible) but my (Indiscernible) would disagree that, in conservation (Indiscernible). We kept working on this since 1995. It is (Indiscernible) 18 months we're 21 years into this. The Blue Ranch (Indiscernible) is 20 years old. The pace (Indiscernible) seems unacceptably slow to me and I am growing increasingly frustrated with that and other things that I know of that don't need to be discussed today. (Indiscernible) because at the end of the day, you've got pretty small shoulders, we're just small (Indiscernible). I would not want to ruin that relationship with you guys and the State of Mexico but also border status. (Indiscernible) sheep matters (Indiscernible) trout matters (Indiscernible), we are proud of what we get to do with you guys on behalf of New Mexico (Indiscernible) history. We are not (Indiscernible) Mexico over, we (Indiscernible) Endangered Species Fund and I am not going to comprise (Indiscernible) projects because we're (Indiscernible) compromise position for reasons we can't control.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Understood, let's take some public comment and then we'll see where we're at. Valerie (Indiscernible).

VALERIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Valerie (indiscernible). I just wanted to pay attention to our concern on the (Indiscernible) to your involvement with people who have (indiscernible) with on the wolves or at least in some of these workshops (indiscernible) and Commission earlier (Indiscernible) upset the Recovery Plan to be (Indiscernible) and I think it's very important that people who have this and (Indiscernible). At this time, we are strongly encouraging the Commission to deny the additional permits. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Zach Robert?

ZACH ROBERT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Commissioners. I sent you a detailed letter late last night to Commission. I do apologize for the late notice. I think it was somewhere about 8:45 pm so I assumed my point on these issue would come up anyways. (Indiscernible) but I do want to kind of re-touch on Commissioner's Ryan point concerning red tape and those types of issues. It seems like this a continuing problem with this particular project and it's just heartbreaking that this continues to happen. We can't seem to get the wolves across the border where personally, I would feel that they would be better but it seems like this is something that just conveniently came up. We do commend this Director and her staff on painting such an active role and bringing forward the habituating there in which these wolves have been (indiscernible) in the past and moving them more towards something that might be more primitive to the landscape and the environment. So I am greatly (indiscernible) the staff and their work on this. I do want to reiterate the point that this is being that the problem the wolf being held here, it's being litigated and I know that the comments earlier on the Council, what

does this may or may not have any kind of impact and then it might even be a positive, I would strongly disagree given the fact that (indiscernible) is kind of an epidemic in this society as a concern in these types of species and their management and something that hits the news or the headlines like that, I think we have negative public impact as far as limiting basically the (indiscernible) of the fishing law like to manage these in a hands-off approach. I know we're (Indiscernible) at times but I thank the Commissioner for allowing us to comment today.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Roberts, what organization?

ZACH ROBERT: New Mexico Farm and Life Chapter (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Garret? No notes?

GARRET VENEKLASEN: No notes. Good morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, Garret VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. First, I would like to commend the Turner Enterprises for the amazing work that they do and the amazing partnerships they have brought on the table in New Mexico (indiscernible) and did a heck of a job and such amazing examples of really (Indiscernible) being instrumental in keeping these species not only off the Endangered Species List but creating options for sportsmen who live in New Mexico to actually pursue these species and I think without (Indiscernible) neither of those species would be in the place that they are. Chairman Kienzle said that somebody needs to step up (indiscernible) the New Mexico Gray Wolves and I think that somebody is the Department of Game and Fish. Let's not talk about federal (Indiscernible) let's talk about state priorities. The Mexican Gray Wolves are (indiscernible) for the state (Indiscernible). This (Indiscernible) people fast so, let's be proactive and let's have the department move forward. You do have great scientists. You do believe that that's available to science. Let's come back to the planning table and let's have the department

take a leadership role in the planning process. Let's have the state accept these numbers. I think that that's the missing link here and I think that that would speed this process along, input from all stakeholders getting that (Indiscernible) and publishing that in the paper and then (Indiscernible) the public on the concerns with cattle growers, concerned sportsmen. But you guys should, (Indiscernible) have reached a goal and I don't think litigation is the answer. I think maybe you guys create a plan, give us a plan, (Indiscernible). Let's move forward because it's a state matter and I think that delay, problem is the departments inability to take a leadership role. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Travis? I can't quite make out your last name. Is it Raviesberg [phonetic]?

TRAVIS: That's me.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yeah, what's your last name? I just couldn't read it.

TRAVIS: Ravensberg [phonetic].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay, thank you.

TRAVIS: My name is Travis Ravensberg. I'm a (indiscernible) ranch her in Las Vegas, New Mexico and they were actually in the area for all our lives and I, as you probably know about this, this meeting, you know a few minutes ago from (Indiscernible) colleagues. I'm also involved with (Indiscernible) Chamber of Commerce here and (Indiscernible). When I see (Indiscernible), my background in matching Phillips as always doing anything with Mexico, (Indiscernible) there for the last few years. I also currently own 465 acres in Mexico right now where we don't have the control with the reference to the wolf population over there as we do

here. We are having, I am having difficulties with the wolf in Mexico that you all (Indiscernible) over that we are having losses of cattle. I (Indiscernible) an introduction of wolf into our area with a little grievance. My losses is (Indiscernible) you know, the central type problems. It's not as great but (Indiscernible). I'm 100% opposed to introduction of the wolf population back into our region. I (Indiscernible), basically, the wolf versus my profit margin with cattle and calves and stuff like that. I'm not going to hesitate in doing what they (Indiscernible) I will not. Basically, I'm not going to bend on this issue (Indiscernible) I do see it (Indiscernible) we are in this (Indiscernible) and other country in trying to impact our economy here (Indiscernible). We struggle a lot and (Indiscernible) over this, with the wolf over there and it's not something that I'm willing to accept. So, that's my piece and we'll deal with (Indiscernible) see fit and you guys want to enforce the (Indiscernible) of wolves and you want to force the introduction of wolves but I'm not going to sit back any longer because my property (Indiscernible). So, this is fair warning and that's about it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Dustin (Indiscernible).

DUSTIN: My name is Dustin (indiscernible-. There are (Indiscernible) and there are ranches pretty much all over this country and a lot of different places that I grew up on (Indiscernible) and I would speak out against the wolves too. At (indiscernible) we had (Indiscernible) for a long time and a lot of (Indiscernible), they're just moving down from that area that there is no way (Indiscernible) be both the situation. You know, I'm ranching here (indiscernible). What I've been listening to is you're going to make (Indiscernible) where were going to try and keep them in an isolated area. Well, you know just like up there when I was in (Indiscernible), working ranch. We watched a pack go all the way from (indiscernible) all the way back down to almost Nevada and they were watching them but nobody was stopping them and (Indiscernible)

making them stay in the general area. Now, we're losing livestock all the time up there. They have no control (Indiscernible) issues going around and killing our steers, killing our calves and that's just an issue of how (indiscernible) and there's really no way to do this. (Indiscernible) how are we going to get them and keep them in a certain area without (Indiscernible) and they come down to this area, how long is it taking to move that pack down to there? And then who's going to control them? Are we going to get permits that nothing? At what point do we protect our livestock? What are the repercussions when we decided to protect the livestock? I can tell you right now, in Montana there were (indiscernible) years ago when my Grandpa was still alive that were in trouble trying to protect their livestock and now, at this point, there is no win that it seems like and they just keep breeding and their (Indiscernible) with people. They say there's one (Indiscernible) but we don't see it anywhere I've ever been where wolves have been introduced, they can cover so much ground in just 30 days. They can go from the top of Oregon all down to almost (indiscernible) in those 30 days. It comes to a point of how long is it going to take for a (indiscernible). They'll be over at my place, driving down my cattle in no time and nobody out here, run down everybody else too. I'm 100% against re-introducing the wolves. I'm trying to make a living here myself and (indiscernible) cattle on my own, not just for the guy I run the cattle for and it makes a person nervous to watch for (Indiscernible) and the cattle under (Indiscernible) land. That's something that we're going to have to fight for generations at this point and without, really understanding or having to (indiscernible). Are we going to be able to (Indiscernible) whether they (Indiscernible), how does that work? And like he said, I'm going to (Indiscernible) because they're going to be introduced up there. It's really close to where (Indiscernible) and you know, we already, we (Indiscernible) as it is. I mean last year alone, just us, twelve calves to coyotes last year, 12. We're not a big herd but we're big enough these

wolves is a huge impact and that's a problem and we're losing big time. We introduce anything else, the wolves, I mean we already have enough (indiscernible). Around here that we have to worry. Why would we, you know, bring one more into this country and this area, it's going to really affect us ranchers. At what point do we have to stop giving and you know, actually not be able to survive (indiscernible). You know there's people just like in Washington working on a lot of places where these wolfs were introduced. You know, our kids, they have to wait at a bus stop and up there in that country, their building houses for these kids to stay in until the bus gets there because their worried about kids getting attacked by the wolves. Are we going to reach to that point too or we start (indiscernible) our profit margin and our cattle and our rams and sheep, are we (Indiscernible) for a predator that really I don't see has to be (Indiscernible) this country at this point in time and I don't see (Indiscernible). Where is that in the (Indiscernible)? So, if you want my opinion, I'm 100% against this and I will always say that and stand my ground with that. I'll do what it takes to protect livestock.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you Mr. (indiscernible). Andreas (indiscernible). I'm not taking any more cards, so.

ANDREAS: Good morning, my name is Andreas (indiscernible). I recently retired the SDA. I'm fully opposed to the reintroduction you entered on the Agenda Item. I can tell by the Turner Representative here that (Indiscernible) frustrated with (Indiscernible) and I think the whole concept of reintroduction has been a (Indiscernible). I mean after 28 years or whatever the years might be, they can only account for about less than (Indiscernible) so when that kind of money that's been thrown at that program, it does not make any sense and I do commend the Commission for its approach to this complex, complicated subject but (indiscernible), you know it's not the way we go about it. With the National Budget, the way it is, the program has been a

failure at this point, you can pretty much tell what's going to happen but we don't know and the frustration level is apparent. You know that program was going over and I think the best thing they can do for Turner Foundation is to not grant them the particular permit because they don't know what to do with the wolves that they have now so, with that said, you know, I'm fully opposed to deny this permit. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Tommy (indiscernible).

TOMMY: Hi, I'm Tommy (indiscernible) with (Indiscernible). I also oppose this permit. I think these wolves have been a nuisance to all the farmers and ranchers, not only in our state but other states and the thing about it is that the Forrest Service has not complied at all with what they say they're going to do. I understand these wolves are not going to be located here in Mexico but the ones that are in the southern part of New Mexico were not supposed to be here either. Those wolves are causing havoc within a certain part of the state and if Mexico wants to recover these wolves I do not see why we should be even reconsidering that, raising them here into Mexico. They should be recovering wolves in Mexico but they are actually, that was their habitat. I know Mr. Turner has every right to try to do what he's been doing to try to do this recovery program but I don't think that you guys should allow any clearance for wolves here on New Mexico. These farmers and ranchers work hard to have what they have and we don't need that kind of stuff. They got rid of them wolves many years ago for that (indiscernible). So in closing, I would like to have you guys really consider on issuing these permits to Mr. Turner Enterprise. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you Mr. (indiscernible). Alicia (indiscernible).

ALICIA: Mr. Chairman and Commissioner, Alicia (Indiscernible) New Mexico Calgary. Our organization was just concerned with the extension of the permit over and over again even though you've been asked to move the (Indiscernible) concern on this is going to be a continuing process. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Commissioners any further questions or ?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I just want to clarify as far as (Indiscernible). You have authority right now to hold these wolves until December 31st of this year and your request is for next year. I just want to clarify what (Indiscernible) you were holding on.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, the request that we have submitted, to the Director's office was an extension of our permit to hold Mexican Wolves that we have sitting at the Ladder Ranch from one (indiscernible) 2017 through 31 of December, 2019, two year permit. (Indiscernible) but it's an (Indiscernible) permit that allows the family at the Ladder and other wolves to be held at the Ladder Ranch. The extension that I spoke to, if you recall, we received an importation permit from the Commission to receive the family with the expectation when we ship to Mexico fairly soon after receipt many months ago. That didn't happen so had worked with the Director since then to secure a specific amendment to that importation permit to hold that family longer. So that's a whole separate process from what I submitted on Monday (Indiscernible) statute you guys have to provide recommendation for the Director about what (Indiscernible) recovery purposes. A permit allows us to do that expires (Indiscernible) 2016, we're asking for a renewal of that (Indiscernible) permit (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let me just say that before the rule changed, this was something that (Indiscernible) Director. It was, you know, on renewal, application was submitted and then the Director made a decision. So changing the rule brings the matter of the (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER: (indiscernible). Are we (Indiscernible) a motion and

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm going to recommend one in a second.

COMMISSIONER: Okay, are we voting on three or the Back-footed Ferret extension before this and removal (indiscernible)?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think the wolf is the only issue.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, (indiscernible). The Black-footed Ferret was just an update for (indiscernible). Since we're fixing to submit a (Indiscernible) to the Director about Bolson Tortoise, I thought I would update you on that too. But the only business technically in front of the Commission today is our request for a renewed permit to hold Mexican Wolves in captivity at the Ladder ranch.

COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: What are the dates of?

MIKE PHILLIPS: It would extend from 1, January 2017 through 31 of December,2019 and (indiscernible) there is a piece of your code, 1935.6.9, I think says, in the presence of a (Indiscernible) removal, the Director has the authority to extend across a three-year period of time.. This is a new request rather a removal request we're hoping and it would extend for a three-year period of time.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: My personal opinion here is to make encourage the Director to continue to make (indiscernible) to the implication permit as is necessary to continue to hold these wolves in (indiscernible) as originally intended. It's an additional (indiscernible) in dealing with U.S. Fish and Wildlife (Indiscernible)..

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So let me suggest on the application that's in front of us. I would entertain a motion for a one year renewal that would run through December 31, 2017. The rational for that is, I think as Mr. Phillips has heard and I've heard, these public meetings, we would like to see a recovery plan in place and it sounds like things are moving in the right direction but we've seen this movie before and sometimes we know the ending and sometimes, well this time we don't. So I'm hopeful that that recovery plan will be in place and give us something to further test your application and what I would assume, your renewal application would be a year from now against that recovery plan but that's my rational for one year, is to use sort of a (indiscernible) approach. I know that your (indiscernible) and a messenger on this but I do think it does send a message to the Fish and Wildlife Service, please do the hard work that needs to be done to get a formal recovery plan in place. I would also entertain as part of that motion, continue (indiscernible) by the departments specifically add direct Stewart and his team to make at least one site visit to the facility between now and the part of my motion which would be-your done with your legislative work in (indiscernible)?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yeah, (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, we have a meeting May, correct?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, yes we can do that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So I would like to have you come back here in May, 2017 if that works for you or someone from your team, Mr. Phillips, to give us an update both on the recovery plan process and just to check in with us again if that is covenant for you and your team.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes, sir. Thank you. That would (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay, Stewart, you okay with that? All right. So my motion I would entertain, is to one year renewal and good through December 31, 2017, continuing oversight by the department with at least one side visit between and now and May, 2017 and then have Mr. Phillips or someone from his team come back in May, 2017 and update us on both, the recovery workshop process and then all other matters that concern the wolf at the Ladder Ranch.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So moved.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: I second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any discussion? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any opposed? The ayes have it.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you, Mr. Phillips. We're going to take a break.

[Return from break]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Number 8: State Land Office 2017-2018 Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Access Lease.

DONALD: Commissioners, (indiscernible), Director, we present you with the State Land Office (Indiscernible) spring of 2016 this year. We started with State Land Office and the draft piece that you have seen since then. (Indiscernible) so in your packet right now, you should have the most updated lease with the State Land Office. I think in reality this lease is, is (Indiscernible-voice muffled).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: You know, I'll just throw out, Donald, I'm still I guess really disappointed in the million dollars a year. I knew when we voted for it that what we do and how we do it now, are we getting a lot of access places? Is that working out?

DONALD: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, (indiscernible) in reality, when we're talking about access points or these are the ones that are going to be (Indiscernible) so these are (Indiscernible) these are typically (Indiscernible). So now we've worked with the State Land Office, they identified about 180 to 200 (Indiscernible) and still trying to get signed up. (Indiscernible) the access, we also took our officers in the field (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: And it gets only opened during that season of the antelope, deer, whatever it is, you know?

DONALD: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, it will be open during hunting season (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Right, thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ralph, you got anything?

[Laughter]

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: I'll tell you what, I'm still not, I'm glad to see some efforts but I'm still not satisfied with a land-locked issues on that that we've discussed. You know, I wish that the State Land Office would also make it a lot more user friendly, posting on how to get these land-locked, like I brought up last time, area, you know helicopter, being able to hunt on public land, being able to stay there for the duration of the hunt, things like that. You know, it's the same old thing. The other thing is three years I think is way too long. I think we ought to just continue going year-by-year and going in that same direction. You know, on the other hand I would also like to see where the State Land Office would also provide very (microphone static) information on how their utilizing this funding that their taking and using for public education as well and really strategizing how their doing that and I don't quite feel that we're there.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Anyone else?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I do agree with the three-year lease because it does set in stone terms that we've agreed to, all the work and hours that the department and the state office has put in and I don't have to worry about the million dollars going up and being requested and I know that our hunters are going to have access to these state lands for the next three years. That's why I support the three years and I don't know, Donald if you added up how many hours our department and the state department has spent just on this and I don't want to see that much department resources spent on this every single year. It just seems like a waste of time and no, it's not perfect. No, I'd like to see additional access points and so forth but that I feel like we're at a better situation now then we were in and I want to see this solidified so that we know what

the terms are and move on and address wildlife management like we need to be. That's my two-cents.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Anyone else? How many meetings have we talked about this? Too many. Any other questions for the department, any other comments? Sometimes I ask to entertain a motion, but.....I would defer to someone else on this.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: I move to accept the State Land Office agreement as presented by the department with the term of the agreement beginning on April 1, 2017 and remain in effect until March 31, 2020 in the amount of one million dollars per year unless terminated earlier as per the term is agreement. Any action or changes or termination of this agreement will be brought before the Commission for consideration prior to termination beginning effective, becoming effective.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I had a comment card from the public as I recall. Let me check my housekeeping here. Garret, you were going to speak on this right?

GARRET VENEKLASEN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Why don't you step up and speak your peace before we vote.

GARRET VENEKLASEN: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, this is Garret VeneKlasen with New Mexico Wildlife Federation. I've been through a lot of (Indiscernible) the last month and

covered the state quite a bit. I talked to a lot of our members, they're incredibly frustrated. Almost every region of the state we've had members being locked out of State Trust lands that are actually on their app. and texted me last night and we had 18. There were three points of access that he was denied access to, there were actually points that were acknowledged under the land office app and the area that's all over the state. I think the Commissioner is not being at all proactive in addressing this problem and I'm hearing this from lots and lots of hunters that are being locked out in places that the head office said that they should not be locked out of. I went by the (indiscernible), I've got a really good 4-wheel drive truck. I could not in my four-wheel drive truck get to the campsite. I would encourage you all if you are in that area to go look at the entrance. I saw boulders this big. I would have a problem getting into the campsite with my ATV. That's how rough and horrible that road is into the (indiscernible). So, what we're gaining, this is already a \$100,000 campsite. We're not getting anything where this (indiscernible). In fact, we're getting (indiscernible) this three-year agreement and thanking Commissioner Ramos for mentioning my (indiscernible). We're getting locked out and we're getting charged more and we're getting less. (Indiscernible) we can do that in Arizona. Why shouldn't we build a camp where we want to camp? So, our members are not happy and (indiscernible) and we're not getting what the State Land Office is (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I got a question for you, Garret. So this is, you show up at a gate and there's clearly a lock on it, can't get in and you know there's State Trust Land on the other side of that fence?

GARRET VENEKLASEN: That's correct and again, these are places we've been on (indiscernible) that are designated access points and the rancher, this is Unit 18. (Indiscernible),

confronted the rancher and the rancher said I don't care what the access, you aren't getting through that gate. I'm hearing this all over the state.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, what would be useful to the Commission and the department? What I would say is what you're getting me is anecdotal. If you have hunters and anglers, whoever out in the field, you'd find a way to document that because those are things that we would certainly want to take to the Commissioner and say this needs to be fixed, rectified, but we need something more than stories to operate on so we're committed to helping out sportsmen get access that their entitled to but we can't do it just by saying, hey this happened, we think at this spot. So find a way to document that. I know it can get kind of touchy when you're out in the field on that but whether it's cameras, video, whatever else, let us know and we'll and make sure you get it. It doesn't necessarily need to be to me, the Director, but shoot us a note and let us know what's going on because I am curious to know because we can help be a (indiscernible) for the sportsmen but we need the best information to operate on.

GARRET VENEKLASEN: (Indiscernible) a little bit of road improvement would (Indiscernible)..

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What's he need, a bulldozer?

GARRET VENEKLASEN: (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further questions or comments? Max (Indiscernible).

MAX: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I'm Max (indiscernible) from New Mexico Wildlife Federation and a sportsman (indiscernible) in Las Vegas. First of all I want to thank you for increasing the campsites on state land but I would encouraged that the

(Indiscernible) crossing in (Indiscernible) with a three- year lease without allowing the department any (indiscernible) make necessary changes or access because one party is going by the rules and the other party is not in the State Land Office. I would like to bring you attention to Unit 48 particular, that's where I come to all my life and there have many people from (Indiscernible) New Mexico hunting the (Indiscernible). This archery season there was actually State Land Office staff redirecting hunters and not allowing them to use roads they used for decades to get to state land, that traverse small pieces of (indiscernible) property up there. So that's a big problem when the State Land Office is up there trying to enforce a rule or a law or whatever and not having passes (indiscernible), the status (Indiscernible) to availability and access to open road. It was supposed to stay the same until this thing is settled (indiscernible) all the way through. But again, one the only agency is not going by the rules and then they thank the Game and Fish Conservation Officers that were up there that were (indiscernible) in solving some of these hunting conditions and (indiscernible) with the hunters up there and their patience was greatly appreciated by the hunters up there and we appreciate that but I also caution the department on moving forward with a three-year lease without any plan to make changes during those three years because there's a lot of (indiscernible) occurring in that region. So, I encourage you guys to taking a closer look at that (indiscernible). Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Got a comment?

COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr. Chairman I do. I've been concerned about the State Land Division for a year or two but we were looking at the amount of time, effort and the ability for us to get into the lands and take care of some of the violations that occur that are obviously, hunting violations but also involving the things that would necessitate some kind of reference to State Land Office and I always did say that (Indiscernible) to consider the work that's done. Colonel

Griego provided us with some information here that I think should be public and that officers visited state land on 677 separate occasions, establishing contacts with 1,279 individuals and these visits resulted in the issuance of 28 criminal summons for on state land and I think that that's important Mr. Chairman on the work that we do on state lands.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Agreed. Any further questions, comments? Commissioner Espinoza, I think you were in the midst of a motion on this. Do you want me to repeat the motion, why not?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I move to accept the state land office agreement as presented by the department with the term of it being beginning on April 1, 2017 and remain in effect until March 31, 2020 in the amount of one million dollars per year unless terminated earlier as per the terms of the agreement. Any actions or changes or termination of this agreement will be brought before the Commission for consideration prior to termination becoming effective.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further discussion? All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any opposed?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Aye.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Two out of two?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Yeah, that was me, me and Ralph.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Two opposed, four in favor, it carries. Colonel Griego, we move on. Are any of these individuals here today with the (indiscernible) violations that you know of? Can we just call out their names just to see? Gauge Christensen? Abel Gonzalez? Thomas Kennedy? David Klugman? Lance Luck? Robert Romero? Cole Vineyard? Jeffrey Armijo? Esequiel Mascarenas? Richard Madison? Not present, okay. I think we can at least for the first group here we'll take them all in mass then I think than we'll talk about the next group after that.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Chairman, I move to reciprocal revoke the license privileges of seven individuals under the Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact as visited by the department.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

COMMISSIONER: Discussion?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Anything you want to say on it Colonel Griego I think?

COLONEL GRIEGO: (indiscernible) unless you need explanation for what that group is. If you feel comfortable you know, (Indiscernible) group is. (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER: Question?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I really have a problem in that second group.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We're going to do that one next.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Oh, sorry.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, this group wanted a reciprocal revocation based on (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay, simple enough. We had a second? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ayes have it. The second group, Jeffrey Armijo, Esequiel Mascarenas. Commissioner Salopek, you had a comment on this?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: You know, I know I have, the ones that have showed up at the meetings get favored really on their side. You know on the other side of the fence, when you get 90 points, I'm looking at this one, 90 points. I would like to see ten years instead of seven to be honest with you. You look at what he has done apparently and I talked to Bobby, it's ridiculous. I don't think seven is enough. I'd like to see ten on him.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, that is within your authority to recommend and put up higher than that seven year recommendation. It would be at (Indiscernible) nature but we do feel that it was a very (Indiscernible) situation.

COMMISSIONER: Would you give us some details on that particular concern?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Commissioners, Chairman, on that particular case, what we had was a two individuals that were involved, we suspected a involved case (indiscernible) for possibly five years (Indiscernible) was at the (Indiscernible) what we were getting information that these two individuals were going around to set their own (indiscernible) and basically photographing large mule deer that were in (indiscernible) mule deer that were pretty docile, (Indiscernible) and what their angle was, they would go in (indiscernible) and park and then the car (Indiscernible) the

lining of the trunk, they would dressed in business-casual, nicer clothes and they were going out to these communities late at night and shooting these large mule deer (Indiscernible). They (indiscernible), deer was shot and somehow they would come back into San Diego and load these deer whole in the trunk of the car and drive away. (Indiscernible) they would call another vehicle that would come in and pick these deer up whole and load them into the trunk of the car. After we did apprehend the individuals and serve a search warrant on cell phones, computers and residences, we found numerous hunting trips where these two individuals in excess of five to six deer in ice, all were mule deer and this (indiscernible what we did (indiscernible) we had gotten (Indiscernible) and ending up serving a (Indiscernible) warrant on their vehicle. It was one of the first trapping warrants in the State of New Mexico for any (indiscernible) and we're actually able to watch via computer from where these individuals (indiscernible) and how much effort and time they put into it on this particular (indiscernible), they drove over 200 miles looking for deer. They were in a specific location. We know that they stopped behind (indiscernible) for an extended period of time and because of that we we're able to go back and realize that they shot a deer with a cross-bow because they were loading them whole, our (indiscernible) was very small. There was (Indiscernible) where (Indiscernible) searching for hours and would find a blood spot about the size of a silver dollar. They were taking DNA from that and later on managed (Indiscernible) that we seized and two (Indiscernible) heads on this particular case. We had an officer sitting in a field at the residence and when they drove up and unloaded two deer and from there, we served the warrants and were able to come up with numerous charges but this was a highly, sophisticated operation. They were highly effective and highly motivated. This was a very good case.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And that's on Mascarenas?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, Colonel are there any other people that we've revoked for more than seven years and could you give me an example?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, one that we most recently gave more than seven years was a Mr. (indiscernible), an individual that caught over a 1,000 (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Okay, so this is at least equal or if not, worse case than that?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos I would agree with that statement.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Thank you, sir.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Clarify for me, wasn't there a period in time where we couldn't revoke more than a certain number of years but now for occurrences happening, violations happening now, I understand that we can revoke for more than three where these occurrences in line with us having the authority to increase you know, one or both to ten years?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan that is correct. There once (indiscernible) a time but this is after the fact that since that law has been changed. So, yes (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Okay, just making sure.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Bobby, on this particular individual, do you also face some civil penalties because of the size of the deer?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza that is correct and he has paid that (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Can you, if your memory serves you correct, do you remember how much?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza I don't have that number off of the top of my head.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Did the individual above him Mr. Armijo, this is not the same occurrence. This is a different guy, different violation?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan yes that is a different person. The other individuals were involved in the (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I would entertain a motion to approve the department's recommendations and since this is as to Esequiel Mascarenas and revoke the hunting, fishing and trapping license privileges of him having accumulated 20 or more violation points in a three-year-period but instead as presented by the department, increase the ban to a ten years instead of seven.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: So moved Mr. Chairman.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any discussion? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ayes have it. Good work on that one Colonel. That's kind of a big deal. I bet you guys were excited to wrap that one up, so excellent.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, also just one quick reminder. We are following up with our website too with this individual and what took place.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos this is (indiscernible) yet but we do have all (Indiscernible) that will be on there..

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Absolutely, you know this is almost like you think you're in Hollywood the way that you described it but that's totally unfortunate that these type of things are happening in our state.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good job Colonel.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, I believe you will need a follow up motion on Mr. Armijo.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Working on it. I'm with you. With regard to Jeffrey Armijo I would entertain a motion to approve the departments recommendation as to Mr. Armijo and revoke his hunting, fishing and trapping privileges, having accumulated 20 or more violation points in a three-year-period as presented by the department.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: So moved.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ayes have it. All right, category number three, Richard Madison. Tell us about that one real quick.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, this individual (indiscernible) with the department, (Indiscernible) the one individual left his (Indiscernible) agreement and he agreed to (Indiscernible) by the department (Indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any questions, comments? Who wants to make a motion on this one?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman, just one question. You say on it that the agreements attached but I don't see it, Bobby. I don't need it right now but could you provide that to me later?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza again, (indiscernible). It is a pretty simple situation that the individual was actually cited for guiding without a license because he didn't have his guide card with him and really that was a misconception on the (Indiscernible) of the officer. You're not required to possess for (Indiscernible) to be registered but that individual was from out of state. He went ahead and plead guilty before we could even dismiss the charge so he had (Indiscernible) and this was (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: That's good, worked out good.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Motion on this one?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to move to approve the stipulated agreement concerning the revocation of license privilege of one individual as presented by the department.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ayes have it.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Commissioners, Chairman, group four is a group of (Indiscernible) individuals who have been (Indiscernible) in the last 30 days for Parental Responsibility Act.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Is this also who you (indiscernible) to pay penalty assessment?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Yes, I apologize (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: It's both of those groups.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Yes. It's (indiscernible) who have failed to (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RYAN: It's my understanding that once it's paid then....

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan that's correct. It's (indiscernible) until they come into compliance/ Once they get (Indiscernible) and come back in compliant they are in suspension (Indiscernible) but this (Indiscernible) individuals is for those who (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Colonel, that's a huge number there. Is that for the last year or how long a period for that number?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ricklefs that is likely just from this summer. Our compliance rate on (indiscernible) assessments, particularly fishing without a license (Indiscernible) around 55% always has, it just kind of shows the individuals that are out

there unlicensed, taking away their license of little concern (indiscernible) our penalty assessments when it comes to fishing without (indiscernible) it's about 50-50.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Is this group failure to pay penalty assessment and then parental responsibility folks, are that part of the same group or you going to do them separately?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, on that, that was, I misspoke. This is solely...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Penalty assessment got it. Any further questions, comments? Can I get a motion on...

COMMISSIONER: But the motion includes both groups.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Actually, I'm not sure it includes the penalty assessment folks. That's why I was confused.

COMMISSIONER: (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I thought this was failure to pay penalty assessment.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I can (indiscernible) a motion.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioner Ryan will take care of it.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: All right, I make a motion to authorize the department to suspend the 478 individuals who have failed to pay a penalty assessment within 30 days of the violation under (indiscernible) 17-2-10.2.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Then we need another motion on...

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I move to authorize the department to administer the suspensions on behalf of the Commission including issuance and service of notice of contemplated action to each individual listed that is out of compliance with the Parental Responsibility Act.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Thank you, Colonel. Agenda Item Number 10: Discussion of Carcass Tagging. Ready when you are.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, this is an update on the Carcass Tagging and potential use of (indiscernible). As you all know, (indiscernible) tagging programs is for licensed hunters (Indiscernible-voice muffled). We've also discussed department issued carcass and antler tag and they were (indiscernible) on discussion (indiscernible) trying to coordinate this. My department recommendation is that (indiscernible) carcass tag. This carcass tag that you see in front of you, taking into account your comments, your previous comments from the last Commission Meeting. It's just an antler tag and a carcass tag. The top portion is just (Indiscernible) which we could advertised with or (indiscernible). The distribution of carcass tags is going to be controlled by the department. It's issued by the department (indiscernible). There will be vendors across the state and department officers that will have these tags available for all the (indiscernible) hunts and also the ability to issue the (Indiscernible) tag if necessary.

With this carcass tag, the process is going to be very simple. Basically, prior to (indiscernible) harvesting the animal from the kill site, the licensed hunters will notch the appropriate date of kill on the tag and then attach below the antler any carcass tags you may have. Pretty simplistic but the better it gets on (indiscernible). Once it's tagged it serves as (indiscernible). It's not going to be depending on self-service or (Indiscernible). (Indiscernible) response to know if that animal was tagged (Indiscernible).

MALE SPEAKER: For the second half of this presentation, as you may recall during the last meeting there was a lot of discussion to discuss the option of you guys (indiscernible) to establish a meeting discussion of (indiscernible) to investigate some Washington and prepare an invitation for the Commission. What we've been able to come up with is taking an electronic recording approach. It would be like a harvest report. The (indiscernible) difference between this and our current is that our harvest report is (indiscernible). One of the biggest issues we have right is that (indiscernible) is killed under our current system. (indiscernible-microphone is not working properly) the cheapest system which is a concern that we all have obviously. So this piece of this (Indiscernible). In order to achieve this and in order to be successful and (indiscernible) about cell phone (indiscernible) like that, regardless we're going to have to cut a number of mechanism for people who (Indiscernible) final harvest report. So, we can come up with some of the newer options for example and of course we have the existing options that (Indiscernible) for the last several years. First off, we will make our 800 number or (Indiscernible) and make a business (Indiscernible) where you can talk to a real person. We have the process of upgrading that phone system right now to allow for the (Indiscernible) process where people can call in and report their harvest after hours. People can also, like we do have the option, log on to their account, utilizing the computer or some other mobile device like their

cell phone or (indiscernible) like that and then of course, they can go into one of the area officers and we'll also make this option available that our people can know (indiscernible) and go out (indiscernible) and possibly do it that way. So we thought that by offering a whole (Indiscernible) of options we can capture the ability. People have different skills and different (indiscernible) so this will provide different ways for them to call and (indiscernible). Now, the final piece of this (indiscernible) the Mobil app and this is at the end all be all and (indiscernible). We believe the (indiscernible) when you're working with (indiscernible) but they can also bill the hunter's component and install that in the (indiscernible). This is a trend that I've seen in other states that are going this way and most recently (indiscernible) for Alabama and in that process, individuals can (indiscernible) licenses and then they have them set it all up, go out in the field, you harvest the animal, the (indiscernible) system that will pop up (indiscernible) and you can report that harvest immediately. We see the issue of (indiscernible) to a cellular network is all the challenge but with the app, it would store that in the phone and then (indiscernible) a messaging that your recording has been successfully recorded and updated and as soon as that phone establishes or re-establishes connectivity, it would call to our computer systems and it would record that. Now, one of the things that makes this a little bit different than just to be a harvested phone, is that we would also, (indiscernible) requires an (indiscernible) and receive a confirmation code and this does in my mind, is it closes that circle and you a hunter, he takes an animal, gets it to a piece of paper and our concern has always been that that can be photocopied or utilized more than once or he gets called to the (indiscernible). That's an issue that's out there and we recognize that but by recording that confirmation code and recording (indiscernible) amount, that piece of paper becomes worthless after that cut-off (indiscernible) that's 48 hours after the end of the (indiscernible) . At that point, we show them the sidebar from

which individual (indiscernible-microphone is not working properly). At that point, it becomes much easier to prosecute this case if you don't have eight marks for him to or her to go out there and get more animals (indiscernible). On this particular license that the (indiscernible) the hunter would be required to upon harvest to write down the date and right now the app in which we believe that this is also another powerful piece to this process because furthermore, your furthermore (indiscernible). Here she has so much time to report. There's going to be a hunt date or a harvest date, there's going to be a time and (indiscernible-microphone is not working properly). But this is just an option that we believe would achieve (indiscernible-microphone is not working properly). They don't care if they only have a tag or a harvest paper or anything. They're going to go out and do this so what we need here, we need the department to make that as difficult as possible and so (indiscernible) option for your consideration and certainly we can make any modifications or (indiscernible) discussion. The thing about the (indiscernible) is pretty critical as far as (indiscernible). With that, I'll stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, questions, comments?

COMMISSIONER: You want me to go and begin?

COMMISSIONER: Yeah, have at it.

COMMISSIONER: Chairman, Colonels, I guess both of you. My question is and just from my understanding and clarity, I'm very visual, so let's say that I'm out on a hunt and I kill an animal and immediately I pull out my license, I start filling out the information, the configuration, right, left, three-point, four-point, whatever, and then I don't have a confirmation number yet so now I have, let's say, between me filling this out, I know have 48 hours is what I'm seeing here to, and I'm just kind of looking at options here, the 48 hours to either call the 800 number or to fill out

this app that's downloaded I guess from our website, whatnot, and report it that way. When I report it, that's going to take care of not only the description but we just filled out on our license but also, that's going to serve as our survey for the year within that 48 hours and then at that point when I fill that out and submit it, it's now going to email me a confirmation number and then that confirmation number at that time of course is going to be in my phone but then I can write it on the license, the actual license again. Once that is complete, I'm pretty much done with a survey. I don't have to go. Now, let's say that on the other end, I did not harvest an animal and my hunt is over, it's a five day, let's say an elk hunt in this matter. I know have 48 hours to fill out the, either call the 800 number to report your survey or fill out the app again, not successful. Then it will also again confirm you with an email that you completed that cycle. Is that correct?

COLONEL: (indiscernible-microphone is not working properly).

COMMISSIONER: OK. And I have a third scenario. I don't have the technology, I don't have a cell phone. I do have a license that I printed out at home. And I did fill it out. I'm in the Gila, no cell service. And, of course, I fill it out. So on my way out, I do get checked by a game warden. I've not called it in, but I do have it tagged and whatnot. Is that going to be the process now, when I do get back into let's say, Silver City or within that 48 hours or 72 hours whatever is decided, then I have to call it in within that point. So between my kill and then the recording electronically or phone call, is that document going to be worthy? And I know that we dug in pretty hard at the last meeting with a carcass. And I mean we went extreme to cover all angles from transporting meat and everything. Is this going to be sufficient enough?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Under this particular interpretation [Indiscernible] would be your ability to possess that animal [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER: Just — you know and — I really appreciate the officers that have endorsed the carcass tag again and all that. And I really listened to this group. And that's why I'm really trying to decipher how to really support them and, you know, in both ways. And one of the key points that was brought up to me was possibly the infringement of the individual's — the hunter — rights or something with having an app being traceable and things like that. And you all may know more about that than I do and that's why I'm asking that.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Yes, something [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static]. I guess we've been doing that now for four years. [Indiscernible]

COMMISSIONER: OK. And just kind of, like, to clear it for the general public as well as my fellow commissioners, and I just — and where I'm going with that — anytime I download an app on my phone, and if you have the location turned on, on your phone, pretty much that any GPS's work the same way, they track you at all times. Facebook does it. If I take a picture at Las Alamos or Cook's Peak, Deming Area, it's tracking that location and showing you a picture of that location as well. And I know some hunters are getting pretty savvy that they go off the internet and they can draw that information, "Ah. I want to know where that guy hunts." I know exactly now the coordinates and everything, it's all there. It's — I think it's pretty sophisticated to do, but it's very well possible. And, you know, I think people should be aware of that.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, they don't have to download the app.

COMMISSIONER: OK.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: They can still use the phone. They can still use the computer. Or they can go into the office or any of the local vendors to report.

COMMISSIONER: OK. I was just kind of like throwing that all out so we can have a good discussion and try to build a dialogue to, you know, make the best decision of where our Department should go.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I have a few comments and questions. It seems to me we are really talking about two different things here. We're talking about harvest reporting which doesn't help the conservation officers out there really whatsoever. It helps them if they're looking in the freezers or, you know, having a warrant going in and conducting a search and seeing whether they have a confirmation number with it. But it's not helping anybody that's out in the field working a hunt. There's nothing out there. So I want to point out that this whole initiative was brought by the conservation officers themselves in the Department that said, hey you know what? We're all behind the online licensing system and we have found, over time, that there are some things, there are some gaps. And we need some help on the enforcement side in trying to close in those gaps. Like you said, the bad guys are going to be bad guys no matter what. But we could make it a little bit harder for them. So we have the issue of carcass tags which are on the animal immediately within the 48 hours and within the time frame that an officer is out there doing their checks. And we are talking about some reporting that we've always had, harvest reporting, whether it's 48 hours or 10 days or a month which we do need to reduce the time frame now because — it's just, you know — there's a phone on every corner now. It's easy to report your harvest. But we're really talking about two different things here. And I am all for making it easier to do a harvest reporting. But what I'm concerned about is actually the officers in the field. Even if we have this app and ability to do this harvesting reporting by the app or

phone or website or whatever, tell me, is any of that live information given to the officers that are out there on the field when they're doing their checks?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, this system [Indiscernible] ultimately be helpful [Indiscernible] into our system and will be a tool that the officers can use [Indiscernible] that could be uploaded nightly and you would know who has [Indiscernible] so there is actually good information that could be had on the backside [Indiscernible] through this process we developed.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So in the future, and I think that is a really broad open-ended answer to me. Are we talking a year? Are we talking when this harvest reporting proposal would happen, are we talking five years? Are we talking 10 years? Or is it just an unknown at this point?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, I don't know that I can tell you exactly what that is. The date [Indiscernible] entered into our systems immediately, our officers have been issued tag permits. I understand that technology [Indiscernible] download the system nightly, our data. And so [Indiscernible] I have had this conversation with our folks and I hope that we've got all the pieces in place to make it happen as we move forward with this process.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: OK. So, so the next season, and an officer stops to check someone, we're at least updating as much as 24 hours prior to that check, OK. So it closes the gap a lot. And you're saying that the conservation officers, even if they're in the middle of nowhere and they don't have cell service, are still going to have an updated list with them, on them, to say, "Yes, John Smith killed this 24 hours ago."

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, I'm not saying that data would enter their [Indiscernible] immediately. It would take a physical download at night. That's where we're at. And so whether or not they had cell service really wouldn't matter . . .

COMMISSIONER RYAN: OK.

COLONEL GRIEGO: . . . as it would be on the [Indiscernible] would ultimately be a potential application of this process and would be an enhanced tool that could be used, yes. [Indiscernible]

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So when I call in now to report an animal and the Department has that harvest report, how quickly, from the time I reported, does an officer in the field right now have that information?

COLONEL GRIEGO: [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] it's over. It's that interim [Indiscernible] to file a harvest report that many of these problems occur. People may not have harvested during their hunt. They may file a false harvest report in the hopes that they can go out and spend some time later down the road and then the harvest report would support their legal possession. And so by this discussion, we've shortened [Phonetic] that time period. I think that that's part of the value. It's going to lock people into the story and I'm not implying to the Commission that this is a perfect, 100 percent fool proof answer. But it does shorten the time frame and does give us and our investigators tools to go out there to ask somebody, to get to get to that violation if indeed [Indiscernible] configuration, the time and location. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static].

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Right. Yes, I think we all agree that we can do — there's something we can do better. Originally, harvest reporting, did it help the Department make decisions on . . .

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

COMMISSIONER RYAN: . . . biological, you know, help the biologists, OK, we need more take in this area, less take. I mean, was that the original — I mean, it wasn't, was it, originally accountability reporting or was it informational reporting?

MALE SPEAKER It was more law enforcement support.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, it was clearly biological necessity to collect that information to know what was harvested, to utilize that information [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] to encourage people to file that harvest report as a mandatory requirement. And there's also an administrative sanction [Indiscernible] wildlife harvested [Indiscernible] use that to develop a criminal case [Indiscernible] or another crime that's in [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/interference from open mike].

COMMISSIONER: With that being said, Chief Griego, what would this electronic system, explain the 48 hours and all that, would that help you make a case more effectively versus the carcass tag and I'm just being open minded on that.

COLONEL GRIEGO: [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] our best solution because it [Indiscernible] The 48 hours is [Indiscernible] file that harvest report. [Indiscernible] differentiating between 48 hours killed and [Indiscernible] you know, a combination of two, fusion of harvest survey [Indiscernible] in conjunction with it.

[Indiscernible] The concern with the application method is that you could be checked today and [Indiscernible] hunter license but not do the confirmation [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. I think both systems have applicability [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Colonel Griego, how many states have carcass tagging right now?

COLONEL GRIEGO: All of the Midwest [Phonetic] On the river [Phonetic], there's some in the east that have [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So, how many states, when you were researching the app, have apps and harvesting reporting schemes like the ones being proposed?

COLONEL GRIEGO: [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So, if we went solely with online systems, I think there is room for discussion as far as kind of a hybrid of the two proposals. But going with just the online system, to have to get this confirmation number that has to be attached to the animal and stay with the animal through its storage life, so it's still something that needs to be attached to the animal when they take it to the butcher to be processed, put in my freezer, and it has to be attached to the animal just like the sticky carcass tag that we're proposing that would be happening immediately. So, you know, this was a conservation-officer-initiated item for the Commission to discuss. And, you know, law enforcement is a touchy subject right now across our nation. And so, giving the officers — if they're saying we need the ability to make a probable cause determination literally almost instantaneously and it would absolutely close the gap on the online licensing system issue of accountability. And while I have received 100 percent of the comments from sportsmen supporting the carcass tag and not the online reporting system, and in

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my own survey of every sportsman I know around me where I live in Roswell and talk to them and have been discussing this issue — when I have a conservation officer and sportsman agreeing that the carcass tag is the best way to go when so many sportsmen are, you know, leery of game wardens being out there. What gives them comfort is the ability — they're in their pickup, they've got an animal in the back. Soon as the game warden rolls up, whether he has the kind of attitude that would be very friendly or not, that hunter's like, hey, my tags are here. I'm all set. There's no reason to stick around here any longer than possible, go find the bad guys. And so, that's why I am in such support of the carcass tag option because it addresses accountability. It addresses efficiency. It fixes the gaps that have been discovered since the online system came along. It is consistent with what every single Western state is doing. We're not behind in not doing the app. We're behind in not doing the carcass tag. And so, I just think that has to be out there. Even with the mobile app system, you still have to print something out and have a confirmation number that accompanies the animal. Well, that's carcass tag, and we're just not getting the carcass tag on immediately which is the whole point to help our conservation officers and the hunters. So...

COMMISSIONER: Question.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER: You know, Bobby, I was on the commission that came up with this. And you know I understand talking to the game wardens, conservation officers, I've looked at it. I've talked to pretty much everybody but Beth. You know in looking at it, I still —you know, you look at the wave of the future. I'm 59 so we're used to printing that carcass tag. We still do it with this piece of paper. When we get a turkey, we wrap it up in a zip lock bag. I'm used to

tying it to a leg, or tying it to the horn. Going off of this, would there be any way to, online with this license, maybe when you cut it in half. When you have a Colorado license, you rip it and you don't even have to fill anything out. You just ripped it so as long it's ripped, you've killed something. Now that officer knows. So maybe on this one, maybe if we had something where maybe you cut it in half, put it in a piece of paper knowing that [Indiscernible] and we've had a couple deals where that ink dripped off and you can't hardly read it. Now maybe it was in the field two years ago and we [Indiscernible] wasn't a problem, you know, we had a number. I'm just wondering to solve the problem of the conservation officers if half this sheet went into something that tied to the antler, would that help solve the problems. Possibly we're going to get the confirmation number. And I would like to go to 72 hours instead of 48, and that takes care of everything. I think we have a big gap. You know I hear people complaining about 4 or 5 licenses. I will turn somebody in if I know somebody went out and killed another animal. I just don't think it's rampant. The illegals are going to be illegal. You know, it's just helping some of the people that you can print more tags. If they're illegal, they're doing it anyway. They will do it with a carcass tag. They're not — even if they fill it out, they're going to renew their license because they didn't get checked. If they can get back and kill an animal, oh, I missed the [Indiscernible]. Sorry. That's just how I feel.

COMMISSIONER #2: Mr. Chairman, I have difficulty with the 48 hours also. What if a hunter is in the field, 5-day hunt, packed in, lost his phone, his phone is dead, whatever. The outfitter has to pack this hunter up. Maybe he's got two or three other hunters and have them filled out, have to get out of the field. I do like many options. I'm not a technological person but I can surely dial 8-6-6 if I could out of the field. But it also does not solve the problem of hanging carcass in the camp without a hunter around. Officer has to wait and when these hunters come

back, sometime, whenever they get back, to see if this was a legal kill. I like the carcass tag personally, so that's where I am.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: You know, a month ago we were really torn on this thing. I was really concerned about the way we were going. And I looked at the two options we have today. We've come a long ways in a month. This is not an action item today but it can be done, it will be done one way or the other. And we are way ahead of where we were a month ago. And it just pleases me how far we've come and the support that we got on both sides of this thing. We can make it work either way. We can make it work either way. And I'm tickled as to where we're at right now. I'm sure we'll discuss it more until it comes up again. But, Bobby, we've come a long ways. One thing that really jerked our heads around [Phonetic] a little bit, and that's fine, and we need to be aware of is either way that we go, we've got the I and E [Phonetic] people that have got a heck of a job to explain this thing and I would hate to get the phone calls that say, "What the hell are we doing now? I don't understand it. I haven't seen anything about it." So let's get ready for that one either way we go. But I'm tickled. It's much better and we're getting there.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Montoya, [Indiscernible] some direction from you all, so I [Indiscernible] in general has time to disseminate the information [Indiscernible].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Colonel Griego, would this have to come to a vote at the next meeting in order to get it done before some kind of deadline with the Department and if so would you explain that?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, we actually need to hear from you all today regarding which direction we're going because in order for us to satisfy either process we have to open the rule and have a draft rule by November and have a final rule by January to make it effective for April 1st. So, what we have to have is direction from the Commission today on which way to go.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Bobby, I've talked to lots of sportsmen. It seems like I get calls all the time on this. This has been a really hot topic in our part of the world. And, like Commissioner Ryan said, the conservation officers brought this forward for a reason. You guys had a concern that you'd seen stuff out there, sportsman you know see a concern. They see the bulk [Phonetic] of the license, et cetera. I think we need to come up with something. If we have to give you direction, I think there is validity in both options. I'm not sure, and I think that Commissioner Ryan mentioned a hybrid of the two. I'm more in favor, I like technology and I think we need to do everything we possibly technology-wise. But I absolutely see the value of that carcass tag, that piece of paper in somebody's hand. Sportsmen want it. You know you guys said that it is going to help you. I don't know if we can come up with a hybrid system. I'm

not sure that I feel real comfortable yet with the technology aspect. You know, you mentioned that [Indiscernible] Alabama is looking into this and trying it. I don't want to be the state that's on the forefront of something that has not been tested. So I would be more in favor of the carcass tag right now with the use of technology and get that more to where we can kind of Beta-test if we might on that and see how we can sort of weed out some of the issues that might come forth before we actually implement it. That's where I'd go. But based on the carcass tags, we need to have this discussion, Bobby, about lost tags. I really want you to look at that because I've talked to other vendors in the Gila again after our discussion and there's [Indiscernible] probably be on board as a vendor. You know, give us an option that those officers can issue a duplicate carcass tag if that's possible. I know you have some security concerns but try to work that through because there is going to be that. I don't want to inconvenience a sportsman because he lost his tag.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] show some sort of ownership [Indiscernible] by putting that on there. So I think that part is [Indiscernible]. I think it's going to be [Indiscernible] going forward as an agency [Indiscernible] that makes it easier for sportsmen to obey the law and [Indiscernible]. And it could be just a policy decision on your part but it's [Indiscernible] option to go forward [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. I do believe, I know at one point, we were [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. If there were enough vendors [Indiscernible].

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Yes, that's why I'm concerned. You know, we all hope that [Indiscernible], et cetera, that we will get those vendors back but if you don't then I want an option to where somebody in 16E doesn't have to drive to Silver City or Socorro or something to

get his license and possibly be in violation because he says I'm going to go hunting, I'm not going to come.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I think a hybrid option is really quite a viable thing for us to discuss and I think to me what I'd like to offer up as the hybrid option would be to have the carcass tags as presented by the Department and then revise the harvest reporting requirements to include these new ways to report, the technology, the phone number, the website, the app as proposed by the Department. I would be in favor of something that is not as short as 48 hours, something with a little bit more time and we wouldn't need, of course, the confirmation number attached to the...

MALE SPEAKER: [Indiscernible/multiple speakers] Now we're doing it.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: ...animal because we would have the carcass tags. But I think the hybrid is having a reporting system that's closer to time and including ways to report that are more modern, and then having alongside it the carcass tagging. Just offering that out there.

MALE SPEAKER: [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly and open mic interference] harvest period before that survey period, we need to extend that significantly for that issue. [Indiscernible].

COMMISSIONER: Why do we need a hybrid with the carcass? I mean . . .

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I would prefer just the carcass tag.

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

MALE SPEAKER: ...one or the other unless you went this way and still had a carcass tag and it's out of paper, I think we're going back to the stone age if we [Indiscernible]. My gosh, if we

have to do that [Indiscernible] right now I know hunters who have seen me, they want the carcass tag. I understand that. But we put it on with our own bill [Phonetic]. To not give a license online, I don't know — it's — I'm not disagreeing with the carcass tag. I'm just saying I think we can handle it with this situation [Indiscernible] by cutting it in half, make the hunter put it on the horns. I would think that would solve your problems. If we're worried about the hunter going home to print another license to come back, they're doing it anyway. It's just a few of them. It's not . . . that's my opinion. I'm in the in the field a lot. I'm hunting. I don't see it. Maybe I live in the right part of the state, I don't know.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, in terms of the direction the Department needs to advance at the next meeting, this is put down as a discussion item today so I don't think we are going to vote on it. So my feeling is, we put continue on with both options and then we sort it out at the next meeting.

COMMISSIONER #1: Would you have a comment period?

COMMISSIONER #2: I would like to hear comments from the public.

COMMISSIONER #1: Are you going to have a comment period like we do on anything on the internet where you...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think so.

COMMISSIONER #1: You know, here it's being posted either way, which way do you want it, why and why not.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think that's a [Indiscernible].

COMMISSIONER: Right.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: ...and on the electronic option, I would make the recording period from the end of the hunt and I would make it a 72-hour period. It's unrealistic to kill out the first morning and have to run out of the field within 48 hours to make a report. I do not see the wisdom of doing both carcass tag and earlier reporting that we're already doing right now. That doesn't make any sense to me. So if you're going to go with carcass tag, the tag route, then nothing else really changes other than the carcass tag. And on the electronic option, I think it runs from the end of the hunt and then probably 72 hours to get out of the field and get yourself organized and make the report. Do I make sense?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman, Assistant Director, Colonel, also really, and I want to add more, but I think if we're going to do something, we need to do it right. And really I think our surveys are weak. I'm not quite sure we're getting the biological information that we need from hunters in the field. And I would have to entertain, you know, with Chief Liley and his perspective on that and his expertise. You know, what would we need to also get — if we're going to — the thing about it is, if we're going to do it, when we come to make a decision here we're going to have to market it to the public and really educate them on the steps they are going to have to follow whether, you know, it's carcass tag or hybrid or electronic. And to me, I think that survey is just a weak data point right there. You know, I think we could really make it a beneficial one to really do more with it.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I think I have heard, though, from, you know, everyone who has spoken here, is that there is a majority of us who are pro carcass tags, pro having something on

the animal, and pro carcass tags. So I just think, moving forward, that there is some consensus although there will be discussion on some finer detail points, that there is a majority of the Commission that are pro carcass tags.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: One request that I'd make, Bobby, both Bobby, you and Chris [Phonetic]. You know, obviously there's some questions from the Commissioners. As we move forward, we are really in a tight window it sounds like. In the next 30 days as you guys develop this, bring it forward to us. Because the electronic version, I heard about that yesterday. I need information more on a timely basis so I could kind of wrap my arms around it and also visit with sportsmen about it. So I'd really like that information on a timely basis prior to the day before the Commission meeting. I also want to re-affirm the Chairman's position on 72 hours after the date of the hunt, the last day of the hunt. I like that, rather than 48 hours after kill.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, [Indiscernible] whatever the Commission decides. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So we'll wait another year? [Indiscernible] posted late.

COMMISSIONER: Want to vote for another year . . .

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: [Indiscernible] anyway. We're not picking it up today anyway. Any other questions or comments? So does everyone understand their marching orders? [Laughter] I think yours are simpler than yours. But you need to come up with a draft. I mean there's two

alternatives, essentially. So, I mean, we need to have both in front of us at our next meeting. I think it's where we're still at. Director, what do you have to say?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: We'll figure it out.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Was there public comment on this?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We're going to do public comment on this yet. But I mean — that's essentially — since this is a discussion item, and there's nothing to decide today at this point in time. Kerrie Romero.

KERRIE ROMERO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. Kerrie Romero, New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides. [Indiscernible] electronic harvesting proposal as this is the first [Indiscernible] of the carcass tagging proposal and request in more detail how the Department has initiated the requirement and in the event the carcass tag is proved workable that [Indiscernible] their carcass tag direct to their [Indiscernible] to see if the carcass tag [Indiscernible] through the mail, the carcass tag in conjunction with the landowner authorization to address [Indiscernible] We'd also like to see the requirements of the predator harvest stay the same [Indiscernible] purchased in a last minute scenario and there are [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. Regardless of whether the Commission approves the [Indiscernible] to best insure that requirements are [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Jason Morrell [Phonetic].

GUEST SPEAKER: Good afternoon. [Indiscernible] in that direction. As far as the [Indiscernible] and the carcass tags, anything you can do to make it easier [Indiscernible]. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Colleen Payne.

COLLEEN PAYNE: Mr. Chairman and other members of the Commission, Colleen Payne, New Mexico Regional Director, Mule Deer Foundation. I sent you all a letter of our support of the [Indiscernible] system and just kind of wanted to cover some more of those [Indiscernible]. The overall consensus today is that we are in support of this type of system and would like to see [Indiscernible] forward within the Department and [Indiscernible] from an accountability standpoint and set some accountability and expectations from [Indiscernible] from the Department to our hunters across the state [Indiscernible] reality check of the current system about printing out of licenses that a hunter has the ability to print off multiple [Indiscernible] For instance, [Indiscernible] having multiple [Indiscernible] letting somebody to have the opportunity, to let them make a bad decision. Not saying that they would do that but letting them have the option to make that decision is kind of [Indiscernible]. Giving some suggestions as for the system, obviously we are talking about a harvest reporting system whether it's online, cell phones, apps is a great suggestion. The 48 hours may be an option, [Indiscernible] as well but we'd also like to maybe suggest a 5-day period [Indiscernible] reporting system which is similar to the lion and bear [Phonetic] reporting system. [Indiscernible] hunters who are deep country, give the hunters the opportunity to get out as well as those outfitters and guides [Indiscernible]. We would also like to mention the opportunity for some of those outfitters and guides, like Ms. Romero mentioned, having those licenses mailed directly to the outfitters or if we are going to stick with [Indiscernible] system allowing those operators to print [Phonetic] out their hunters'

licenses themselves. I agree with Commissioner Ramos's statement on some of those surveys being a little bit more detailed and getting some more information [Indiscernible] and allowing us some more information on what these hunters are actually harvesting as well. I thank the Department being able to be proactive on having [Indiscernible] accountable system on this and look forward to answering and helping out in any way we can from [Indiscernible] standpoint. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Garrett.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. [Indiscernible] membership enthusiastically supports this. Obviously, there's some tweaking [Indiscernible] this is long overdue. And we also submitted a [Indiscernible] national organizations supporting this [Indiscernible]. We have not heard from a single one of our members any opposition to this [Indiscernible]. We appreciate you being proactive [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Allison Hansen [Phonetic].

GUEST SPEAKER: Allison Hansen, representing the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association and [Indiscernible] here today in support of this [Indiscernible] convenience of a print-at-home license [Indiscernible] complicating issues. The system allows people to print as many as they want and any [Indiscernible] that they want. This means that they are subject to printer error, also alterations. I see [Indiscernible] licenses that have been shrunk down to wallet size making them impossible to read and certainly impossible to tag property creating an illegal situation. The general public perceives this as a [Indiscernible] print as many licenses as they want. Therefore, [Indiscernible] as much as they want. It's really a [Indiscernible]. As an

investigator, I have worked many complex cases all involved printing multiple licenses. Most recently a license was transferred to [Indiscernible]. This person had already printed multiple valid licenses before the transfer occurred. The person who received the license then had invalid licenses. If these two people were [Indiscernible] there is no way to determine the violation. These two individuals had very [Indiscernible] histories and we are now waiting to see how this comes out. The majority of sportsmen attempt to do everything possible to follow the [Indiscernible] hunting. And we have created a confusing situation for them. It is extremely common to see [Indiscernible] the actual license itself which means there is no way to fill it out and then they can't properly tag. There are a lot of people who do not have a printer or they don't keep their printer in working order. I'm guilty of this. People often show electronic versions to us in the field which is on cell phone which is only [Indiscernible] which commonly their cell phone is down, they can't get service, and they [Indiscernible]. They also can't fill anything out [Indiscernible] forms. So they generally [Indiscernible]. Those people who do manage to do it correctly, get it in the field, face [Indiscernible] other issues. [Indiscernible] victim of a pen that exploded in their backpack, or an unexpected storm that has [Indiscernible] his licenses were [Indiscernible] by the rain. So he was [Indiscernible] all over Gila to [Indiscernible] untagged animal. A huge percent of people [Indiscernible] today, attach that license to the animal even though it's unnecessary. They grew up doing it that way. They do it that way. [Indiscernible] easily destroys your license that's attached to the animal. It also leaves [Indiscernible]. The current situation with our current tag is that it must accompany the meat [Phonetic]. That's very big for our hunters, and is very big [Phonetic] for our officers. They will go to their camp and previously when they had to attach the carcass tag to the animal, they could check the animal and you could be on your way [Indiscernible]. And now we need to go and

find somebody and figure out [Indiscernible] tag is. A lot of times, that hunter had the tag and probably filled out [Indiscernible] and so now everyone in that chain is [Indiscernible]. I know that the print-at-home license has been a huge convenience [Indiscernible]. But our officers are having [Indiscernible] having a hard time with it. It's putting [Indiscernible] and potentially [Indiscernible] and advantage.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ben Byrd.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Director Sandoval, [Indiscernible]. I'm Benjamin Byrd and I represent the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association. The proposal [Indiscernible] distribute a simple, physical carcass tag [Indiscernible] the state and properly supported by our association. The issuance of a controlled carcass tag is imperative [Indiscernible] for hunting which is [Indiscernible] to hunt in New Mexico's big game species far exceeds the supply of animals available for [Indiscernible] harvest. As you know, all [Indiscernible] in the state allow for the take of only one animal per person per species. Therefore, it makes sense that the Department only allows the hunter to have in his possession one carcass tag for the lawful taking and possession of that particular species. A controlled carcass tag [Indiscernible] provides the sportsmen and the officers of the state [Indiscernible]. Using a controlled, physical carcass tag gives peace of mind to know that the animals being tagged today will remain being tagged as long as they have to [Phonetic]. There is no second step [Indiscernible] if they forget or are unable to do something. A physical carcass tag [Indiscernible] by the Department is not unnecessarily burdensome for hunters. For those who have good access to computers, smart phones and other technology. Physical carcass tags are not [Indiscernible] New Mexico wildlife and wildlife [Indiscernible] system. A physical controlled harvest tag is [Indiscernible] construction than the present system of using

[Indiscernible] fish and wildlife [Indiscernible] for generations. You also are not relying on possession of any other devices that [Indiscernible] computers required for making tags available. The issuance of carcass tags, sportsmen will be more apt to carry the license visibly on their person and not [Indiscernible]. While convenient for some, [Indiscernible] understood by others, the [Indiscernible] device does no good for sportsmen when we are required by law to [Indiscernible] all these agencies. [Indiscernible] carcass tags [Indiscernible] harvest tag is simplicity and the assurance that they are legally possessing their animal. The sportsmen throughout the state deserve our best efforts to prevent poaching while [Indiscernible] minimally invasive [Indiscernible]. The current system does not do this. We should not scrap the current system [Indiscernible]. A return to a physical carcass tag will create undeniable proof of compliance [Indiscernible] sacrifice the convenience. This system will decrease confusion, increase voluntary compliance, and simplify the tagging process for sportsmen, young and old. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Kyle Jackson.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Commissioners. Kyle Jackson speaking on behalf of the New Mexico Conservation Officers Association on issues we see with the electronic [Indiscernible] tag system. We believe that we should be making it simpler, not harder. Hunter recruitment continues to decrease, and contributing factors [Indiscernible] hunting, fishing, and trapping laws. One of the most common complaints that I have received from hunters in the field is that every time they get used to the way the system runs, it is changed. We believe that e-tagging will be yet another change that will cause further frustration and disillusion towards the Department. At the very least, a return to the physical carcass tag will be a familiar change. I personally know many friends and acquaintances [Indiscernible] unable to navigate the ever-

changing technological trends. As a friend put it, physical carcass tag [Indiscernible] and even if they were in the field, they hold sentimental value as it reminds sportsmen [Indiscernible]. I fear that if we continue to push technology upon them we will alienate those customers and in the process lose both their skills and knowledge. Other states that we are aware of that have gone to the e-tagging, none of those have significant wilderness areas or other land mass areas without cell phone service, so cell phone service becomes a problem with the 48-hour window for required reporting. It also allows for confusion such as being legal today but in 48 hours [Indiscernible]. E-tagging will also negative affect certain socioeconomic groups in New Mexico. Furthermore, many issues arise from the unreliability of Department systems specifically and technology as a whole. In the past year, there were numerous occasions where the Park System [Indiscernible]. In one case, the entire system was down for two days and rendered the [Indiscernible] incapable of rendering services to customers. In another case, I received notification that specific [Phonetic] hunters in the field did not have the required scans [Phonetic] because they could not purchase them during the system failure. Not only did they fail this hunter, but we allowed [Indiscernible] according to law. [Indiscernible] are required to have [Indiscernible] proof of legal harvest [Indiscernible] time limits. The possibilities of data loss in the [Indiscernible] tagging system are too great. This could happen on a large scale such as the Department data base or on a personal scale such as destruction of cell phone used to record the [Indiscernible]. Finally, the current system was proposed with [Indiscernible] touted as a way to control the use of printing of multiple licenses. We as officers are [Indiscernible] technology through the QR code that [Indiscernible] systems that provide unprecedented access to customer information. This promised technology never materialized. Now we are told that we will be pushing forward with new technology when we were never provided with

[Indiscernible]. We believe there's an inherent convenience to the online system but we need the balance between convenience and [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further questions or comments from the Commissioners? All right, that's number 10. Number 11, final biennial review of state listed and endangered species. Mike Sloane.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman, Mike's getting ready. I just wonder if there would be any objection to amending the agenda to move up Agenda Item Number 17 regarding the State Wildlife Action Plan to after Agenda Item Number 11? I believe we have some individuals here that would like to comment on that agenda item, and we have a full agenda today so if there would be any objection to that?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I don't think so.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Second?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, also could we please, if we could go to move Item Agenda Number 22, Closed Executive Session to basically free-flow until lunch arrives so we

can eat lunch as well as continue on with business to try to expedite it as well for the Commission and the people here?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Can I get a second on that?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. We'll move 22 up to the point in time . . .

COMMISSIONER: . . . the point in time of arrival?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Got it.

COMMISSIONER: Did you order?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: And 17 will now be after 11.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: 17 after 11. Yes, sir, perfect.

COMMISSIONER: [Indiscernible]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Sloane.

MIKE SLOANE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, as required under the Wildlife Conservation Act, we conducted a biennial review of the status of threatened and endangered species, completed a 90-day comment period and received one comment and question on [Indiscernible] be delisted. As we discussed before, that's not part of this process. This process currently is to change the existing [Indiscernible] status of endangered or threatened. So as mentioned to you at

the last meeting, we had subsequently a 14-day comment period where we received two comments, one [Indiscernible] thanking us for the [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] brought to you earlier. With that, I will stand for any questions.

MIKE SLOAN: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, the prairie chicken is not on the state list [Indiscernible].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: What's the Department's position on keeping the Sand Dune lizard on the endangered column?

MIKE SLOANE: The statute requires that [Indiscernible] and in looking at it [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/interference from open mike] show a change in status [Indiscernible] to change that status.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, if I might add to that. The CEHMM, who I think you are probably familiar with, Commissioner Ryan, holds the CCAA for the Dunes Sage Group — sagebrush lizard, excuse me. They are managing that whole process of biological data collection and so we are working with them in that process. But that is not complete and actually I think they are moving into January to start all of that. The statute requires that we bring that biological information forward before we can make that assessment. We are attempting to get that to happen with CEHMM. So, just a little bit more background for you.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: And this comes up again when? When does the review come in? Is it twice a year?

MIKE SLOAN: It's a biennial review, so it's every other year.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So, every other year. I just have concern. We've been talking about Federal overreach, government over-reach all day today. And they have routinely taken our list, taken our jumping mouse list, and then used that as fodder recently for adding the jumping mouse to their bulls-eye. So, that's my concern. I'm sorry, it's not the Department's fault that you don't have the data but it concerns me that there have been a lot of efforts made with these agreements and history shows these agreements have made significant impact on other species and so I would expect that it is making a difference on the Sand Dune lizard.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments? This is an action item.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to accept the Director's recommendation for the biennial review of state listed species.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any opposed?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Opposed.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. 17. Mr. Comins.

[Inaudible]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Oops. Garrett, I cut you off. You can always wave your hand at me if I . . . you can stand down for a second.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. Just wanted to let you know that we have strong data

[Indiscernible] endangered species [Indiscernible]. And I also want to remind Commissioners

that species like jumping mice, improving habitat for species that are not game species can, in almost every situation, that fits [Indiscernible] Game and Fish should be [Indiscernible] sportsmen pursue. So, the jumping mouse issue in any and all cases [Indiscernible] and other species [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/background sounds/static].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Mr. Comins.

JAMES COMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am here to present agenda item number 17, an update on the State Wildlife Action Plan. As previously presented at the August meeting, the notification of the public comment process [Indiscernible] included a press release. It was posted on our Department website. Letters were presented to the 26 Tribes and Councils. Emails were sent to SWAP, [Indiscernible] members, and stakeholders. And emails were also delivered through the Department's [Indiscernible] delivery system to those recipients. This accounted for approximately 11,000 emails, and we could see that 5500 of those emails were actually opened up. Since August [Indiscernible] the public comment period [Indiscernible] It was presented to the public and received comments, we received a total of 20 comments — sorry, received at total, received comments from 20 individuals and organizations. Some of these comments did, regarding [Indiscernible] included support for the document, concern about the [Indiscernible] language, concerns about issues. Members of SCCN [Indiscernible] SGCN list, adding or removing insects from the SGCN list [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. With the timeline moving forward with the official process, we plan to address all the comments in the draft [Indiscernible] and try to revise [Indiscernible] those individuals and organizations [Indiscernible] 14-day review period on October 14th. We plan [Indiscernible]

review and edit this draft law by November 10th and present the final draft for [Indiscernible] on November 17th. With that, I will stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, questions? Comments?

COMMISSIONER: I've tried to be involved in this. I would, between comments [Phonetic], and as I've indicated to the Department, especially Mr. Comins, it's almost an impossible task. It is an impossible task to satisfy everyone. There are those who want to put the insects back on the list while those that want to [Indiscernible]. Personally, I don't believe I would be totally satisfied with the document and I'm not sure if anybody will be because there are so many differing viewpoints. I do want to commend the Department for reaching out as best they can. I look forward to seeing the draft in two weeks by mandate, to see what changes — there were some comments about some of the resource language [Phonetic] and hopefully some of those have been changed. Mr. Chairman, that's basically — I'm very happy that it's much better than what we were looking at a year ago. And I have to commend the Department for efforts in changing it and moving forward with that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, anything else?

COMMISSIONER #2: One quick comment. Again, commending the Department and you, Jim. Talking to state coders [Phonetic] that have contacted me, they're extremely happy from where they were last year to this year and that's because the Department has reached out and embraced their comments and input for parts of this document. So I just wanted to commend you guys on a job well done on a very controversial issue that was last year to where we are today. And I'm looking forward to that final draft as well.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Anyone else? Zack Riley [Phonetic].

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: I don't believe he's here.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Did he leave? OK. Did Valerie stick around?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: I don't believe so.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Garrett VeneKlasen. Again, no notes. This guy's got everything committed to memory.

COMMISSIONER: Stores it in his beard.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We can hear you.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. Again, we [Indiscernible] the Department used sound science and data to drive this document. The original document that was so controversial, was very similar to previous documents. [Indiscernible] wasn't radical or off-base at all. And so, [Indiscernible] And again, it's important to have stakeholder input but you guys are the stewards of our wildlife and you need to let biology and your competent biologists drive the tone of this document. And again, a lot of these species are not native species but what we're seeing on habitat benefits Game and Fish across the board. And it's important to have state coder [Phonetic] input but it is also more important to have science and your very competent biologists [Indiscernible] so we just want to make sure that [Indiscernible] is very, very solid biologically and good science [Indiscernible]. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. And with that I think we are done with 12, we'll see you next month. Agenda item number 13, final rule presentation . . .

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Back to 12.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: 12? I'm sorry, I skipped one. Pardon me, I got screwed up with moving 17. That was my fault. Agenda item number 12, annual nuisance wildlife and depredation report. Stewart.

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

MALE SPEAKER: Have you got some vicious raccoon picture you can show me? [Laughter].

MALE SPEAKER #2: What's the bag limit?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, [Indiscernible] depredation report for Game and Fish [Indiscernible] report for the previous fiscal year. What we have the last fiscal years [Indiscernible] July 2015 through June 30th, 2016, being a total of 537 complaints received by the Department. Of them we resolved 98 percent, so higher than [Indiscernible]. You always have some depredation that [Indiscernible] resolution. For example, the complaint June 28, we were not able to resolve [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] take longer than others, and working with the landowners to resolve those. [Indiscernible] last fiscal year was again raccoon was our predominant species and — excuse me — metro areas, that's our predominant call [Indiscernible]. Bear is always in our top 5 risks, and then elk, beaver and cougar. Deer [Indiscernible] total we'll see again once the [Indiscernible] the lower complaints are deer [Indiscernible] resolved. A lot of those are also [Indiscernible]. And then you get the whitetail and go down the list, a few here and there, down to one each under Oryx, ibex, and bighorn sheep [Indiscernible]. So our resolution rate is very high. Some of those Oryx [Indiscernible] all because it's on a military range [Indiscernible] so

it's something we just have no control over [Indiscernible] resolution rate [Indiscernible]. Those ones that are still open, we're working on those [Inaudible/static]

COMMISSIONER: Bighorn sheep [Indiscernible]?

STEWART LILEY: So, bighorn sheep, was that a sheep ram [Indiscernible] with his horns on a car [Indiscernible] thousands and thousands worth of damage.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: See, that would be a viral video on YouTube.

[Laughter].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You could make money off that.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: That's funny.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What about raccoons? Will we provide traps for people?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, we actually do work with them and we also have contracted out [Indiscernible] because it is such a cumbersome complaint that we're getting. We are working with and educating residents [Indiscernible] trap control, et cetera. [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Raccoons are a protected species?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Garrett.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: I pass.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Pass, OK. Commissioners, any other questions or comments? I know we all want to know what the dove did. So what did the dove do? Or, doves.

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, I believe the dove was one that [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/multiple speakers/interference from open mic].

COMMISSIONER #1: They could be up to like an [Indiscernible] with the seed [Phonetic] on top.

MALE SPEAKER #2: [Indiscernible] three thousand dollars a pound. Some of those varieties .

..

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments. All right. Thank you. Agenda item number 13, final rule presentation regarding options for providing premium hunt opportunities. Action item. Stewart.

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, this is being brought in front of you [Indiscernible] premium hunt opportunities [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. Today, we bring roughly 10 million dollars of money on auction and raffle [Indiscernible] about 40 million dollars [Indiscernible]. This includes [Indiscernible] as are sheep. Our transportation [Phonetic], our cougar control [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. It is only for those who can afford an auction, and those [Indiscernible] raffle. The Commission [Indiscernible] So the heart of the recommendation at this point is recommending one statewide deer and one statewide elk license to be to be available and the annual [Indiscernible] of deer and elk [Indiscernible] January 31st each year, those tags would be out there [Indiscernible] We had 3 public comments. All those were in favor of [Indiscernible]. One was a comment on [Indiscernible] [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. Commissioner Espinoza would like to discuss some other names.

[Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static over-riding speaker]. With that I'll take a motion to [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I want to hear from Garrett first. Garrett.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static.].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You can live with it?

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Commissioners, any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER: Stewart, again, this has been one of my ideas along with Commissioner Ramos. I think we're the ones that brought this to the forefront. And I'm glad we're here. This is — I've got lots and lots and lots of positive comments over this. One thing I wanted to look at and have you report sometime next year after we conduct a draw, how many people pushed that "apply" button for these hunts? I also would like some emails going out prior —either after this Commission meeting — showing what this is about and what it's going to do. I don't recommend that one comment, you know, like you said, you want to mirror those option tags or restrictions, et cetera, to where the sportsmen have exactly the same opportunity that would have been afforded if they would have bought one. And I also want to look and bring forth a recommendation next year to add additional species other than the deer and the elk. And again, the name — I thought because we were going to look at — hopefully we'll look at more species

although I like the idea of [Indiscernible] employees and especially following employees. I think we kind of need a name that mirrors again that same thing, that we're not changing it every time and the recommendation I had was the Commissioners', sportsmen's authorizations. So that's just the name to consider in front of the Commission. So again, thank you for your efforts there.

COMMISSIONER #2: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Stewart, how would a hunter apply for this? Is it just one of his choices as he applies for [Indiscernible]?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Will it cost him to apply for this one?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, there will be no additional cost [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You have to apply for something, I know, to put in for this. So that could be their first choice or their choice, correct?

STEWART LILEY: [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Pretty exciting. Good work. Progress.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: One question real quick, Stewart, on that. When you conduct the draw, would that — as long as I checked it and understanding how the draw works — if I checked it and it hasn't been filled by somebody else whether it's my first, or third, or fourth choice, then I would receive that authorization. Correct?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, if your application came up as your first choice [Indiscernible]. It's your first choice and your second choice. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Could we make this a fourth choice?

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Does that answer your question? You're good? OK. Any other questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER: I think Commissioner Montoya still is getting his brain wrapped around it.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: It's going to be difficult.

COMMISSIONER: Run that by Shifley [Phonetic] next time. First choice, second choice, third choice. Sorry.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Go ahead.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER: Clear as mud. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions...

COMMISSIONER: . . . we're not naming this today, are we?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Not today, I don't think.

COMMISSIONER: You know, I would personally like to see it named after the two officers that got killed in that plane crash. That's just what I'd like to see.

COMMISSIONER #2: I agree.

MALE SPEAKER: [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments? Motion?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to amend 19.31.14 and 19.31.13 NMAC as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it.

[Indiscernible]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Probably.

FEMALE SPEAKER: OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I mean I'm not sure. I mean, we can bring it back.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I don't care, it's . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: November's fine. Agenda item number 14, final rule presentation Javelina. Stewart.

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, before you is the final rule for adoption on Javelina. We discussed it last time [Indiscernible] GMU 1923 to 28. They were highly undersubscribed [Indiscernible] offering those tags 1923 through 28 really focus on [Indiscernible] over the counter [Indiscernible] so even an over-the-counter license [Indiscernible] number sold annually, we also propose that any person possessing a deer or elk license [Indiscernible] GMU 1923 through 28, and also possesses an over-the-counter Javelina license [Indiscernible] we are also recommending the increase [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static/echo].

COMMISSIONER: Could you back up two slides?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Is that the one [Indiscernible]. There you go

COMMISSIONER: [Indiscernible] OK. All right, thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Questions? Comments? Does this make sense to you?

COMMISSIONER: If it makes sense to me, we've got it.

[Laughter]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're the test. All right. If there are no other questions, this is an action item. I'll entertain a motion. Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: I move to amend 19.31.21 NMAC as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing these rules with State Records and Archives.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Agenda item number 15, Pittman Robertson Modernization Act. You are not Chris Chadwick. No, wait. I'm reading the wrong one. What am I thinking? You are in the right place at the right time. I'm in the wrong place at the wrong time.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, I am here to share with you legislation [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly and interference from open mic]. Pittman Robertson Act became law in 1937. It basically directs existing Federal excise taxes on firearms and ammunition [Indiscernible] forcing the state wildlife agencies such as ourselves [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/interference from open mike]. These funds are most often used for things like wildlife conservation and habitat acquisition and management, hunter education [Indiscernible] money and receive a reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost of those types of projects that we work on. Since the inception of this program, it has raised over [Indiscernible] billion dollars for wildlife conservation. [Indiscernible] become increasingly organized, has become a more [Indiscernible] hunting and recreational shooting at the level it once did. Additionally, the age of those involved in these activities continues to rise steadily over the years. Modernizing this act is essential to prevent the decline of the revenue that's looming on the horizon. Congress funded this with

Senate Bill 2690 and House Resolution 4818 [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. Primarily it extends the financial and technical assistance to the states for recruitment and [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly and interference from open mic]. Some of these revisions [Indiscernible] and to improve hunter recruitment and recreational shooter improvement [Indiscernible] hunter and shooter recruitment activities which are [Indiscernible] and would remove prohibition on [Indiscernible], provide clarification and [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/interference from open mike] provide an addition [Indiscernible] use for hunters and recreational shooters [Indiscernible] national hunting and shooting sports [Indiscernible] Pittman Robertson Act [Indiscernible] sports enthusiasts. Those changes are [Indiscernible] conservation efforts and necessary for preserving our heritage. We request the Commission to consider [Indiscernible] and to address the conservation funding and [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/interference from open mike/echo].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Yes. Who is carrying the bill in the House and Senate?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, [Indiscernible]

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Well, who else is supporting this in Congress? Is U.S. Fish and Wildlife? I mean besides what would be our point in this State Game Commission — will we just be submitting comment to them saying we support it, or . . .

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman and Commissioner Ryan, if I might add to that, ATA, the Archery Trade Association, excuse me, was the initiator through Mitch King [Phonetic].

He's former Fish and Wildlife Service and so he's Bass Pro Shop/Cabela's, and a whole consortium of groups that were included on a Blue Ribbon Panel that is discussing another issue while in support. What I do understand from New Mexico is that Heinrich is a cosponsor. We have asked — I have reached out to the Governor's office for specific sponsorship from all of our Congressional members. And I know that they are considering it. And so, this has been a big push by all of the 50 states and nationwide organizations.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I don't think we're getting rooked here...

COMMISSIONER RYAN: No, it didn't sound like it. Thank you. That answers...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That's your concern?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: That was my concern, yes. Sounds great.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: It doesn't look like we're getting rooked [Phonetic].

COMMISSIONER RYAN: OK.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Commission support the legislation in Congress to modernize the Pittman Robertson fund to address to date conservation funding in hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting participation challenges.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further questions or comments? There are none? All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Opposed? No one opposed? Stewart. Number 16, potential additional bighorn sheep season in the San Andres Mountains.

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission what we have in front of us today is the outstanding San Andres and White Sands Missile Range [Indiscernible] We flew a survey last year. One of our surveys we had there in a long, long time before [Indiscernible] years before, and we actually counted over 176 [Phonetic] bighorn which we were not expecting to see. We're seeing that we're going to be able to offer more opportunities [Indiscernible]. That said, only have one date period where hunters can hunt in the San Andres. What we're trying to do is [Indiscernible] having all the hunters, there are about 6 to 8 hunters [Phonetic] at the same time going in San Andres [Indiscernible]. We are proposing [Indiscernible] periods but before we [Indiscernible] our survey, I guess that will be this week, next weekend on San Andres confirm that we will [Indiscernible] but we are proposing splitting that into two different time periods [Indiscernible].

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Go ahead [Phonetic].

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Chief, I guess, assistant chair [Indiscernible], after participating on the Fra Cristobal, I know that we saw multiple broken horn racks that were just broken close to the base on one side, the other side just a very quality animal. It was incredible. I wonder if we should possibly look at, you know, maybe making one of those hunts, one of those management hunts for that particular type of ram. I know that I did speak with people there on the Fra Cristobal and that might be something they'll also do there. I know this is a discussion item. I

thought maybe we could, if we're going to go up to eight, make one of those for more opportunity.

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, that is a possibility. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly]. Those rams are being more apparent, more apparent than they should be [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] might be short bursts [Indiscernible] for sure but a long term plan where we're going to have [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions?

COMMISSIONER: Stewart, we had in the past — of course, we overcame the scabies situation a long time ago — we're up to about a hundred, did you say?

STEWART LILEY: We're actually anywhere from [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Two twenty. Fantastic. That was a heart breaker. [Indiscernible] What gets in the horns?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Vice Chairman Montoya, what we have is, during rut season when they start getting [Indiscernible] you can get a chip out of the bone core [Phonetic], you can get wild flies, flies coming to the [Indiscernible] part and kind of infesting that, that's how we get that. We don't see that as often as we used to. And we probably won't see it as much when we harvest. We will see that [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions? If not, Jimmy Duran [Phonetic]. Garrett, you're next.

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Pass.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Pass? OK. Mr. Duran [Phonetic]. Yes, sir.

GUEST SPEAKER: [Indiscernible] But thank you, ladies and gentlemen, Game and Fish, you all have done a wonderful job trying to control [Phonetic] the Game and Fish. It's a big job here. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly/static]. But everybody says, it's no way in the rules [Phonetic] in that river here or here. It's interbreeding. [Indiscernible]. That's why you're getting interbreeding. We're talking about bighorns. We all [Indiscernible], right, from US Outfitters. How [Indiscernible] him and his wife were able to get a tag in the same year for [Indiscernible] wilderness. But I have friends that have applied for 40 years and haven't been able to get a tag. [Presentation indiscernible—microphone not working properly] We've got my neighbor at 5 acres [Indiscernible] organic alfalfa [Phonetic] So, I had hunters [Indiscernible] submachine guns [Indiscernible] 50 or 100 at a time. Why fence off his organic alfalfa instead of fencing off 200 acres that we're still paying a quarter of a million dollars for that 8-foot fence. Thank you. [Indiscernible].

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you, Mr. Duran [Phonetic]

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Garrett passed. Any other further question or comment on agenda item number 16? OK. We will break for lunch for a short period of time. I can't tell you exactly when but probably about a half hour. Thank you. We will pick up on agenda item

number . . . we've got to do the little blurb first. Could we have a motion? Somebody give me the blurb.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I move 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 in Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA to discuss the property acquisition; and Section 10-15-1(H)(7); on matters subject to the attorney-client privilege relating to threatened or pending litigation in which the Commission or Department is or may become participant [Indiscernible] agenda item number 22, subsections A, B and C.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

COMMISSIONER: Roll call?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Espinoza.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ramos.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ricklefs.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ryan.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Salopek.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Vice Chairman Montoya.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: We are eating downstairs in Green Room [Phonetic]. This

Commission has adjourned

[Indiscernible/multiple speakers/static]

MALE SPEAKER: Good afternoon, Chairman, members of the Commissions. [Indiscernible]

Department's hunter education program . . .

FEMALE SPEAKER: Testing.

MALE SPEAKER: Test. OK, there we are.

[Microphone problems now corrected]

LANCE CHERRY: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, I have come before you to give an update on the Department's Hunter Education Program for the last year.

Hunter education, you know we've been doing these Hunter Ed camps and I just want to give

you an update on that. The Department has done four Hunter Education camps which were

conducted statewide. Locations include Camp Washington, ranch near Carlsbad, Philmont Scout

Ranch near Cimarron, Camp Wenhinahpay near Sacramento, and Camp Gorham near Chimayo.

These camps included 124 students who earned Hunter Education certificates. These camps encouraged families to participate and learn the skills of a safe and ethical hunter together as a family. These camps are exclusively hands on, and not only focus on firearm safety but teach blood trailing, game care, basics of survival, and hunt preparation. Students also shoot 22-rifle, shotgun, and archery. Hunter Education camps were made possible through the generosity of the following partners: [Indiscernible] Club International Foundation, Southern New Mexico Chapter of Safari Club, New Mexico Youth Conservation Foundation, Philmont Scout Ranch, Boy Scouts of America, and Camp Washington. Some skill-based [Phonetic] camps the Department put on, this was something new that kind of came about from the online hunter education, kind of split off of that, 26 online hunter education graduates participated at one of two free skills camps conducted at the Albuquerque Area Gun Club. Students fired pistols, shotguns, and rifles, and learned archery. We also received firearms safety training, survival and hunter skills instruction, and ethics education. This camp provides an opportunity for next step engagement to online students who desire to gain additional hands-on skills prior to hunting. A free hunter's survival camp attracted 60 students to the Department's Albuquerque office where they learned proper hunt preparation, basic first aid, fire and shelter building, signal mirror use, and orienteering skills. Youth Hunt Camps that we have done, we had a variety of free youth hunt camps that were hosted including a quail hunt at Armendaris Ranch, white-tail deer hunt and spring turkey hunt on the Wedding Cake Ranch near Clayton, and a separate antelope and elk hunt on Vermejo Park Ranch. Youth, along with an adult mentor, learned biology and ecology of the animal hunted. They reviewed hunter safety practices, discussed shot placement, hunting rules and regulations, and spent time on the range prior to the hunt. For over 80 percent of these hunts, I'm sorry, for 80 percent of these youths this was there first time. So, this was

really encouraging for these kids to have their first hunt with us as being mentors. Planning is also underway to establish an all-girls deer/Barbary sheep hunt in the future, hopefully in the Hondo Valley. I'd also like to recognize the following partners that, without them we couldn't have made those hunts possible: New Mexico Chapter Wild Sheep Foundation, New Mexico Chapter of Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, New Mexico Youth Conservation Foundation, and the [Indiscernible] Club. We've been under flash mobs. The Department engaged the general public by conducting two flash mobs at two Albuquerque area Chik-Fil-A locations. The flash mob approach was a spontaneous, less conventional outreach to educate non-constituent families on how to become involved in archery, shooting, off-highway vehicle riding, and fishing. We had over 300 participants, all families of those that participated. Of those that participated, 100 percent had never shot a firearm, and over 50 percent had never fished. Plans are underway to continue additional flash mobs throughout the area, throughout the state, as time permits. An update to the online hunter education, approximately 1,153 students passed the Department's online hunter education course since implementation in January of 2016. Over 60 percent of students are between the ages of 11 and 15 years old and are utilizing a desk top computer or a mobile device to complete the course. The highest usage was during the month of March when we experienced 503 online graduates. Out of the 1,153 polled, [Indiscernible] percent gave the online course 5 stars, so it has been well received by those that have taken it. Our next initiative is to get hunter education in the schools and 192 schools across the state have been invited to participate in this unique after school opportunity. Two schools are fully trained and are implementing online hunter education programs as we speak. Over a dozen schools are working through the grant application process within their districts or school boards for implementation. This opportunity is free to kids in 5th grade through 12th grade. Facilitator training is minimal.

Using a cost reimbursement program through a grant is how we will basically obtain teachers to facilitate these programs for their computer labs to teach hunter education. With that, I will take any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER: Chairman, Commissioners, [Indiscernible], I'll tell you I'm really impressed with this whole program. It's been very nice to work also with Jennifer Morgan. I'm one of the principals that also filled out the application and all that whole process. And, you know what? The nice thing about it is that we're definitely getting the information to keep us from getting into trouble, you know, uncovering all that and making sure also that superintendents and the public schools are all on board going into this program. But also, just, you know, it's a process for a principal and I just want to share that with you because you have to go through the whole hierarchy of approval and when they see hunter and firearms, it has been a big old thing or deal. But I do appreciate that over the last two years, we did massage it to go over this online system where you don't have to have the dummy guns in the classroom and all of that, and also built and again thought outside of the box to bring in these camps which supplements those students if they do want to participate in that. But just overall, great job. I tell you, Jennifer and I just really looked at the forms at all angles, you know, and then again with following up with principals because a lot of times when you receive 50, 60 emails a day as a principal you might miss those and to get it to the right people that are interested plus also including your staff on who's going to want to do that. You know it is just a good program. But again, the numbers are speaking for themselves and I'm really going to be curious, once you do get the public schools involved, on seeing that number double, triple, with the amount of time. But great job. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Anyone else? Any other questions?

MALE SPEAKER: I'm OK for now.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK.

COMMISSIONER: Good job. Excellent.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER: More instructors.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Number 19, shooting ranges, number 19.

GUEST SPEAKER: Hope you feel like it's good news. Chairman Kienzle, Commissioners, I come before you again today to present an update on the development of shooting ranges in New Mexico and the progress we've made since the last Commission meeting. Beginning with the status on the primitive shooting ranges at Tres Piedras and Urraca we've been working hard to keep the ITB process, the Invitation To Bid process, rolling fast and quick. And I'm pleased to report that tomorrow that bid will be out and by October 21st, we expect the bid to be open. Once awarded, we will be able to start moving forward on construction on that range in Tres Piedras.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're the man!

GUEST SPEAKER: So, for Urraca, it's tentative to be put out in the spring or early summer so we can allow for that elk calving season to run its course. Last month, I reported on the potential development of a shooting range, a new primitive shooting range, in Clayton, New Mexico. I am happy to report that we have received a letter of intent from the landowner and will continue our

efforts to work towards finalizing the transfer of that property which will allow us to being with the compliance process and ultimately build a much needed range in that community.

[Inaudible—static]. In the Cibola County shooting range, just to give you an update on the status of where that one is sitting at this time, in just the past week the official legal description for that shooting complex was completed from a cadastral survey which opened the door for the property to be transferred, requesting 211 acres from BLM to Cibola County and the next step on this [Indiscernible] will be moving it into the Federal Registry. That one continues to creep along at a steady pace and you can see just a handful of pieces left before we can move forward on that one.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Excellent.

GUEST SPEAKER: So, in closing, I'd like to say that the Department continues to work on pushing forward on development of these shooting ranges and we will be happy to keep you informed of the progress we're making. And with that, I'll stand for any questions.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Cadastral survey? Is that looking for bones?

[Laughter]

GUEST SPEAKER: Chairman, Commissioner Montoya, that cadastral survey is just a property description, a legal property description, finding the boundaries of it.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Thought we were looking for cadavers.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, we'll see you here again next month? The Tres Piedras one, when would we break ground on that, if all goes well.

GUEST SPEAKER: Chairman Kienzle, if all goes well, [Indiscernible] once that bid opens on the 21st, then we will expedite signing contracts between and that company who we have selected, and we will pin a date. So, probably within a couple of weeks after that signing then — you know as we've talked to some of the contractors who have been interested in this project along the way, they know we need to move fast particularly with potential for winter snows and freezing of the ground out there. So . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Get after them. All right. Progress. And then any — I know they were looking at a constellation of other ones. Do we have a few other ones still kind of moving forward? Are these the main three we've got?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, we continually look at potential properties and opportunities and continue to have discussions with countless folks, whether it be even Clovis, the San Ysidro properties. We still are in conversation with those communities and agencies.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good enough. This is progress. We will see you here again next month and [Indiscernible] again. So, thank you. The agenda item that never ends, so my condolences to you. But thank you for the good work. Agenda item number 20, draft rule changes to the fisheries 19.31.4 NMAC and the manner and method rules.

KIRK PATTEN: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. Today I am going to present some proposed changes to Fisheries and the method rules that we have developed over the past month. We first presented these as kind of concepts at your August meeting. So I've broken these down into four different groups, the first of which is we are proposing to adopt — or have you adopt — a trout water regulation on the Rio Chama. This is approximately [Indiscernible] mile downstream in the popular Cooper's Landing area, if you're familiar with that downstream

to El Vado Lake. It extends about 3-1/2 miles downstream to the historic Ward Ranch. We are proposing catch and release regulations [Indiscernible], artificial fly, lure. Just one thing to point out about this amendment is that we received significant public support for this particular rule during our fisheries management plan over the past year which you adopted last spring. The next topic for the proposed amendments involves Gila trout angling. We are continuing to expand angling opportunities [Indiscernible]. The origin of most of these rules comes out of the, down at the bottom of the screen is that framework for management of Gila trout angling. That document was adopted by the Department and the Fish and Wildlife Service last winter. The purpose of that document was required by Fish and Wildlife Service policies to get a better understanding of how we intended to manage Gila trout with respect to angling. So in that document, we committed to proposing to you 2-fish limits for both Mineral Creek which was stocked this past summer with Gila trout as well as White Water Creek which we are actively planning a restoration project down near Glenwood, New Mexico. Also in that framework, we committed to seeking regulation changes to expand our free [Phonetic] Gila trout angling permit. The purpose of this is that, if anglers were to go and fish in the recovery waters or recreational waters open to angling they have that permit and it facilitates us getting a better understanding of what the effects of angling are on that population which would help us get a better understanding of how, when we start moving toward delisting, what the effects of angling would be and we can manage that better to ensure the long term persistence of the species. Another regulation topic for amendment is to open up the West Fork of the Gila River to angling. It was closed to angling back in 2007 or 8 to protect recently restored population of Gila trout. Over the years that restoration project has not been successful and it's really — there's no reason to keep it closed, so we want to open it up to angling and keep the closures on the tributaries to protect those Gila

trout populations. During this review, we also noticed that the language which [Indiscernible] Creek is closed to angling which is required under Federal law. It wasn't real clear, and this was adopted back, I believe, in the late 90's and so we added in some language to clarify that that water is closed to angling. The next category of amendments is adding a couple of waters as big cat waters so it would be a reduced bag limit of 2 fish rather than the statewide guideline of 15 [Phonetic] fish. This is a way of our more equitably distributing the large catfish that we purchase each year and stock into many of our urban waters across the state. And then, adding 3 [Phonetic] waters to be formally considered trout waters. This would insure that we have, I guess, a uniform application of regulations to our winter trout waters. And then, for years we've had the Pine River, which is a tributary to Navaho Reservoir, closed to snagging during the — snagging season. The purpose of this was to facilitate the Department conducting our spawning operations up there. We don't use that area anymore for our spawning operations so there's really no reason to keep it closed anymore. So we're recommending that it be opened. We do need to feel like it would be appropriate to close the boating no-wake areas at Navaho Reservoir during the spawning season around the Pines and [Indiscernible]. This would help us insure that we have successful spawning operations at Navaho when we need to. So here's a summary of public outreach to date. After the meeting in August, we posted these draft regulations on our website. On September 8th, we sent out emails to interested individuals and partners seeking their input on it. With specific reference to the Gila trout regulations we started discussing this with the public in the southwest part of the state back in November with a public meeting — November of 2015, excuse me — in the Glenwood area and followed that up with another public meeting in February of 2016. To date, since we started this new [Indiscernible] period, we've received 2 comments, one from Fish and Wildlife Service biologist who expressed a little bit of

concern about our Gila trout regulations but after discussing more with them, they feel like — and we feel like — we're in line with the recreational framework which I previously mentioned with respect to the new Gila trout regulations. And we also received a comment from Trout Unlimited. We have scheduled a public meeting for the Tierra Amarilla, Chama area, and I think it's going to be held up at Heron Lake State Park for August 27th just to discuss, in particular, the special trout water on the Rio Chama. And that's all I have. So, with that I will take any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Commissioners, any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Mr. Chairman

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Are we making headway in the Gila country? I noticed Dry Creek was closed, Big Dry Creek really. Lots of brown trout in there, lots of rainbows in there. And that — have we changed that in the last few years so that Gila trout are back in that in pure strains?

KIRK PATTEN: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Montoya, I'm not quite understanding your question.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: OK. I noticed that, in this regulation, the Dry Creek is closed to fishing. Have we eliminated the brown trout population in there, and the rainbows, and now it's just become a Gila trout water?

KIRK PATTEN: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Montoya, Big Dry Creek was restored, a small section that was restored for Gila trout back in the 1980's, I believe in the early 1980's. And it was...

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: You amaze me.

[Laughter]

KIRK PATTEN: ...but there evidently a population of brown and/or rainbow trout on lower downstream reaches and so, I believe they still persist in there but the Gila trout in the restored reach are doing quite well. Our biologists surveyed those last year and we are quite pleased with the numbers of fish in there.

[Multiple speakers in background, Indiscernible]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ralph, do you have something to say?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: No.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Anyone else? Kerrie Romero.

KERRIE ROMERO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. Kerrie Romero, New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides. The guided fishing industry would like to thank the Department for all of the recent proposed changes that they have made to the fisheries rule, especially as it relates to the catch and release proposal on the Chama. We would actually like to see the Department take things a step farther and designate a 4-mile stretch of catch and release waters below both El Vado and Abiquiu Dams. An independent study that was conducted by one of our outfitter members found that both resident and non-resident anglers are overwhelmingly in favor of helping to create a world class fishery on the Chama similar to what

has already been accomplished on the San Juan. And the outfitting industry believes that more catch and release areas is a good start. So, thank you to the Department.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Before I overlook him, Jason Morrell [Phonetic]. I don't know why I almost overlooked [Indiscernible] on these comment cards for me, but I didn't forget you this time.

COMMISSIONER: He's in camo and you can't see him.

JASON MORRELL [Phonetic]: Commissioners, Chairman Kienzle, this has been a great process, very open, everybody's been involved. You guys have taken our thoughts and ideas from the comment periods. Trout Unlimited has been very engaged. Your team has been great. Absolutely support of what we have presented before us. It's been a good process. This is how [Indiscernible] should be done. It was a relatively quick process. So thank you from Trout Unlimited and sportsmen across the state. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Garrett?

GARRETT VENEKLASEN: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. We also support expanded catch and release sections. It just makes a lot of sense, economic sense for the Department, less work stocking fish which is very expensive. I think as the process starts to become implemented, it would be important that there are sections of put and take just so there's not any controversy about folks thinking that they're having their opportunity to catch and keep trout taken away from them. I think the implementation of this overall into other fisheries and other tail waters and other sections of rivers, there's a lot of opportunity there that we support. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Commissioners, any other questions or comments? This is an action item. Can I get a motion, please?

COMMISSIONER: This isn't an action item, is it?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm sorry. I'm always one ahead. Freaking everyone out. My apologies. So do we take this up next month, then?

KIRK PATTEN: That'll be fine. Mr. Chairman, we'll come up with the final rule and put this in to you next month.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Right on. My apologies. The good news is, on number 21, I'm going to ask for a deferral of that again to next month. So if I can get a motion to that effect, please?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: So moved.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Agenda item 23, potential property acquisition in San Juan County. Mr. Comins.

JAMES COMINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I am here to present agenda item number 23, potential property acquisition in San Juan County. In September of 2015, the Department received approval to initiate the potential purchase of what we are calling the Sullivan property in San Juan County. The Sullivan property is located near Farmington, New Mexico [Indiscernible] the Department's Retherford property. Currently there is no access to the

Retherford property on the south end. The proposed purchase of the Sullivan property would include 25 acres of land with a 55-foot access easement from the county road. This purchase would secure access for hunting, fishing, recreation, and allow for habitat improvement projects along the San Juan. The purchase price for the Sullivan property is 126 thousand dollars. Here's a map showing the location of the Sullivan property. The property outline will be what is the Sullivan property. The yellow areas are proposed access, and the Retherford property you can see is outlined in red. And with that, I will stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER: Ready for a motion?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: This one is, in fact, a motion action item.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman, I move to instruct the Department to proceed with the acquisition of the Sullivan property along the San Juan River near Farmington, New Mexico. I further move to allow the Chairman and Director to negotiate purchase price, purchase of this property on behalf of the entire Commission.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Public comment? Nothing further? Mr. Duran [Phonetic], did he leave? I believe he left. Solomon Maestas.

SOLOMON MAESTAS: Good afternoon, Chairman Kienzle, Commissioners, Director of Game and Fish Sandoval. My name is Solomon Maestas, Junior, and I am here to follow up on the proposal presented to you folks at the June 23rd meeting in Santa Rosa. The proposal was to guarantee an archery mule deer tag to 70 year old hunters, archery hunters, on a yearly basis. The proposal read that we would be willing to pay for the tag. We don't want to, you know, take it free unless you just want to give it to us like you did the fishing license. But that's basically what the proposal is about. I hand carried a letter with that proposal to the meeting in June, on June 23rd, in Santa Rosa so I am sure every one of you got one. And then I followed up with another letter that I mailed to every Commissioner and to the Game and Fish Director and deputy directors. Then I followed that up with — that was on July 27th — with phone calls. I called various commissioners, and I called also the Game and Fish Department and I was finally able to talk to Mr. James Comins about this issue and this proposal. I did get one response from Commissioner Ralph Ramos in regards to this, and we've talked extensively about it. Mr. Comins from the Game and Fish sent me a letter also and in regard to the protocol that takes place with these issues, all big game issues, I guess, on a 4-year [Phonetic] and he said that you all were 2 years into the process and so there's 2 more years to go. And so the reason that I'm continuing to bug you all about it is that I'm getting older and I don't know how much longer I'm going to be able to get out in the woods and do this, if I can eventually get a tag to go out there and hunt. But I don't want this thing to end 2 years from now and have you all come to me and say, well you should have done something about it. Now it's over, you've got to wait another 4 years. So, that's why I'm continuing to bring this up to you folks. And I don't know where you go from here. I don't know, at some point I would assume that you're going to get together and say, you remember that proposal that old guy from Las Vegas brought up? I think

we need to talk about that. Are we going to do something about it or not? You know, I'm trying to help you guys put another feather in your hat. You have a Veterans' Hunt, you have a Youth Hunt, you have Handicapped Hunts. I think it would be a feather in your hat if you created a Seniors' Hunt. And there's not going to be that many people that are going to apply for this hunt, trust me. I suggested in one of my letters and Mr. Comins in his letters, addressed this issue, that I prefer hunting on Unit 43 on top of Old Mesa [Phonetic]. Now that's a huge unit and there's not a whole lot of deer up there and I can tell you one of the reasons is because there is a lot of poaching that goes on up there and I've witnessed this first hand and it actually ruined one of my very first tags that I drew there. About 8 to 10 years ago, I drew that tag and the poachers that night, when we first started the hunt, there was so much gunfire going on, you know those guys were not practicing, target practicing, at 9 o'clock at night. Anyway, I like to hunt up there because I learned how to hunt up there. And they only give 10 tags out there. The Game and Fish only allows 10 tags up there. I never see hunters up there [Indiscernible] run into anybody because the unit is so darned big. So if I were to apply for that hunt in Unit 43, you could look at it and say, we only give out 2 tags and there's only one guy, 1 old man applying for this tag and besides that we could give him a tag. And he pays for it. [Indiscernible] the price on the tag, I'll still buy it. OK, this is how important it is to me, folks, and [Indiscernible] applying for those and trust me on this other thing here, we're not going to deplete the herds, OK? So if you could take that into consideration and keep it alive. I don't want this thing swept under the rug for the next 2 years and then I have to wait 4 more years, then you're going to have to help me get over there in an ambulance, OK?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Director, how do we study this further?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, we have actually a listing of all of those issues that we take up under recommendation. This is one of them and we will present that as part of the rulemaking process.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, what commitment can we make to Mr. Maestas today that he doesn't have to wait 5 more years to at least get this heard by the Commission?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: It will be on for the discussion on the next rulemaking process. I track all of that. I have a tickler list of all of the issues. And, Mr. Chairman, we'll start that probably in about a year and a half.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Is that for the deer rule?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, that's correct. Stewart, am I correct on the timing on that?

[Indiscernible]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And then it is, is that the first time it will be heard or is that for final action?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, we will vet that, all of the proposals, whether it's a specialty hunt or whatever that may be along with the proposals from the Game and Fish, that public process, so it will probably be a 3-step meeting — or rather, 3 meetings, excuse me — initially rolling it out, then having your draft rule, and then final rule. So it will be through that summer most likely.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So the first time this comes up for discussion, then, is a year and a half from now.

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DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Quick question. [Indiscernible] typically have our Youth Hunts, don't we have Senior Citizen Hunts, too?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, we don't have a senior citizen hunt. We have a senior elk license, but it is not a hunt, it is a license fee.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: No, but like, I'm looking at, thinking of, in the Southwest the Youth Hunts that we have, don't we have senior citizens? I think that would be something to look at, personally.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, absolutely. I will add that to the tickler file [Indiscernible] excuse me.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioner Ramos, do you have anything on this?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Well, I think this is great. Thanks for being persistent and communicating with us as well, as well as showing up today. Thank you very much, sir.

SOLOMON MAESTAS: OK. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Just one more thing. Director, the process you just described, that would be our normal rulemaking process. Anything other than that would be out of the ordinary, then?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. That is the standard process for public input.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Perhaps cold comfort, but it is on the to-do list, Mr. Maestas.

SOLOMON MAESTAS: OK. And you said 1 year from now? Is that what she said? I'm also old and deaf so . . .[Laughter]

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Maestas, that will start in approximately a year and a half. We will have all of that information out through public notice and on our website and if you — I believe you have an email address...

SOLOMON MAESTAS: Yes, I put that on my correspondence with you.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: I would strongly recommend that you add, go into our website, and add that you would like to get those emails so there's another way for you to receive notice.

SOLOMON MAESTAS: OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So again, that may be cold comfort but it's on our to-do list. But I do encourage you to stay engaged and keep driving the process.

SOLOMON MAESTAS: Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Seeing no more public comment, anything else from Commissioners on any other subject? Can I get a motion to adjourn?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Moved.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it.

In Re:

NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

**New Mexico Highlands University
Adele Ilfeld Auditorium
800 University Ave
Las Vegas, NM 87701**

**Wednesday, October 5, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

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APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

October 5, 2016

New Mexico Highlands University

800 University Avenue

Las Vegas, NM 87701



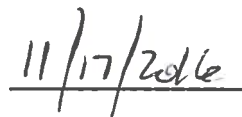
Alexandra Sandoval, Director and Secretary



Date



Paul M. Kienzle III, Chairman



Date

New Mexico State Game Commission

AS/scd