

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

IN RE: MEETING

BEFORE:

Ronald A. Weaner, President
Ralph A. Martone, Vice President
David J. Putnam, Secretary
Gregory J. Isabella, Commissioner
Thomas E. Boop, Commissioner
David W. Schreffler, Commissioner
James J. Delaney, Jr., Commissioner
Robert W. Schlemmer, Commissioner
R. Matthew Hough, Deputy Executive Director
Carl. G. Roe, Executive Director

HEARING: Tuesday, April 12, 2011
8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: PA Game Commission Building
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110

WITNESSES: Calvin DuBrock, Rich Palmer, Bill
Capouillez

Reporter: Sarah Wendorf
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BRADLEY BECHTEL, ESQUIRE
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DISCUSSION AMONG PARTIES

5 - 107

E X H I B I T S

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NONE OFFERED

P R O C E E D I N G S

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PRESIDENT WEANER:

I call this meeting to order. We're now meeting in a voting session of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. I would like you all to join me in a salute to our flag, please.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED

PRESIDENT WEANER:

I welcome you all to this meeting, and I extend a special welcome to my agricultural resources class sitting out there at Dover High School hopefully watching right now. One word of note. Please if you have a cell phone, turn that off so that we're not interrupted with that. Mr. Secretary, will you call the role of members, please?

COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

Mr. President, all Commissioners are present.

PRESIDENT WEANER:

Thank you. Do I hear a motion to approve the minutes from our meeting of February 1, 2011?

COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

So moved.

PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 Is there a second?

2 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

3 Second.

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Moved by Commissioner Delaney. Seconded

6 by Commissioner Isabella. Is there any discussion?

7 Hearing none, we shall proceed to vote. All those in

8 favor, signify by saying aye.

9 AYES RESPOND

10 PRESIDENT WEANER:

11 Those opposed? Mr. Secretary?

12 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

13 Mr. President, the motion passes

14 unanimously.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 Thank you. I'll turn the first business

17 item over to our solicitor.

18 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

19 Thank you, Mr. President. The first item

20 to come before the Commission today is from the Bureau

21 of Wildlife Management. It concerns the State

22 Wildlife Grants Program. Congress appropriated funds

23 under the State Wildlife Grants Program or SWG

24 directly and exclusively to state wildlife agencies

25 for wildlife species of the greatest conservation

1 concern. Pennsylvania is eligible to receive these
2 funds for fish and wildlife projects under the SWG
3 program. We are recommending approval of a SWG funded
4 project entitled Genetic Approaches to Understanding
5 the Population Structure of Little Brown Bats, *Myotis*
6 *Lucifugus*, in Pennsylvania.

7 The description of the project is in your
8 agenda. The total SWG funds for this project are
9 \$28,807. This project will not require any net
10 reduction in the Game Fund since it is a cooperative
11 project. If approved, the Commission will contract
12 with the organization and investigator and pay SWG
13 eligible costs from the Game Fund. The Game Fund will
14 be reimbursed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
15 Federal Aid Program using SWG funds. The Executive
16 Director and Staff recommend approval of this State
17 Wildlife Grant Project as described in the above
18 commentary.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Do I hear a motion to adopt this?

21 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

22 Motion.

23 PRESIDENT WEANER:

24 Commissioner Isabella. Is there a
25 second?

1 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

2 Second.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Commissioner Schreffler seconded. Is
5 there any discussion? Hearing none, we shall proceed
6 to vote. All those in favor of the motion, signify by
7 saying aye.

8 AYES RESPOND

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 Those opposed say no? Mr. Secretary?

11 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

12 Mr. President, the motion passed
13 unanimously.

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 Thank you.

16 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

17 The next items concerns adopted
18 rulemaking. This is this adoption of a proposed
19 amendment to Section 139.4. To effectively manage the
20 wildlife resources of the Commonwealth, to Game
21 Commission proposed at its February 1st, 2011 meeting
22 to amend Section 139.4, relating to the seasons and
23 bag limits for the license year, to provide updated
24 seasons and bag limits for the 2011 to 2012 hunting
25 license year. The Executive Director and Staff

1 recommend final adoption of this amendment to 58 Pa.
2 Code as shown on Exhibit B on pages 4 through 11.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Is there a motion?

5 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

6 Motion.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Mr. Isabella. Second?

9 COMMISSIONER SCHLEMMER:

10 Second.

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Commissioner Schlemmer seconded the
13 motion. Is there any discussion? During the
14 discussion time here, we're going to go through this
15 page by page. If there are any amendments to be made,
16 we'll make them and handle them one at a time. So
17 right now we'll open page four for discussion and
18 Exhibit B. Yes, Commissioner Martone?

19 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

20 On page four, I'd like to amend under
21 squirrels, combined species, the third line down,
22 December 26 currently reads February 4th. I would
23 like to extend that to February 25th to match the
24 rabbit season that we extended last year, so it would
25 read December 26th to February 25th, 2012.

1 PRESIDENT WEANER:

2 We have a motion to amend by Commissioner
3 Martone. Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

5 Second.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Commissioner Isabella seconded. Is there
8 any discussion on this motion to amend by striking
9 February 4 and inserting February 25? Hearing none,
10 all those in favor of this amendment signify by saying
11 aye.

12 AYES RESPOND

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

16 Mr. President the motion passed
17 unanimously.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Okay. We have that --- we now have an
20 amended motion. We'll continue on down through here.
21 Anything else from page four? Okay. Page five? Mr.
22 Schreffler?

23 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

24 Yes, Mr. President, I would like to make
25 a motion to set a season for porcupines from September

1 1st to March 31st with a limit of six.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

5 I'll second.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Okay. So we have a motion by
8 Commissioner Schreffler, a second by Commissioner
9 Martone to create a season from September 1st to March
10 31st with a season --- or with a bag limit of six. Is
11 there any discussion on that?

12 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

13 Mr. President, I would like to just
14 comment on this. The porcupine is our second largest
15 rodent and a rather unusual mammal in North America
16 with poor site and hearing and slow to reproduce. And
17 although it may have a role in our hunting seasons, I
18 think that we should be judicious in moving this
19 mammal from protected status to a statewide season.
20 And I think that it's one of those --- in that it's
21 damaging property, I want to also say the nuisance ---
22 the ability to continue to kill porcupines that would
23 be causing the nuisance or damaging your property
24 would still continue even though there would be a
25 season set with a period of time closed. The period

1 of time that I had for the closing of the season on
2 porcupines would be when they are rearing their young
3 basically.

4 And I also would like to remind my fellow
5 Commissioners that we do have a role here --- in
6 actually our constitutional role actually protect the
7 species of animals for future generations, even though
8 we may or may not agree with their role in the
9 ecological scheme of things, the fact that they may be
10 damaging others. The other thing that I'd like to
11 remind us is that Pennsylvania sportsmen have been
12 known for years for their devotion to fair chase, and
13 I'm not sure that this is one of the animals that is a
14 sporting animal for fair chase, so ---.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 Let me ask you a question to clarify your
17 motion. Your six, was that a daily limit?

18 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

19 Bag limit.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 Daily because there's two columns, daily
22 bag limit and field possession?

23 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

24 Yes, that's daily bag limit. I'm sorry.

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 And what were your suggesting as field
2 possession limit after the first day?

3 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

4 Twelve (12).

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Is there any other discussion on this
7 amendment? Commissioner Martone?

8 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

9 I concur with Commissioner Schreffler on
10 this. Looking at the young are born in April, May
11 June, and they have a 50 day gestation period, we felt
12 that --- or I feel that this is a prudent way to
13 accommodate a season where the porcupine --- and start
14 out with a much slower, more careful season than just
15 a 12 month open season on porcupines.

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Other discussion? Commissioner Putnam?

18 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

19 Yes, the intent of this regulation was
20 not to declare war on porcupines or even have an
21 organized hunting season for porcupines. I believe
22 they would be put in the same category as opossums,
23 skunks or weasels. We don't have organized hunting
24 for opossums. And while it may not be fair chase to
25 go after porcupine, which I would highly agree with

1 --- it would be in the same category as the opossums
2 as far as I'm concerned. The intent of this is to
3 allow people to manage porcupines on their individual
4 properties. Porcupines can be highly destructive.
5 And I guess I'll leave it at that, but the intent of
6 this would be to remove any gray areas, because
7 porcupines don't --- you might find a porcupine
8 chewing on your individual house one day, but they
9 range a fairly good way. So if you want to control
10 porcupines on your property, you need more latitude
11 than just actually catching them in the act of
12 depreciating on your building.

13 So I don't disagree with what my
14 colleagues are saying. I think the porcupine is a
15 valuable part of our ecology. I would not want to see
16 any harm to the porcupine population. I don't believe
17 a hunting season will result in any net change to the
18 porcupine population because people are now taking
19 measures to control porcupines on their own property.

20 I believe many of those are not done fully in
21 compliance with the law. In fact, I would find that
22 very few are done in full compliance with the law.
23 And if we pass this season, maybe we can accompany
24 that with additional regulations --- or additional
25 information on how to protect your property from

1 porcupines and what manners can be legal.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Further discussion? Commissioner
4 Martone?

5 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

6 And I agree with Commissioner Putnam. I
7 myself paid over \$500 last year to take two dogs to
8 the vet because of porcupine quills, but I'm hoping by
9 putting a season from September 1st to March 31st a
10 land owner, a camp owner, somebody may be able to
11 reduce the population somewhat and then still be able
12 to address nuisance animals outside of that season by
13 using the nuisance laws that we have to prevent
14 private property --- they'd still be able to kill the
15 porcupine, but there is a reporting factor to that
16 that I think the public needs to know about. But I'm
17 hoping that a more prudent approach would solve the
18 problem this way. Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Further discussion? Okay. Let me repeat
21 the motion. The motion is to amend the original
22 motion by creating a porcupine season that runs from
23 September 1 to March 31st, daily bag limit of six,
24 field possession limit after the first day of 12. All
25 those in favor of this motion, signify by saying aye.

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AYES RESPOND

PRESIDENT WEANER:

Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

Mr. President, the motion passes
unanimously.

PRESIDENT WEANER:

Thank you. Page six? Page seven? Page
eight? Commissioner Schreffler?

COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

I'd like to make a comment here about the
White-Tailed deer on page eight. I've become
increasingly concerned about the increase in wildlife
management units that are being split between the
antlered and antlerless season. I find and I would
like to reiterate my concerns as I've done in the
past. These first days of the deer season are usually
the most successful days. These days are that many of
our youth use an opportunity to get a deer, any deer
while they're off school. Also a number of adults
take vacation days, use their vacation days that they
would like to have to get a deer. Some of them when
they take vacation days during the first days of the
hunting season have to work during the next weekend.

1 So this is an opportunity for them to get
2 a deer, doe or buck. Also, and I hate to see that
3 opportunity disappear, especially when we're trying to
4 encourage our youth and others to continue hunting.
5 And success is one of the best ways to encourage
6 people to continue hunting. I also found in these
7 recent months that the majority --- in fact, a large
8 majority of the public comments that I've been getting
9 and our agency have been getting favor the concurrent
10 season, not the split season. And another concern is
11 in the management of the deer herd. We are setting a
12 situation up where it allows --- with the split season
13 allows greater impact for poor weather on the doe
14 season and our ability to manage the herd overall.
15 Thank you.

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Is there any further discussion? Okay.
18 Page nine? Page ten? Page 11?

19 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

20 Mr. President, I do have a floor
21 amendment ---

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Go ahead.

24 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

25 --- for page 11 with regards to bobcat.

1 If you would come down to the bobcat and note the
2 season that is listed there, again we're talking about
3 fur taking/hunting. I would move to strike December
4 17 and December 7 and insert January 17, 2012 through
5 February 7, 2012.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 A motion to make these two changes from
8 Commissioner Delaney. Is there a second?

9 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

10 Second.

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Commissioner Boop. We have a motion on
13 the floor to strike December 17 and insert January
14 17th, strike January 7th and insert February 7th. Is
15 there any discussion?

16 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

17 Yes, Mr. President, if I could start the
18 decision.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Continue on.

21 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

22 What started the discussion with regard
23 to my proposed amendment was correspondence from the
24 Pennsylvania State Fox and Coyote Hunters Association.
25 And I would just like to read two lines and let my

1 fellow Commissioners offer some commentary. Please
2 consider our request to transplant the number of
3 hunting days to the period of January 17, 2011 through
4 February 7, 2011. Our proposal would not begin the
5 bobcat season until the statewide flintlock archery
6 season has ended. This period would effectively
7 equate to the actual number of hunting days, 19-3,
8 Sundays excluded, as the current proposal. Our hope
9 would be to eliminate the potential conflicts with any
10 form of PA deer season, the adherent dangers of
11 running the dogs, a later season would meet that
12 objective. And I would want to add that there has
13 been consultation with Bureau of Wildlife Management
14 and open the floor to my fellow Commissioners.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 Thank you. Further discussion?
17 Commissioner Martone?

18 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

19 While I agree with Commissioner Delaney
20 that the hunting season makes sense and the request is
21 a legitimate one, I have to admit some concerns. I do
22 not see this as being just a shifting of harvest, the
23 hunting harvest moving out of the current season and
24 into the hunting season. I have a strong concern that
25 that's going to be additive, that we're going to have

1 more hunters and a larger harvest. And we have no
2 certainty with only one year under our belt that the
3 bobcat population can sustain these harvests that we
4 already have, let alone an additive one.

5 One other concern is we heard from the
6 hounds people that they don't want to be running their
7 dogs during this trapping season, that that was a
8 problem for them. I'm going to be highly upset if we
9 come back next year and find out the hounds people
10 trained their dogs during that same trapping season
11 that we're moving them out of and that they're
12 complaining that dogs were caught in traps or shot by
13 hunters by accident. You know, we're trying to
14 accommodate a group, but I'm going on their word that
15 this is a positive solution. But I do have some
16 strong concerns about this at this point.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Further discussion?

19 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

20 Mr. President?

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Commissioner Schreffler?

23 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

24 Mr. President, I'd like to comment on
25 this also. I agree with Commissioner Martone that I

1 think that we're not just shifting a season. In fact,
2 it appeared to me that the bobcat season was sort of a
3 concurrent season with trapping and hounds men and
4 hunters and other hunters who were using a predator
5 calls all within a set time, and now we're taking that
6 same period of time for the hunters and setting it
7 aside later. So in effect my way of thinking it
8 appears that it's almost like doubling the season.
9 Also, I think this is going to provide opportunity for
10 additional hunters, I think, and also I would ---
11 should like to also comment on the fact that I think
12 that it will become a more efficient period of time
13 for the dogs to track and to capture the bobcats.

14 I have the same concerns as Mr. Martone
15 about training dogs during the trapping season and
16 during the earlier period of time than they had from
17 the hunting previously, which was from 12/17 to 1/8.
18 And as far as no other hunters being in the woods at
19 this later period of time, we are moving the entire
20 bobcat hunting season to this time, so there will be
21 other hunters in the wood sitting there on stands or
22 playing predator calls and that sort to hunt bobcats.
23 The houndsmen, the hunters themselves, I think, and
24 Mr. DuBrock, correct me if I'm wrong, that almost one
25 third of the entire state was taken by the hunters

1 last year, about 27 or 29 percent.

2 MR. DUBROCK:

3 In 2010, 27 percent of the bobcat harvest
4 was through hunters.

5 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

6 Okay. And so we're moving 27 percent of
7 the take to this later period of time, which may
8 provide a more efficient taking of bobcats. And so
9 the other thing that I'd like to mention is that
10 looking back on bobcats, I'm an old guy. I remember
11 reading in Game Commissioner's publications like
12 around 1980 that it was published that there's
13 probably only 100 bobcats in the state, and that no
14 matter what we do, we'll probably never see any more
15 of that. Well, low and behold, our staff and our
16 agencies has increased this bobcat population from
17 practically zero to the number it is today, which was
18 over 1,100 --- I believe over 1,100 bobcats harvested
19 this last year.

20 MR. DUBROCK:

21 1,136.

22 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

23 1,136. I mean, that is fantastic. And I
24 believe that was a much higher --- more than 15
25 percent higher than what you expected. Is that

1 correct, Mr. DuBrock?

2 MR. DUBROCK:

3 It was higher than what we predicted. It
4 was a 54 percent increase over, I believe, the
5 previous harvest.

6 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

7 Fifty-four (54) percent over increase
8 over the previous harvest. The dogs being more
9 efficient, especially if there's a light snow, the
10 fact that our biologist have not collected sufficient
11 data to give us a definite answer indicates to me that
12 we should move slowly. And another large harvest ---
13 this is my big concern and this is what I expressed to
14 the coyote and fox hunters association people. My big
15 concern is that we have another harvest and we
16 jeopardize the future seasons for this animal, and I
17 want to see down the road the big picture that this
18 bobcat hunting and trapping continues in Pennsylvania
19 and the population continues to grow and to provide
20 our hunters this opportunity, which is --- in my way
21 of thinking is fantastic that this has even occurred.
22 And I'd hate to jeopardize that. So I'm opposed to
23 this amendment that was proposed here by Commissioner
24 Delaney, and I encourage my fellow Commissioners to
25 vote against it. Thank you.

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PRESIDENT WEANER:

Commissioner Boop?

COMMISSIONER BOOP:

We seem like every meeting we have an issue, at least one issue, that's controversial. But I think for those watching this is the issue today that's controversial before this board. I also share some of the concerns that have been expressed by my fellow Commissioners concerning this amendment, but I think there are a couple points that I just would like to add to the discussion.

In the management and the evolution of the management of this species, you know, we started out and we had a limited number of permits. And when we would control the harvest by a limited number of permits, we could have a longer season. But now, you know, where it's much more open, we have to be more concerned about the length of the season. And what happened is true of a lot of other situations. There are people out there, and we as Commissioners have heard from a number of them, that, you know, they love to run dogs and people went out and bought very expensive dogs and spent a lot of time in training those dogs and maintaining those dogs and then we went to this very short season format. And last year they

1 were very distressed about that, and we said, let us
2 get a year under our belt, we'll take a look at. And
3 now we're back, and they have asked not really for a
4 longer season, but they've asked just to move the
5 season from one point in time to another point in
6 time.

7 I also share the concern that we may have
8 some additive effect of the total, but I've hunted
9 over hounds for coyotes, not bobcats, but a lot of
10 these people, you know, their thrill is the thrill of
11 the chase. It's a little like fox hunting. Sure,
12 they'll kill a cat at the end of the hunt, but a lot
13 of times they won't. An immature cat, they'll just
14 let it go. And I'm not sure so when they've seen what
15 we've done here --- but I'm not as concerned that
16 we're going to have a huge harvest. As a hunter, I'd
17 much prefer the December 17 to January 7. It's over
18 the Christmas holidays. There's a lot of days
19 available there where hunters can go out. The weather
20 is usually better for a hunter than it's going to be
21 January 17th through February 7th. So I share
22 Commissioner Martone's concern. I hope the houndsmen,
23 if they're listening to this, or if they've see what
24 we've done, that they're not going to be out there
25 running their dogs during the earlier time period.

1 And I just have some faith and confidence that they'll
2 do the right thing and this will work out. So I
3 encourage the Commissioners to support Commissioner
4 Delaney's amendment.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Any further discussion? Commissioner
7 Isabella?

8 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

9 Thank you, Mr. President. I have to put
10 up the red flag on this amendment. I agree with my
11 three colleagues here that brought up the concerns
12 that they did. These hounds are very effective and I
13 just feel that we should just go with caution and
14 maybe delay this for one more year just to see what
15 the take is going to be this year. You know, if
16 we --- I mean, we just don't know. If we over
17 harvest, we've got a problem. If we under harvest,
18 okay, we delayed this one year.

19 We had testimony from the hounds people
20 the other day telling us that these hounds were very
21 effective. There was testimony from the trappers that
22 they had concerns with this also. I mean, there's ---
23 there's a lot of variables out there that we just
24 don't know. Okay. I feel that we should just delay
25 this one more year, go with the side of caution, you

1 know, and I will vote against the amendment.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Further discussion?

4 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

5 Yes, Mr. President. I'd like to follow
6 up. There's no one that cares more about the resource
7 first than me, and I believe that there's no one that
8 cares more about these bobcats than this group. Two
9 years ago when the agency asked to open up the bobcat
10 season, we had a permit only system. And our staff
11 felt the bobcat population was high enough that we
12 could open up a broad season to encourage more hunting
13 of the animal. This board supported that broad move,
14 and we also said we would move forward with
15 caution. On March the 29th, this board sat with Matt
16 Lovallo, our biologist, and asked him questions with
17 regard to the bobcat. On that date, I felt
18 comfortable with the information that was provided to
19 me from him and the Bureau of Wildlife Management that
20 we could move forward with this, but with extreme
21 caution. So I appreciate all the commentary from my
22 fellow board members, but as we move forward, we can
23 do this with a very cautious approach and each year we
24 can change how we do business. We've shown we did
25 that with the wild turkey the last two years, and I'm

1 sure that we can do it with bobcats. So I'm very
2 cognizant of the resource. I come from a part of
3 Pennsylvania where the trappers tell me they're not
4 happy because they get so many bobcats in their traps
5 on a regular basis in Susquehanna and Sullivan and
6 Bradford County. I certainly wouldn't propose this
7 amendment if I thought there was any chance that the
8 resource would be over harvested. So I challenge us
9 to cautiously move forward with this and cautiously
10 monitor it, and I'm sure our Bureau of Wildlife
11 Management will find a way to make that happen. Thank
12 you, Mr. President.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Any last comments? Commissioner
15 Schreffler?

16 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

17 I would like to put Mr. DuBrock on the
18 spot, if I may, and ask, what exactly is the current
19 position of the Wildlife Management Bureau and the
20 Staff on this matter? We may have had some additional
21 thoughts since as you know ---.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Excuse me. Just a minute. At this
24 point, I think I'd entertained discussion on the
25 amendment, but I think we're kind of past the

1 interrogation point right now.

2 MR. ROE:

3 And I would offer that the Bureau of
4 Wildlife Management may have contributed their
5 information to a staff position as opposed to
6 individual bureau positions. The agency has one
7 position.

8 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

9 I withdraw that question then. And just
10 ask one other question, since we're moving the entire
11 hunting season or talking --- proposing to move the
12 entire hunting season to the new dates, the proposed
13 dates here, what percentage of the hunter hunting ---
14 we're moving the hunting. That means the hunters and
15 the predator callers as well as the houndsmen, all the
16 hunting, to this period of time. What percentage of
17 the hunting were the houndsmen themselves in the take?

18 MR. DUBROCK:

19 When you break down the hunting take last
20 year, if I recall, the statistics correctly, 27
21 percent of the bobcat take in the 2010, '11 season was
22 from hunting. Eight percent of the overall harvest or
23 roughly 30 percent of the hunting harvest was a result
24 of folks hunting with hounds. The remainder, so 70
25 percent, of the hunting harvest resulted from other

1 hunting methods.

2 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

3 Thank you.

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Any further comments?

6 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

7 I'll follow up with a question.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Commissioner Martone?

10 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

11 You know, I expressed some concerns, but
12 one of the things I would encourage my fellow
13 Commissioners to vote for this amendment is regardless
14 of whether we wait a year or two or three, we're not
15 going to learn anymore about the effects of a separate
16 hunting season. That will only come by having a
17 separate hunting season, so you know, delaying this
18 does provide more information on the harvest, but it
19 will not provide any information on what a separate
20 hunting season does to that harvest. The only way to
21 do that is to have a separate hunting season.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Any last discussion? Okay. We have a
24 motion on the floor which changes the season, which
25 deletes December and inserts January for the start

1 date, deletes January and inserts February for the
2 last day. All those in favor, signify it by raising
3 one hand. All those opposed, signify by raising one
4 hand.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Mr. Secretary, the vote?

7 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

8 Mr. President, the vote is six to two.

9 The motion passes.

10 PRESIDENT WEANER:

11 And the two voting no?

12 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

13 Commissioner Schreffler and Commissioner
14 Isabella.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 And the rest voting yes, and so the
17 motion passes, the motion to amend. Okay. We have
18 several amendments. We have an amended motion right
19 now which would pass everything in your agenda from
20 page 4 up through page 11 with those amendments that
21 have been made. Is there any final discussion on any
22 of these items? Hearing none, we shall proceed to
23 vote. All those in favor of this amended motion,
24 signify by raising one hand. All those opposed,
25 signify by raising one hand. Mr. Secretary?

1 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

2 Mr. President, the motion passes
3 unanimously.

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Thank you very much.

6 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

7 The next item to come before the
8 Commission concerns the adoption of amendments to
9 Section 141.28 proposed at the February 1st, 2011
10 meeting to create and define the geographic location
11 of the Franklin County Wild Pheasant Recovery Area or
12 SPRA. The Executive Director and Staff recommend
13 final adoption of this amendment to Pa. Code as shown
14 on Exhibit C on page 13 of your agenda.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 Is there a motion to adopt this?

17 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

18 Motion.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Excuse me. Who made the motion?

21 Commissioner Isabella made the motion. Do we have a
22 second?

23 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

24 Second.

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 Commissioner Delaney seconds. Is there
2 any discussion? Commissioner Isabella?

3 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

4 Thank you. I'd like to introduce an
5 amendment to substitute page 13. The purpose of this
6 was as we introduced these wild pheasant recovery
7 areas, there's been --- you know, there's been a lot
8 of concerns. We want to make sure we do it right, and
9 a lot of the sportsmen are in these areas, are very
10 enthusiastic that the agency is, in fact, establishing
11 these areas.

12 I was blind sided along with several
13 other Commissioners that we got a lot of phone calls
14 from the Hegins area that they would not be able to
15 hunt woodchucks and water fowl during that area. And
16 it caught me by surprise because we heard no other
17 complaints from the other workers. I received a good
18 amount of phone calls, plus I know people in the
19 Hegins area, and it was a concern along with me and
20 with other Commissioners that we sat down and we tried
21 to work this out with Staff to make sure that, you
22 know, we do this we get this done correctly. The
23 major substitution in this amendment will be that
24 you'll be able to train dogs in any manner.

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 Excuse me. That will be prohibited;
2 right?

3 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

4 Yes, right. It's prohibited. But number
5 two is the major change. It's the prohibitions. It
6 is unlawful to --- then we go to number two, and it
7 says train dogs in any manner or hunt small game, and
8 here's the major change, except woodchucks and water
9 fowl except from the first Sunday in February through
10 July 31st within any area designated as a WPRA. This
11 should satisfy the sportsmen's concerns, that they
12 could hunt groundhogs and water fowl, but the concern
13 I have addressed to our friends out there in these
14 WPRAs is, you know, we're making an attempt to
15 establish wild pheasant populations in these WPRAs.
16 They really have to follow the regulations, because as
17 fast as we give them that exception, you know, we
18 continue the WPRAs. So I just tell our friends to
19 please be cautious when they're hunting in these
20 WPRAs. That's my amendment.

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Thank you. Further discussion?
23 Commissioner Schreffler?

24 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

25 I'm going to second that amendment to

1 allow the hunting groundhogs in WPRAs.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 We already had a second. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

5 To the amendment?

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 If we didn't have, we do now. Thank you.

8 Did you have any further comment then?

9 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

10 No.

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Commissioner Boop?

13 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

14 I live near the Hegins proposed WPRAs, and
15 I just briefly would like to reiterate and follow up a
16 little bit on what Commissioner Isabella has
17 indicated. When I was a boy growing up on a dairy
18 farm in central Pennsylvania, soybeans were a fairly
19 rare crop. Today I think I can fairly accurately
20 state that aside from corn and hay, soybeans are
21 probably the third most employed crop that the
22 agricultural community has out there today. I got a
23 number of calls from the Hegins area. It surprised me
24 because the Turbotville WPRAs, I didn't and I live in
25 that area. You know, they're sort of in between where

1 I live.

2 But the real concern that I've been
3 hearing is that, you know, the farmer puts out a 30,
4 40 acre soybean field and those of you familiar with
5 agricultural practices and woodchucks, particularly
6 during that period from June through the first week or
7 two of July, they can literally destroy a soybean
8 field. And the concern of the farmers they knew they
9 could kill them for destroying crops, but that's when
10 they're very busy during the year, and they said I
11 just wanted to be able to, you know, invite the people
12 from town or my neighbors or the guy that works for me
13 or whatever out to be able to hunt these groundhogs
14 when they're causing so much destruction to the
15 soybean field. So I think it's, you know, a
16 reasonable amendment to address another problem.
17 Apparently, in the Hegins area, they seem to be much
18 more concerned with crop damage than getting
19 recreational hunting in there than any place else that
20 we've dealt with before. So I think these amendments
21 including the water fowl and woodchucks is a good one
22 and again I would encourage fellow Commissioners to
23 support it.

24 PRESIDENT WEANER:

25 Commissioner Schreffler?

1 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

2 I will make a comment. I agree with Mr.
3 Boop has said as far as the benefit to the farmer. I
4 also would like to press notice that my feeling is
5 that this exception not also enhances the habitat for
6 the pheasants. A ground hog can clear up a lot of
7 field. And the snow geese that come in don't just
8 clip off the top of the grasses. They actually pull
9 it out by the roots and destroy the crops. So it can
10 be areas that we need for --- and crops and cover that
11 we need for our pheasants, so I look at that as
12 enhancing the pheasant.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Further discussion? Commissioner
15 Martone?

16 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

17 I'd just like to make it clear that this
18 amendment to allow hunting of woodchucks and water
19 fowl, although it appears on the page where the
20 Franklin County WPRA is and it is discussed with the
21 Hegin Valley, this is an amendment for all WPRAs
22 currently and in the future. This changes that rule
23 across the board.

24 PRESIDENT WEANER:

25 And let me just clarify one thing. A

1 WPRA is a wild pheasant recovery area. We keep
2 talking about this. It might be new to some people.
3 Further discussion?

4 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

5 Mr. President?

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Commissioner Delaney?

8 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

9 As long as we're on 141.28, I just wanted
10 to add I think the most important part of page 13, and
11 this is our fifth wild pheasant recovery area in
12 Pennsylvania that we are having a discussion about
13 today, should be talking about an amendment for dog
14 training, but also this is our second discussion on
15 adding Franklin County WPRA to the program. So
16 although I'm a dog guy and --- I support the proposed
17 amendment. To me the bigger picture is we will have
18 our fifth wild pheasant recovery area in Franklin
19 County. Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 Further discussion? Hearing none, we
22 shall proceed to vote. All those in favor of this
23 motion to amendment, please signify by saying aye.

24 AYES RESPOND

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

2 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

3 Mr. President, the motion passes
4 unanimously.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Thank you. That was the amendment. Now
7 we have a motion as amended, which is the right way to
8 handle all this. So we shall now vote. All those in
9 favor, signify by saying aye.

10 AYES RESPOND

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

13 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

14 Mr. President, the motion passes
15 unanimously.

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Moving to page 14.

18 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

19 The next item before the Commission is
20 from the Bureau of Wildlife Protection. It concerns
21 adopted rulemaking, the adoption of amendments Section
22 131.2 proposed at the February 1st, 2011 meeting, by
23 creating, amending and deleting certain definitions.
24 The Executive Director and Staff recommend final
25 adoption of this amendment to 58 Pa. Code as shown on

1 Exhibit A on page 15 of your agenda.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Is there a motion to adopt?

4 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

5 So moved.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Commissioner Isabella moves, and
8 Commissioner Delaney seconds. Is there any
9 discussion? Hearing none, we shall vote. All in
10 favor, please say aye.

11 AYES RESPOND

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary.

14 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

15 Mr. President, the motion passes
16 unanimously.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Thank you.

19 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

20 The next item is also the adoption of
21 amendments. This time to Section 141.1, which was
22 proposed at the February 1st, 2011 meeting, to expand
23 the shotgun/muzzleloader single projectile exception
24 to bear hunters and also remove the now defunct
25 baiting provisions. The Executive Director and Staff

1 recommend final adoption of this amendment to 58 Pa.
2 Code as shown on Exhibit B on page 17 of your agenda.

3

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Is there a motion to adopt?

6 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

7 Motion.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Commissioner Isabella. Is there a
10 second?

11 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

12 Second.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Commissioner Schreffler seconds. Any
15 discussion on this motion? Hearing none, all those in
16 favor signify by saying aye.

17 AYES RESPOND

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary.

20 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

21 Mr. President, the motion passes
22 unanimously.

23 PRESIDENT WEANER:

24 Thank you.

25 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

1 The next item is the adoption of
2 amendments to Section 141.4 also proposed at the
3 February 2011 meeting, by placing the current hunting
4 hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to
5 accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal
6 hunting for the 2011-2012 hunting license year and
7 also to remove the limitations prohibiting the hunting
8 of woodchuck, opossum, skunk and weasel during legal
9 hunting hours of the spring gobbler season. The
10 Executive Director and Staff recommend final adoption
11 of this amendment to 58 Pa. Code shown on Exhibit C on
12 pages 19 through 21 of your agenda.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Is there a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

16 Motion.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Commissioner Isabella. Is there a
19 second?

20 COMMISSIONER SCHLEMMER:

21 Second.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Commissioner Schlemmer seconded the
24 motion. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, we
25 shall proceed to vote. All those in favor, signify by

1 saying aye.

2 AYES RESPOND

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

5 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

6 Mr. President, the motion passes

7 unanimously.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Thank you.

10 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

11 The next item for adoption is amendments
12 to Section 141.20 proposed at the February 2011
13 meeting to restructure the various fluorescent orange
14 requirements. The Executive Director and Staff
15 recommend final adoption of this amendment of 58 Pa.
16 Code as shown on Exhibit D on pages 23 and 24 of your
17 agenda.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Is there a motion to adopt?

20 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

21 So moved.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Commissioner Isabella. Is there a
24 second?

25 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

1 Second.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Commissioner Schreffler seconds the
4 motion. Is there any discussion?

5 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

6 Mr. President?

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Commissioner Isabella.

9 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

10 Thank you, Mr. President. Rich, can you
11 just go over what changes have occurred here at
12 141.20?

13 MR. PALMER:

14 The primary change was that previously in
15 the code the protective material requirements were
16 scattered through a number of different sections
17 usually by species. Since we were going into this
18 section, what we wanted to do is combine those into a
19 more comprehensive set within the regulations so the
20 protective material requirements can all be found in
21 generally one location.

22 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

23 Okay. So basically nothing has changed?

24

25 MR. PALMER:

1 That's correct.

2 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

3 I just wanted to get that out because I
4 don't want to get any nasty grams tonight saying we
5 changes the orange situation. Thank you, Rich. No
6 more questions.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Commissioner Martone?

9 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

10 Rich, I asked essentially a question from
11 one of our constituent groups that was concerned about
12 something. Do you remember the details of that?

13 MR. PALMER:

14 Yes, Commissioner. I believe that the
15 question was --- or the concern that was expressed was
16 that when the group had looked at these proposed
17 regulations, they thought that there might be an
18 extension of the orange requirements into the
19 overlapping archery, muzzleloader, rifle seasons and
20 the special regulations areas, and that concern was
21 primarily expressed because the regulations call for
22 protective material during what is considered to be a
23 special firearm deer season. And their concern was
24 with that extended season in the special regulations
25 areas was considered a special rifle deer season. By

1 definition in the regulation, it is not. It is
2 specifically called an extended regular deer season,
3 so that prohibition does not apply here in that
4 timeframe.

5 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

6 Thank you.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Further discussion? Hearing none, we
9 shall vote. All those in favor of the motion, signify
10 by saying aye.

11 AYES RESPOND

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 Those opposed, say no.

14 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

15 Mr. President, the motion passes
16 unanimously.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Thank you.

19 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

20 The next item concerns the adoption of
21 amendments to Section 141.41 proposed at the February
22 2011 meeting, to remove redundant and inconsistent
23 language concerning mistake kills. The Executive
24 Director and Staff recommend final adoption of this
25 amendment to Pa. Code as shown on Exhibit E on page 26

1 of the agenda.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Is there a motion to adopt?

4 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

5 So moved.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Commissioner Delaney. Is there a second?

8

9 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

10 Second.

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Commissioner Isabella seconds the motion.

13 Is there any discussion on this motion? Commissioner
14 Putnam?

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

16 This amendment specifies that you have to
17 report the kill of a big game animal. We probably at
18 least once a week receive suggestions from the public
19 that we should start requiring reporting of big game
20 animals. How long has been --- how long have we had
21 the reporting requirement for killing big game
22 animals?

23 MR. PALMER:

24 I'd have to research that for you. It's
25 a long time.

1 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

2 For whatever reason, it seems maybe the
3 outdoor people can help us out on this a little bit.
4 It is a requirement to report killing of big game
5 animals. It has been for as long as I've been
6 hunting, and for some reason we still continually
7 receive suggestions that we should start a reporting
8 system for big game animals.

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 Further discussion? Hearing none, we
11 shall vote. All those in favor, signify by saying
12 aye.

13 AYES RESPOND

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

16 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

17 Mr. President, the motion passes
18 unanimously.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Thank you.

21 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

22 The next item concerns adoption of
23 amendments to Section 141.62, 141.63 and the addition
24 of Section 141.69, all of which were proposed at the
25 February 2011 meeting, to define and clarify the

1 standards relating to certain trapping activities.
2 The Executive Director and Staff recommend final
3 adoption of this amendment to 58 Pa. Code shown on
4 pages Exhibit F on pages 28 and 29 of your agenda.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Is there a motion to adopt this?

7 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

8 So moved.

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 Commissioner Isabella moves. Is there a
11 second?

12 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

13 Second.

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 Commissioner Schreffler seconds the
16 motion. Is there any discussion?

17 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

18 Mr. President?

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Commissioner Isabella.

21 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

22 At this time, I would like to change the
23 amendment that would replace page 29, which covers
24 141.69 with this replacement page. The issue here was
25 the Pennsylvania Trappers Association had an issue

1 with the artificial cubbies. I believe we answered
2 that question, and this would make the change
3 satisfied.

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

7 So moved.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Commissioner Schreffler properly moved
10 and seconded to strike the information on page 29 and
11 insert the information on the blue page listed as
12 floor amendment for page 29. Is there any discussion?

13 Hearing none, we shall vote on the amendment. All
14 those in favor, signify by saying aye.

15 AYES RESPOND

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

18 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

19 Mr. President, the motion passes
20 unanimously.

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Okay. We now have an amended motion,
23 which adds this page. Is there any discussion on
24 that? Hearing none, we will vote on the amended
25 motion. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

1 AYES RESPOND

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

4 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

5 Mr. President, the amended motion passes
6 unanimately.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Thank you.

9 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

10 The next item concerns the adoption of
11 amendments to Section 143.67 proposed at the February
12 2011 meeting, to grant the Director the authority to
13 establish the application deadline for bear licenses
14 at such periods as he determines. The Executive
15 Director and Staff recommend final adoption of this
16 amendment to 58 Pa. Code as shown on Exhibit G on page
17 31 of your agenda.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Is there a motion to adopt?

20 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

21 So moved.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Commissioner Delaney moves, and
24 Commissioner Schlemmer seconds the motion. Is there
25 any discussion? Commissioner Boop?

1 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

2 Just for the purposes of those who may be
3 interested in watching this particular vote, now that
4 we have restored this year the extended bear seasons
5 in some of the management units, it's my hope, and I
6 think the Executive Director feels that he can
7 accommodate this, that with our new automated system,
8 you know, someone buys a bear license, you know,
9 before the Monday --- well, excuse me, the Saturday
10 that starts the four day bear season, they're fine.
11 But for that person who, you know, on Thanksgivings
12 day, Friday night is going to camp in a management
13 unit where there's going to be an extended bear season
14 at some point during the 12 days of the rifle season,
15 that that person's going to have the ability to go out
16 and buy a bear license whether we cut it off, you
17 know, Sunday or whatever. It's just that we're hoping
18 that we can accommodate that because believe it or
19 not, as I'm sure some of you know, there are people
20 that make a decision to buy a license at the last
21 minute, and we'd like to be able to accommodate those
22 people who want to buy a license in that extended
23 season.

24 PRESIDENT WEANER:

25 Thank you. Further discussion? Hearing

1 none, we shall vote. All those in favor, signify by
2 saying aye.

3 AYES RESPOND

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

6 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

7 Mr. President, the motion passes
8 unanimously.

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 Thank you.

11 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

12 The next item concerns a proposed
13 regulation. I'd like to pass this out to the
14 Commissioners. It came late and was not able to be
15 placed in your agenda. Since the successful
16 implementation of the mentored youth hunting program
17 in the fall of 2006, the Commission has been striving
18 to find ways to improve this innovative program. The
19 Commission has reviewed comments from hunters and
20 sporting organizations across the Commonwealth
21 supporting an expansion of the mentored youth hunting
22 program to allow for limited antlerless deer hunting
23 by mentored youth. The Commission recently determined
24 that appropriate resources are now available and that
25 this initiative can finally move forward. The

1 Commission is proposing to amended Section 147.804 to
2 allow a mentor to transfer a valid antlerless license
3 issued to him to an eligible mentored youth upon the
4 harvest of an antlerless deer. A mentored youth will
5 be eligible to receive a maximum of one antlerless
6 deer license each license year. The Executive
7 Director and Staff recommend the Commission approve
8 this proposed regulation.

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 Is there a motion to adopt this?

11 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

12 So moved.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Commissioner Isabella. Is there a
15 second?

16 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

17 Second.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Commissioner Delaney. Discussion?
20 Commissioner Boop?

21 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

22 Again, I guess maybe as a point of order,
23 this item was not in our agenda. Anyone looking at
24 the website would not have seen this. Would it be
25 possible, Mr. President, we could have the Executive

1 Director just explain this in laymen terms?

2 MR. ROE:

3 Certainly. Basically what it boils down
4 to is whether the amendment or the proposed change in
5 the regulation will allow next fall with other things
6 that need to happen between now and then the
7 opportunity for a mentor who has purchased an
8 antlerless license to give that to a mentored youth,
9 that means that mentored youth program under 12 years
10 old that will be able to use that antlerless license,
11 which will be able to transfer it, which would be an
12 exception to the prohibition of any transfer of tags,
13 which is currently in the regulation.

14 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

15 Just as a point of clarification, will
16 that include DMAP tags.

17 MR. ROE:

18 Not as we see it now. Not on an
19 antlerless tag.

20 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

21 Thank you.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 And let me follow up. What is this
24 contingent on?

25 MR. ROE:

1 It's contingent on the legislature
2 finishing their responsibilities to make this the law.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 And so if that doesn't happen, this
5 doesn't happen?

6 MR. ROE:

7 Exactly. What we're anticipating is the
8 law being finished within the next two or three weeks,
9 maybe a month, and this will allow a final adoption in
10 June, which will allow us to promulgate the
11 regulations in time for this season.

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 Okay. Questions or comments?
14 Commissioner Isabella?

15 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

16 Mr. President, just to comment, halfway
17 down the page, we have a misprint. The section
18 number, we have an extra one in there. I just wanted
19 to bring that up.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 So noted. Further discussion?

22 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

23 Yes, Mr. President.

24 PRESIDENT WEANER:

25 Commissioner Delaney.

1 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

2 I just need a point of clarification, I
3 guess, from the Executive Director that this
4 legislation is where?

5 MR. ROE:

6 The legislation will probably be voted on
7 today or tomorrow by the Senate, e-mailed to the
8 Senate Appropriations yesterday, referred back to the
9 House. And at that point in time, we expect it to go
10 through the House pretty quickly.

11 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

12 Thank you, Executive Director Roe. I
13 guess just partial commentary to this and our
14 discussion, I'm hopeful that the resolution the Board
15 of Commissioners sent to the legislature in support of
16 this is part of their deliberations today. Thank you.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 So is there further discussion? This
19 motion authorizes the promulgation of regulations so
20 that when this --- if this passes, we can be ready to
21 get it into this season. If we didn't take action
22 today, this would not likely be able to happen for
23 this upcoming hunting season. Having said that, we
24 shall proceed to vote if there's no further questions
25 or comments. All those in favor, signify by saying

1 aye.

2 AYES RESPOND

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

5 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

6 Mr. President, the motion passes

7 unanimously.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Thank you.

10 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

11 The next item to come before the
12 Commission is from the Bureau of Wildlife Habitat
13 Management. It concerns real estate and acquisition.
14 There are two contracts. Would you like me to take
15 them together or separate?

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Take them together, please.

18 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

19 Contract number 3582 is on State Game
20 Land Number 87 in Clearfield County. RLF Deemer
21 Properties, LLC is offering for sale 9,306 more or
22 less acres in Bell and Greenwood Townships, Clearfield
23 County adjoining State Game Land Number 87, as shown
24 on Exhibit RED One. The option price is \$5,583,600
25 lump-sum payment to be paid with funds by third party

1 commitments for compensation of habitat and
2 recreational losses from previously approved
3 Commission actions on oil/gas and mineral recovery
4 leases. There is a description of the property in
5 your agenda.

6 The other contract is contract number
7 3583 on State Game Land Number 217 in Carbon County.
8 Wildlands Conservancy, Incorporated is offering for
9 sale 172 acres more or less in East Penn Township,
10 Carbon County, adjacent to State Game Land Number 217
11 as shown on Exhibit RED Two on page 35 of your agenda.

12 The option price is \$137,000 lump-sum payment to be
13 paid with funds from third party commitments for
14 compensation of habitat and recreational losses from
15 previously approved Commission actions on oil/gas and
16 mineral recovery leases. Once again, there is a
17 description of the property in your agenda. The
18 Executive Director and Staff recommend that the
19 acquisitions listed above be accepted and that the
20 Commission authorize the Bureau of Wildlife Habitat
21 Management to proceed with the acquisition of these
22 tracts.

23 PRESIDENT WEANER:

24 Is there a motion to approve?

25 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

1 So moved.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Commissioner Boop moves. Commissioner
4 Schreffler seconds the motion. Is there any
5 discussion?

6 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

7 Mr. President?

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Commissioner Delaney.

10 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

11 Director, just when I think you can't up
12 the ante and you pull off something like this, 9,306
13 acres, when we do 5,000 acres tracks, I thought it
14 could never get any better than that. When is the
15 last time this agency purchased this amount of
16 property in a bank or such a large parcel as something
17 like this?

18 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

19 I'm not aware of the agency ever
20 acquiring this much acreage under one contract,
21 certainly not in my tenure here. And I did a little
22 research on it. I've not seen where we've ever done
23 this before. This is the first time.

24 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

25 If there's not something that we're doing

1 for future generations, this absolutely is. I'm moved
2 by the work that this agency continues to do with
3 these land acquisitions just for other generations.
4 Thank you.

5 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

6 Sir, I'd like to take a moment, too, if I
7 may. Dennis Neideigh, will you please stand up? And
8 Denny Dusza, is he here? These two gentlemen, I mean,
9 they truly do need to be recognized. This tract of
10 land, this is the third time this has come available
11 for sale. This tract of land was originally leased
12 last year. People couldn't get on there unless you
13 paid the fee. 640 acres in a square mile. You're
14 looking at roughly 15 square miles of property that
15 we're picking up. And if not for the efforts of these
16 two individuals, this would not be happening. So I
17 would really like for everyone to join with me in
18 thanking them.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Further comments? Commissioner Boop?

21 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

22 I just briefly echo Commissioner Delaney.
23 You know, to quote someone certainly more famous than
24 myself, any time we can buy dirt it's a good day. So
25 this is something we're doing for the future, and I

1 can't say enough to compliment the agency personnel
2 who were involved in this. Thank you.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Further comments, questions? We shall
5 now proceed to vote. All those in favor of these two
6 items, signify by saying aye.

7 AYES RESPOND

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

10 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

11 Mr. President, the motion passes
12 unanimously.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Thank you.

15 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

16 The next item concerns a land exchange,
17 contract number 3584 on State Game Land Number 198 in
18 Cambria County. Caiman PENN Midstream, LLC has
19 proposed a land exchange which would provide the
20 Commission with an access road into State Game Land
21 Number 198 in Washington Township, Cambria County in
22 exchange for a pipeline right-of-way and the use of a
23 portion of the access road Caiman PENN is conveying to
24 the Commission as shown on Exhibit RED Three on page
25 37 of your agenda. A description of those roads

1 appears in your agenda. The Executive Director and
2 Staff recommend the exchange listed above be accepted
3 and the Commission authorize the Bureau of Wildlife
4 Habitat Management to proceed with the exchange.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Is there a motion to adopt? Commissioner
7 Martone moves. Is there a second?

8 COMMISSIONER SCHLEMMER:

9 Second.

10 PRESIDENT WEANER:

11 Commissioner Schlemmer seconds the
12 motion. Is there any discussion? Go ahead.

13 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

14 It just shows the variety of your bureau.
15 We went from 9,000 plus acres to negotiating 30 feet
16 by 1.4 feet. And I have to say they probably were
17 equally hard to negotiate, so I want to compliment
18 you. Thank you.

19 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

20 Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Further discussion. Hearing none, we
23 shall vote, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

24 AYES RESPOND

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

2 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

3 Mr. President, the motion passes
4 unanimously.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Thank you.

7 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

8 The next item before the Commission
9 concerns oil/gas and mineral recovery. It is a
10 restrictive use oil/gas production agreement on State
11 Game Land Number 114 in Lycoming County. Anadarko E&P
12 Company, LP or Anadarko, and EXCO Resources PA, LLC or
13 EXCO have requested that had Commission offer its oil
14 and gas ownership under all of State Game Land Number
15 114 for restricted surface use production. The
16 proposed two restricted surface use tracts, containing
17 571 acres more or less for EXCO and 2,310.5 more or
18 less for Anadarko are located in Anthony, Cogan House
19 and Mifflin Townships, Lycoming County and are shown
20 on Exhibit OGM One on page 39 of your agenda.

21 Both EXCO and Anadarko have initiated
22 well drilling and development programs on private
23 lands adjacent to the State Game Land. Both operators
24 have the ability to unitize and produce the
25 Commission's oil/gas reserve by developing well

1 locations on private lands and directional drilling
2 beneath the State Game Land. Both of the agreements
3 prohibit any well pad construction or drilling on the
4 State Game Lands and further restrict surface uses
5 from infrastructure development on the State Game
6 Lands via pipelines, access roads and geophysical
7 testings. In an effort to prudently develop the
8 Commission's oil/gas reserve and simultaneously
9 protect the wildlife resources and recreational uses
10 on State Game Land Number 114, the agreements include
11 a five year primary term and \$3,000 per acre up front
12 bonus payment and an initial royalty rate of 18
13 percent with a step royalty increase of 20 percent of
14 the gas production on each well's initial payback
15 having been reached.

16 The sum of the bonus payments and
17 rentals, \$8,644,500, will be deposited into the Game
18 Fund and/or deposited into an interest bearing escrow
19 account for future purchase of wildlife habitat and
20 lands acceptable to the Commission. All royalties
21 will be deposited directly into the Game Fund.

22 The Executive Director and Staff
23 recommended that this restricted surface use Oil/Gas
24 Production Agreement be approved and that the
25 Commission authorize the Bureau of Wildlife Habitat

1 Management to proceed to with the agreement as listed
2 above.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Motion to adopt?

5 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

6 So moved.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Commissioner Isabella. Is there a
9 second?

10 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

11 Second.

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 Commissioner Boop seconds. Discussion?
14 Commissioner Martone?

15 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

16 Director Capouillez, could you explain
17 the term standard restricted surface use that's used
18 in this?

19 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

20 Absolutely. In the case of a restricted
21 surface use lease like this one is, there is actually
22 no well pad development that will occur on the game
23 lands. There will be actually no physical drilling on
24 the surface of the game lands. All the oil and gas
25 reserves will be accessed through well pads that are

1 put on private lands, which are adjacent to the game
2 lands and then horizontally drilled underneath the
3 game lands itself.

4 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

5 Excellent. Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Other discussion? Hearing none, we shall
8 vote. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

9 AYES RESPOND

10 PRESIDENT WEANER:

11 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary.

12 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

13 Mr. President, the motion passes
14 unanimously.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 Thank you.

17 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

18 The next item is also restricted surface
19 use Oil/Gas Production Agreement, State Game Land
20 Number 172, Bradford County. Chesapeake Appalachia,
21 LLC of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma requested the
22 Commission offer its oil and gas ownership under all
23 State Game Land Number 172. The proposed tract
24 containing a total of 722.3 acres is located in Terry
25 and Wilmot Township, Bradford County and is shown on

1 Exhibit OGM Two, page 41 of your agenda.

2 The terms of the agreement are a paid up
3 five year restricted surface use Oil/Gas Production
4 Agreement, a \$5,000 per acre bonus payment and a 20
5 percent royalty. Chesapeake Appalachia, LLC has a
6 strong lease position surrounding State Game Land
7 Number 172 and has initiated well drilling and
8 development programs on private lands adjacent to the
9 state game lands. Chesapeake Appalachia has the
10 ability to unitize the Game Commission's oil/gas
11 reserve by developing well locations on private lands
12 and directional beneath the state game lands. The
13 agreement prohibits any well pad construction or
14 drilling on the state game lands and further restricts
15 surface uses from infrastructure development on the
16 state game land via pipelines, access roads and
17 geophysical testing in an effort to safeguard the
18 prudent development of the Commission oil/gas reserve
19 and simultaneously protect the wildlife resources and
20 recreational use of State Game Land Number 172.

21 The sum of the bonus payment and rentals,
22 \$3,611,500, will be deposited into the Game Fund
23 and/or deposited into an interest bearing escrow
24 account for future purchases of wildlife habits and
25 lands acceptable to the Commission. All royalties

1 will be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

2 The Executive Director and Staff
3 recommend that this restricted surface use Oil/Gas
4 Production Agreement be approved and that the
5 Commission authorize the Bureau of Wildlife Habitat
6 Management to proceed with the agreement as listed
7 above.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Is there a motion to approve?

10 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

11 So moved.

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 Commissioner Isabella moves. Is there a
14 second?

15 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

16 Second.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Commissioner Boop seconds the motion. Is
19 there any discussion?

20 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

21 Mr. President.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Mr. Delaney?

24 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

25 If I could, Director Capouillez, could

1 you elaborate a little bit on prohibits --- when we
2 restrict the surface use, does that mean they cannot
3 put a gas pipeline over it, or does it mean that we
4 have a say in that?

5 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

6 They would have to go through a
7 right-of-away permitting process, which has an
8 alternative analysis process that goes along with
9 that, in where they would actually have to show a due
10 cause for wanting to put the right-of-way of across
11 us, and we would have to review that and determine
12 whether or not that makes sense or is feasible.

13 So I mean, this restricted use lease is
14 actually more restrictive than the other one simply.
15 Because there are some other needs from federal
16 funding and so forth on this particular game lands, we
17 want to make sure that there's absolutely nothing that
18 can go on there without additional approvals so we
19 comply with those measures. So both of them are
20 extremely restrictive. Neither one allows for surface
21 drilling. This one actually limits any physical use
22 of the property without additional approval.

23 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

24 As I mention in our work session, this is
25 lot of money, \$3.6 million, but I know this game land

1 very well. I hunt grouse and woodcock there. And I
2 still have concerns for the sportsmen of this area.
3 They won't be drilling on our land, which I think it's
4 phenomenal how you do these leases, but there's going
5 to be certainly --- there's well pads in that area
6 right now, so I think we should have some concerns
7 about our infrastructure. There's a dirt road that
8 runs right through the center of the game land that's
9 going to get beat up. The Sugar Run Creek runs right
10 through there and I just guess as we go forward
11 there's a lot of water quality problems with the
12 fracking, so I'm just hoping five years or ten years
13 down the line that we don't have some issues with
14 regards to these leases. I'm going to support it, but
15 I still remain cautious with some of the issues with
16 the hydraulic fracking.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Questions? Commissioner Boop?

19 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

20 I think it's important to note, though,
21 that, you know, we really can't stop the tide of
22 what's going on in north central Pennsylvania. And,
23 you know, if we don't work with these companies and
24 negotiate as we're doing, they have the ability, as I
25 think you've indicated in the past, Director

1 Capouillez, of accessing the gas anyway. So I think
2 we're doing it in as prudent a manner as we can, but
3 like Commissioner Delaney, I'm certainly hearing some
4 comments from hunters expressing some concerns and
5 other users of the land. And I think we're about as
6 prepared as we can be to address that. So again, I
7 mean, we don't have a lot of alternatives, do we, sir?

8

9 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

10 No, we don't. I mean, in the case of
11 both of these last two leases, the companies that are
12 in the periphery of drilling can actually by rule of
13 capture take oil and gas out from underneath the game
14 lands and not compensate the Game Commission at all
15 for it, and that's legal. And the do nothing option
16 really is not an option, because if, in fact, they
17 don't get a lease and have the ability to drill
18 underneath us, they just drill a well to us or
19 adjacent to us, and through the fracking and the oil
20 capture, they take the gas anyway and we get nothing
21 for it. And the sportsmen lose entirely.

22 So what we've been doing here by allowing
23 for these monies to put in an interest bearing escrow
24 account, portions of them, I mean, you know, approving
25 9,400 acres, which you just did a little bit ago, all

1 of these monies came from these deals. Not only from
2 gas and mineral for that matter, surface mining leases
3 that we've done over the last decade, you know, a lot
4 of those markers got called in to come up with the
5 funding necessary for the 9,400 acres, which would
6 never have occurred had leases not been approved by
7 the Commissioners like they are being today.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Further discussion? Hearing none, we
10 shall proceed to vote. All those in favor, signify by
11 saying aye.

12 AYES RESPOND

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

16 Mr. President, the motion passes
17 unanimously.

18 ATTORNEY BECHTEL:

19 The next item before the Commission is an
20 Oil/Gas Production Agreement Land Exchange on State
21 Game Land Number 268 in Tioga County. Endless
22 Mountain Energy requests the Commission to offer its
23 oil and gas ownership under a portion of State Game
24 Land Number 268. The tract containing a total of
25 1,930 acres more or less is located in Morris

1 Township, Tioga County as shown on Exhibit OGM Three
2 on page 43 of your agenda.

3 In exchange for an oil/gas agreement,
4 Endless Mountain Energy will cause to convey to the
5 Commission a 584.7 acre tract of land adjacent to
6 State Game Land Number 62 known as the Kane Tract in
7 Hamlin Township, McKean County as shown on Exhibit OGM
8 Four on page 44 of your agenda. There is a
9 description of this tract in your agenda.

10 The terms of the agreement are a paid up
11 five year oil/gas agreement, a \$3,500 per acre bonus
12 payment, a \$15,000 well location fee, a \$25 per acre
13 rental and a 20 percent royalty. Of the total bonus
14 payment, \$409,346 will be credited towards the
15 conveyance to the Commission of the Kane Tract. The
16 remainder of the bonus payment, or \$6,345,654, will be
17 deposited into the Game Fund or an interest bearing
18 escrow account and to be used for the future purchase
19 of wildlife habitats and lands acceptable to the
20 Commission. All royalties will be directly deposited
21 into the Game Fund.

22 The Executive Director and Staff
23 recommend this Oil/Gas Production Agreement be
24 approved and that the Commission authorize the Bureau
25 of Wildlife Habitat Management to proceed with the

1 agreement as listed above.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Is there a motion to approve?

4 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

5 So moved.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Commissioner Isabella moves. Is there a
8 second?

9 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

10 Second.

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Commissioner Schreffler seconds the
13 motion. Is there any discussion?

14 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

15 Mr. President, I'd like to make ---.

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Go right ahead.

18 MR. CAPOUILLEZ:

19 I'd like publicly recognize both Mike
20 DiMatteo and Kerry Speelman. If you could please
21 stand. At this point, there's over \$18.5 million
22 worth of oil and gas assets coming forth to the
23 Commission. As Executive Director Roe said, I mean,
24 that only really touches where we would have been had
25 we gotten a license increase, but you know, if not for

1 the effort of these two individuals, we would not be
2 looking at these Commission items either. And I truly
3 believe that they need a round of applause as well.

4 PRESIDENT WEANER:

5 Okay. We're still at discussion point.
6 Is there any discussion on this item? Commissioner
7 Martone?

8 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

9 Director Capouillez, I have to admit when
10 those two guys talk I almost never understand what the
11 heck they're talking about. That's how complicated
12 this stuff gets. I mean, you can pay attention, but
13 it's obvious that their job is a very, very difficult
14 one and they do an excellent job at it, so I
15 appreciate you recognizing them. Thank you.

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Any further discussion? Hearing none, we
18 shall proceed to vote. All those in favor, signify by
19 saying aye.

20 AYES RESPOND

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

23 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

24 Mr. President, the motion passes
25 unanimously.

1 PRESIDENT WEANER:

2 Thank you. Before we go to new business,
3 just one comment I'd like to make. I know that we've
4 just recognized a couple people here for making
5 contributions to these land deals and OGM deals and we
6 really appreciate that, but we have a lot of other
7 employees in our Game Commission here that are also
8 doing really great work, and it just isn't quite as
9 glamorous maybe. And I would just like to publicly
10 say we really appreciate what you're all doing, too,
11 and you know, it's just the way the cookie crumbles
12 sometimes. Some things are more glamorous than
13 others, but your work is vital and we appreciate it a
14 lot.

15 Moving along them to new business items,
16 is there any new business?

17 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

18 Mr. President, I have some old business
19 first, or do you want to do that after ---?

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 No, well go with old business. I'm
22 sorry. I should have asked for that. Go ahead.

23 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

24 At our January meeting, I asked for some
25 discussion about how we do our meetings, our Game

1 Commission meetings, our work sessions, our public
2 comment sections, and I don't really think that we had
3 a fair discussion about that, and I think that we
4 should. Have we evaluated that we do our work
5 sessions in the most prudent public manner? But I
6 guess more importantly to that when we conduct our
7 public comment phase, as we did yesterday at 8:30 in
8 the morning on a Monday morning, do we think that
9 we're getting the most amount of sportsmen and
10 shareholders and sportswomen and trappers and
11 shareholders at a meeting at nine o'clock on a Monday
12 morning or perhaps should we have some dialogue about
13 trying an evening public comment?

14 I guess there's --- for the sake of time,
15 I'm not sure that we have to debate the warrants of
16 that today, unless you'd like to, or perhaps we can
17 defer some of these issues to the Executive Director
18 and his Staff to look at. Or do the Commissioners
19 have an opinion on how we do our business? And I'm
20 just throwing it out there just to see if there's some
21 way we can engage more of the public in what we do.

22 I mean, this is an amazing amount of
23 information that transpired between yesterday and
24 today. I think our IE department has gone great
25 lengths to make available our meeting to the public.

1 They're available to see that, but I'm still looking
2 for a way that perhaps we could engage more people at
3 a more reasonable time to offer public comments. I
4 work in municipal government, and none of our public
5 comment meetings happen during the day. Most of them,
6 they're at the evening, most school board meetings
7 seem to be in the evening.

8 So all I ask is that we look at this in
9 some manner, or the Executive Director does, and
10 perhaps come back at an another meeting and offer some
11 suggestions, or perhaps what we're doing now is fine,
12 but I'd just like us to take a look at that or offer
13 some commentary to our board.

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 I would suggest that that would be the
16 track to take. So I appreciate your comment. We'll
17 take it to our Executive Director. Is there anything
18 else under old business? Okay. Then let us go to new
19 business. Are there items of new business that
20 Commissioners would like to bring up? Commissioner
21 Schreffler?

22 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

23 Yes, I'd like to place a motion to accept
24 the management plan for the beaver and bald eagle.

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 So you're moving to accept the two
2 management plans that have been presented. Is there a
3 second?

4 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

5 Second.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Commissioner Putnam seconds the motion.
8 Commissioner Schreffler made the motion. Is there any
9 discussion on the motion? Hearing none, we shall
10 proceed to vote on accepting these two management
11 plans. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

12 AYES RESPOND

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary.

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

16 Mr. President, the motion carries
17 unanimously.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Okay. Other new business? We have a
20 report under new business from our wildlife specialist
21 here to talk about allocations.

22 MR. DUBROCK:

23 Thank you, Mr. President. I believe
24 Deputy Executive Director Matt Hough is distributing
25 to you recommended antlerless license allocations as

1 well as recommended elk licenses for the 2011, 2012
2 season.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Is this something that everyone in the
5 public has also?

6 MR. DUBROCK:

7 They do not.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Did you want to just briefly elaborate on
10 what you have then for the record.

11 MR. DUBROCK:

12 Which would you prefer first.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Let's start with the elk licenses.

15 MR. DUBROCK:

16 Okay. Elk licenses, and Chris Rosenberry
17 actually covered these in the workshop yesterday, but
18 what we're recommending for the 2011 elk season, and
19 this is the regular rifle season, elk zone one is an
20 open area. Anyone receiving an elk license may hunt
21 and use that license in that zone. Zone two, four
22 antler and 12 antlerless licenses. In zone three, one
23 antler and two antlerless licences. In zone four, one
24 antlered and one antlerless license. Zones five and
25 six are closed, no licenses issued for them. We're

1 recommending for elk zone 7, four antlered and six
2 antlerless licenses, and the same for zone eight, four
3 antlered and six antlerless. In elk hunt zone nine,
4 two antler and nine antlerless licenses. And in elk
5 zone ten, two antler and two antlerless licenses, for
6 a total of 18 antler elk licenses and 38 antlerless
7 elk licenses or a total of 56 licenses for the 2011
8 season. That does not include the one conservation
9 license that was auctioned off earlier this year.

10 PRESIDENT WEANER:

11 We have a recommendation from Staff here
12 to issue 56 elk licenses according to this schedule.
13 Is there a motion to adopt this?

14 COMMISSIONER SCHLEMMER:

15 So moved.

16 PRESIDENT WEANER:

17 Moved by Commissioner Schlemmer. Is
18 there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

20 Second.

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Seconded by Commissioner Schreffler. Is
23 there any discussion on this motion?

24 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

25 Mr. President.

1 PRESIDENT WEANER:

2 Commissioner Delaney?

3 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

4 Director DuBrock, with this allocation
5 for elk, what will this do to the size of the elk
6 herd? Will it increase it, decrease it or keep it
7 stable?

8 MR. DUBROCK:

9 It does a couple of things. And I may
10 actually call upon Chris Rosenberry to assist me in
11 this. But I believe one of the things it does is
12 attempt to maintain the quality of the mature antler
13 component within the population. I believe the
14 remainder supports stabilizing essentially the elk
15 population. The increased number of licenses in zone
16 two have been suggested to help us to begin to address
17 the increasing population in the Winslow Hill area as
18 well.

19 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

20 Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT WEANER:

22 Further question or discussion? Hearing
23 none, we shall proceed to vote on this recommendation.

24 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

25 AYES RESPOND

1 PRESIDENT WEANER:

2 Those opposed, say no. Mr. Secretary?

3 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

4 Mr. President, the motion carries
5 unanimously.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Thank you. Mr. DuBrock, do you want to
8 continue?

9 MR. DUBROCK:

10 The second sheet that's been distributed
11 to the Commissioners reflects the antlerless license
12 recommendations. We were briefed extensively
13 yesterday by Doctor Rosenberry about the status of the
14 deer population, deer health, habitat health as well
15 as CAC recommendations and each wildlife management
16 unit. Our recommendations are to stabilize the deer
17 population in each management unit with three
18 exceptions, and that is 2B, 5C and 5D where we would
19 recommend a decrease in the populations.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 And those being the specialized
22 regulation areas?

23 MR. DUBROCK:

24 That is correct, the most urbanized
25 areas. And so the recommendation that you have in

1 front of you reflect the season framework that you
2 have approved at this meeting, so anticipating that
3 we've got two options, a 12 day concurrent antler and
4 antlerless season and a 5 day antler and 7 day
5 concurrent antlerless season framework which varies
6 from management unit to management unit. And if you'd
7 like, I can just step through each of these for the
8 public's ---.

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 Well, did you just pass this out? They
11 all have it. I think to summarize here we adopted
12 already earlier today the season format that you've
13 got listed on here, some seasons being concurrent,
14 some seasons having the split season, and that's what
15 --- you're recommending the same thing that we just
16 adopted?

17 MR. DUBROCK:

18 That is correct.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 And so --- and you've indicated you've
21 got three areas, the special regs areas that are to be
22 decreased, everything else is stable, and that would
23 be reflected on the numbers that you presented to us
24 yesterday ---

25 MR. DUBROCK:

1 That's correct.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 --- or your team presented to us. And I
4 think that total's something like 913,000 licenses
5 according to antlerless allocation.

6 MR. DUBROCK:

7 I did not add them.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 I added. That's the unofficial number.

10 MR. DUBROCK:

11 I'd like to focus on each WMU, because
12 we're managing each WMU level rather than divert our
13 attention to the total.

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 Okay. Is there a motion to adopt this
16 recommendation as presented to us?

17 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

18 So moved.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Commissioner Schreffler. Is there a
21 second?

22 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

23 Second.

24 PRESIDENT WEANER:

25 Commissioner Isabella seconds the motion

1 to adopt what we've been presented. At this time,
2 I'll open it to discussion. Commissioner Martone?

3 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

4 Are you interested in amending
5 that ---?

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Discussion means that you discuss or
8 offer other motions.

9 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

10 I wanted to go with the flow here. I
11 would like to look at the number for wildlife
12 management unit 2D. Right now it's listed as stable,
13 and the proposed recommendation is 55,000. We
14 recently had a citizens advisory committee meet, and
15 their recommendation was to decrease the deer herd in
16 2D. To accommodate that recommendation I would like
17 an additional 5,000 added to that number giving a
18 total for 2D of 60,000 based on that CAC
19 recommendation.

20 Also, in wildlife management unit 2F, the
21 number proposed on the sheet recommendation is a
22 stable number of 32,000. However, as I mentioned
23 yesterday during the public comment, 2F is a unit that
24 sells out almost within days of opening this
25 antlerless license. 2D (sic) sells out. That means

1 there is a lot of recreational opportunity available
2 in 2F. Because of that, we have introduced a split
3 season to accommodate that and the additional interest
4 in license. I would like to add 2,000 to the number
5 proposed of 32,000 and raise that to 34,000.

6 PRESIDENT WEANER:

7 Is there a second for this motion?

8 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

9 I'll second that.

10 PRESIDENT WEANER:

11 Commissioner Delaney seconds. The motion
12 would change 2D. It would strike out 55,000 and
13 insert 60,000. And in 2F, we would strike out 32,000
14 and insert 34,000. Is there any further discussion on
15 that item? Hearing none, we shall vote on that motion
16 as I've just stated it. All those in favor, signify
17 by saying aye.

18 AYES RESPOND

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 Those opposed, say no.

21 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

22 Opposed.

23 PRESIDENT WEANER:

24 Mr. Secretary?

25 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

1 Mr. President, the motion to amend 2D and
2 2F passes seven to one.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 The one dissenting vote is Commissioner
5 Isabella. So therefore, the motion passes.

6 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

7 The motion passes.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 Now, open for discussion again.
10 Commissioner Delaney.

11 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

12 If we can revert to wildlife management
13 unit 3B and 3D. 3B and 3D. We had a very good
14 discussion with our Bureau of Wildlife Habitat
15 Management, Bill Capouillez, who directed the board
16 and advised the board that we can get to a good
17 habitat goal of 70 percent in a length of time,
18 overnight, two years or five years, and we of the
19 board can get us there quicker or it could take
20 somewhat longer.

21 So with that in mind, I do have two
22 proposals for WMU 3B. This past year the allocations
23 for 3B were 33,761 tags. We also put 3B into a split
24 season and that passed, and the recommendations to
25 keep the herd stable were 48,000. In light of the

1 forest health measures in WMU 3B being one of the best
2 in the state and going in that direction, what I want
3 to do is continue --- we already voted on the five day
4 antlered, seven day concurrent, but to slightly
5 increase the herd. I am offering to increase --- I
6 should say decrease your recommendation and make it
7 40,000.

8 PRESIDENT WEANER:

9 So you're striking 48 and inserting 40?

10 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

11 That's correct. And to follow up with
12 WMU 3D, we had a lengthy discussion yesterday, and the
13 forest health measures in 3D have not changed for ten
14 years. I advocate increasing the tags and we're going
15 to continue to have the 12 day concurrent. We already
16 passed that. Rather than using the stable number of
17 36, I'd like to decrease the size of the herd and
18 increase the tags to 31,000 to see if that is going to
19 matter to increase the forest health measures in 3D.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 What was your number again?

22 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

23 To go --- in WMU 3B, the recommended
24 amount to keep the herd stable was 36,000. I'm
25 proposing to add an additional 3,000 to make that

1 39,000. That will decrease the size of the deer herd.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Do we have a second to that motion to
4 amend?

5 COMMISSIONER MARTONE:

6 Second.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 It's been seconded by Commissioner
9 Martone. Okay. We have a motion on the floor. Let
10 me restate the motion. The motion is to amend by
11 striking out 48,000 from 3B and inserting 40,000, and
12 from 3D, striking out 36,000 and inserting 39,000. Is
13 there any discussion on that amendment?

14 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

15 Could we split the amendment and handle
16 each of those separately, Mr. Delaney?

17 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

18 I'll defer to the President.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 To do that, you'll have to make a motion
21 to split the motion.

22 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

23 Okay. My motion is then to vote on 3B
24 proposed changes --- or 3B separately from the
25 proposed changes for 3D.

1 PRESIDENT WEANER:

2 Is there a second to that motion?

3 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

4 Second.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 Commissioner Isabella seconds the motion.

7 The motion has been made to split the motion into two
8 separate motions, one for 3D and one for 3B. Is there
9 any discussion on that? What we're voting on is
10 whether we're going to vote on these separately.

11 That's what we're voting on. All those in favor of
12 splitting this motion, signify by saying aye.

13 AYES RESPOND

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 Those opposed, say no.

16 NOS RESPOND

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Mr. Secretary, what was the vote?

19 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

20 Mr. President, I would ask for a hand
21 vote.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Okay. Normally, you can call it however
24 you want it, and then someone could request a division
25 of the house, but we'll go this way. We shall now

1 revote. All those in favor of splitting the motion
2 --- that's all we're voting on, just splitting the
3 motion. All those in favor of splitting the motion,
4 raise one hand. All those opposed to splitting the
5 motion, raise one hand. Mr. Secretary?

6 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

7 Mr. President, the motion fails six to
8 two.

9 PRESIDENT WEANER:

10 And who were the two that voted?

11 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

12 Five, three.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 Let's revote. We'll get this again. We
15 are going to revote. The motion is to split the
16 motion. All those in favor of splitting this motion,
17 signify by raising one hand. Hands down. All those
18 opposed to splitting this motion, raise one hand. Mr.
19 Secretary?

20 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

21 Mr. President, the motion fails 5 to 3.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 And the three voting no were?

24 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

25 Commissioner Schreffler, Commissioner

1 Isabella and Commissioner Schlemmer voted no.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 So everyone else voted yes. So the
4 motion has not been split. We are now back to
5 discussion on the main motion to amend by making these
6 two changes. Is there any discussion on this? Okay.

7 At this time, we are voting on the motion. Let me
8 restate the motion again. We are voting on 3B,
9 changing the number --- the allocation from 48,000
10 down to 40,000 and 3D, as in dog, from 36,000 to
11 39,000. That's the motion that we're now voting on.
12 All those in favor, signify by raising one hand. Hands
13 down. All those opposed, raise one hand. Mr.
14 Secretary?

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

16 Mr. President, the motion to amendment
17 the allocations for 3B and 3D passes six to two.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 And those voting no?

20 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

21 Commissioner Schreffler and Commissioner
22 Isabella voted no.

23 PRESIDENT WEANER:

24 And everyone else voted yes. Thank you
25 very much. Are there any other amendments or any

1 other discussion about the motion to adopt the
2 recommendation? Commissioner Boop?

3 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

4 Yes, thank you, Mr. President. I'd like
5 to address management units 4D and 4E. I'd like to do
6 them together, 4D and 4E. We have a citizens advisory
7 committees in both, and both recommended an increase
8 in the deer herd. These management units are for the
9 most part ridges and valleys. They're not deep woods.
10 We had --- in 2010, in 4D, we had allocations of
11 30,052 and it's proposed to have had 44,000 with a
12 goal of stable. I would like to propose a reduction
13 to 37,000, which would be a reduction of 7,000 in 4D.
14 And in 4E, last year, we had 26,899. It's proposed
15 this year to be 35,000 to remain stable. I'd like to
16 propose reducing that by 6,000 to a total of 29,000.

17 The reasons, of course, are social in
18 that the citizens advisory committees have recommended
19 an increase. Politically, this is a hot bed of a lot
20 of the criticism of our deer management plan. Third,
21 I think we have corrected the perceived problems with
22 the DMAP program, and we've not restricted the DMAP
23 coupons that will be available to address the concerns
24 in these two management units. So for all these three
25 reasons --- or for all these reasons, not just three,

1 I would respectfully move to reduce 4D and 4E by the
2 amounts stated.

3 PRESIDENT WEANER:

4 Is there a second?

5 COMMISSIONER DELANEY:

6 So moved.

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Commissioner Delaney seconds the motion.

9 Commissioner Boop makes the motion. To restate his
10 motion, 4D would go from 44,000 to 37,000, 4E from
11 35,000 to 29,000. Is there any discussion?

12 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

13 Yes.

14 PRESIDENT WEANER:

15 Commissioner Schreffler?

16 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

17 I would like to say in 4D I think that,
18 although I respect the opinions of Mr. Boop, it seems
19 that more on the eastern end of 4D is where the
20 problem is and that the bulk of 4D is not having a
21 problem with deer. In fact, if you look at the charts
22 that were given to us by Staff, the population
23 actually is slightly increasing. And the other thing
24 that concerns me is that the habitat regeneration is
25 only 36 percent in 4D. Yet, the deer population seems

1 to be on the trend upward. And I myself would prefer
2 to see that this unit stay at the stable 44,000
3 allocation.

4 And I also travel through the western end
5 of this, and it's an area that I get into and talk.
6 And I think that the deer herd there in Centre County
7 and in northern Blair and Bucks County and all is
8 hanging --- is really fairly substantial. So,
9 therefore, I would like to amend and make a motion to
10 amend Mr. Boop's --- his proposal to --- back to the
11 44,000 allocation.

12 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

13 Well, point of order. I don't think he
14 can amend it back to the original.

15 PRESIDENT WEANER:

16 You can't just the gauge with the
17 amendment. You'll have to redo it some other way.

18 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

19 Okay. Can I give another way?

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 I would suggest that you would vote no on
22 this amendment and then we can change it.

23 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

24 You're right. I would --- let me amend
25 it to ---.

1 PRESIDENT WEANER:

2 No. Again ---.

3 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

4 Point of order.

5 PRESIDENT WEANER:

6 State your point.

7 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

8 Well, the point is that he can't amend
9 the motion. He has to --- I think he has to vote no
10 on the motion. If it's defeated. Then he can move to
11 amend it.

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 You'll just have to vote no if you're not
14 in favor of this, and then go back the other way. You
15 cannot just completely negate the whole motion.

16 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

17 I could give another number. 43,000 I
18 could say.

19 PRESIDENT WEANER:

20 I'm going to say no.

21 MR. ROE:

22 In other words, you have to vote this
23 amendment, and then if you want to offer another
24 amendment with another number, you can.

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 The other tack would be to do what you
2 did in the last motion and split the motion.
3 Commissioner Boop?

4 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

5 Again, one point that I didn't make
6 before we vote on this and I missed it. And
7 Commissioner Martone correctly noted it when he made a
8 motion concerning several management units. 4E
9 typically goes to the third round to sell out of
10 antlerless license. 4D typically goes to the second
11 round to sell out. So these are not management units
12 that sell out immediately like he was talking about
13 with respect to 2F. I mean, in 4E many years you have
14 people that are able to get three antlerless license
15 before they sell out, so you know, we're not really
16 increasing recreational opportunity for new people,
17 but just giving multiple tags to hunters.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Further discussion? Commissioner Putnam?

20

21 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

22 4D is an example of the problem we have
23 with our wildlife management units having very
24 disparate habitats. We have some of the most fertile
25 limestone soils in the state in 4D and we have some of

1 the most infertile mountain lands in 4.D and I would
2 generally --- because the habitat is poor, I would
3 support a higher allocation than what Commissioner
4 Boop has proposed. And I guess my hope would be is
5 that through the DMAP Program we may be able to focus
6 our hunters on the areas --- the areas that have the
7 higher population in 2D. We have very disparate
8 population within there. So I do favor stabilizing
9 that population or even reducing in it some areas, but
10 I will support Commissioner Boop on this amendment.

11 PRESIDENT WEANER:

12 Further discussion? Okay. We're
13 prepared to vote. Here is the motion once again. The
14 motion to amend says that 4D will go from 44 --- we'll
15 strike 44,000 and insert 37,000. 4E, we will strike
16 35,000 and insert 29,000. All those in favor of this
17 motion, signify by raising one hand. Hands down. All
18 those opposed, raise one hand. Mr. Secretary?

19 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

20 Mr. President, the amendment passes six
21 to two.

22 PRESIDENT WEANER:

23 Those voting no?

24 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

25 Commissioner Schreffler and Commissioner

1 Isabella. Everyone else voting yes.

2 PRESIDENT WEANER:

3 Are there further --- is there further
4 discussion or amendment?

5 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

6 Mr. President?

7 PRESIDENT WEANER:

8 Mr. Schreffler?

9 COMMISSIONER SCHREFFLER:

10 I would like to enter my motion to ---
11 back to 4D, again, I would like to mention that here
12 there seems to be a herd on the increase. It does
13 have a disparate habitat, as Mr. Putnam said, and I
14 think that the bulk of the wildlife management unit
15 should be stabilized at least --- at the very least in
16 the allocation. And that I propose that we change
17 that number from 37,000 to --- since we're in the
18 five --- this is a five day split season, five to
19 seven days, to make it 43,500.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 We have a motion to amend. Is there a
22 second?

23 COMMISSIONER ISABELLA:

24 Second.

25 PRESIDENT WEANER:

1 The maker of the motion is Commissioner
2 Schreffler. Commissioner Isabella seconds the motion.

3 The motion reads that in area --- or WMU 4D we will
4 strike the number, which is now 37,000, and we will
5 insert 43,500. Is there any discussion on that item?

6 Hearing none, we shall proceed to vote. All those in
7 favor of striking 37,000 and inserting 43,500, signify
8 by raising one hand. Hands down. All those opposed,
9 raise one hand. Mr. Secretary?

10 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

11 Mr. President, the motion fails six to
12 two.

13 PRESIDENT WEANER:

14 And those voting no?

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

16 Those voting no are Commissioner Boop,
17 Commissioner Putnam, PRESIDENT WEANER, Commissioner
18 Martone, Commissioner Delaney and Commissioner
19 Schlemmer.

20 PRESIDENT WEANER:

21 And those voting yes are Commissioner
22 Schreffler and Commissioner Isabella. Any other
23 further discussion on this motion as amended? Hearing
24 none, we're now going to vote on the allocations
25 presented to us as amended by these various motions.

1 To summarize it, the allocation as proposed to us was
2 913,000. It is now as amended 902,000 for a net loss
3 of 11,000 licenses. And I think we have all of the
4 --- you know what all of the amendments are, so we're
5 voting on the whole package right now. All those in
6 favor of this motion as amended, signify by raising
7 one hand. Now all those opposed, raise one hand. Mr.
8 Secretary?

9 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

10 Mr. President, the motion passes six to
11 two.

12 PRESIDENT WEANER:

13 Those voting no?

14 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

15 Those voting no are Commissioner
16 Schreffler and Commissioner Isabella.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Everyone else votes yes. Are there any
19 other items of new business? Commissioner Putnam?

20 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM:

21 I would like to talk about the, I guess,
22 request of the Executive Director to look at the issue
23 of redrawing our wildlife management units by the next
24 meeting, come up with a schedule and a procedure for
25 how those wildlife management units will be redrawn.

1 We've just talked about 4D. It's an example of some
2 very disparate habitats. I am not confident that that
3 can be redrawn to address that particular issue,
4 because they are so homogenous.

5 I do think there are some wildlife
6 management units that can be redrawn now with new
7 staff and new technology that's available to the
8 Commission that wasn't available the last time we
9 reviewed the units. We received a lot of public
10 comment, and I think it would be worthwhile. I think
11 this would be a fairly long process in my opinion, but
12 if we start now, solicit public comments, I think we
13 can address those. No matter where the line is drawn,
14 it's going to be right on the edge of someone's
15 favorite hunting ground or split someone's favorite
16 hunting ground in half, but I believe the time is now
17 to look at the units.

18 PRESIDENT WEANER:

19 Other comments or other information for
20 new business? Commissioner Boop?

21 COMMISSIONER BOOP:

22 A couple points, Mr. President. We've
23 now --- I'm not sure if this is the second or the
24 third meeting where we've had the webcast for the
25 meeting, and I guess I would just hope that the

1 Executive Director could may be give us a little
2 update at the June meeting as to how it's working, the
3 feedback that we're getting. I think it's a very
4 useful tool. And the one thing we talked about in
5 just sort of casual conversation, there is a lot of
6 people out there that don't have computers and don't
7 have access to the broadcast, and I was just sort of
8 wondering if we have auditoriums in all the regional
9 offices and whether we believe we could look into the
10 possibility of broadcasting it in the auditoriums or
11 regional offices, which would be a lot more convenient
12 for many people when we're looking at presumably \$5
13 gas this summer. I think it would be a benefit to
14 some of the outer communities.

15 Another quick point for the Bureau of
16 Wildlife Protection, and I mention this to Director
17 Palmer. I just have some concern that we don't have a
18 procedure in place for mistake kills for bear and elk,
19 and I hope that we can address that now that we have
20 some of these other issues behind us. And we do have
21 provisions for turkey and deer and the other species,
22 but we have had a few incidents with bear and elk and
23 I would just like to address that.

24 And then the third point is that as we go
25 forward I think as most of you know, I still have very

1 significant concerns about our deer program, and I
2 would like to take a look at if we could get some
3 information, either through the game take survey or
4 through the cards, whatever source management thinks
5 is the best way to go about that, to try to get some
6 information on how much of the take is on private land
7 and how much is on public land. It's my personal
8 belief, both through personal observation and
9 anecdotal, that a good portion of our take is
10 occurring on private land. And I think in the next
11 10, 15 years as we further refine this program, we're
12 going to have to start managing public and private
13 lands differently. And at this point, we don't seem
14 to have much information to guide any discussion or
15 decision making with respect to that, so those three
16 issues.

17 PRESIDENT WEANER:

18 Thank you. Any other new business?
19 Hearing none, I'll refer you to the upcoming meetings
20 that are listed on here, our June, October and January
21 meetings. Executive Director Roe, were there any
22 comments that you would like to make before we
23 adjourn?

24 We will hold a press conference in a
25 cafeteria of the training school around the corner

1 here in about --- let's say, at 10:45 for those people
2 that will attend that. Any last comments for the good
3 of the order before we adjourn? I appreciate everyone
4 coming here today. I think we had a good meeting. We
5 stand adjourned.

6 * * * * *

7 MEETING CONCLUDED AT 10:28 A.M.

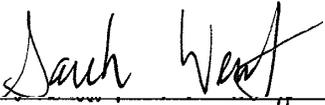
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I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.



Court Reporter