

MEETING MINUTES

NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION
Santa Fe Community College
6401 Richards Avenue
Santa Fe, NM 87508

Thursday, January 14, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A P P E A R A N C E S

Game Commissioner Thomas Salopek

Chairman Paul Kienzle

Vice Chairman Bill Montoya

Game Commissioner Robert Espinoza

Game Commissioner Ralph Ramos

Game Commissioner Bob Ricklefs

Game Commissioner Elizabeth Ryan

A B S E N T

None

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: This meeting to order. Good morning. Director, can we get a Roll call?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Yes. Commissioner Espinoza?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ramos?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ryan?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Salopek?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Vice Chairman Montoya?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Present.

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

Final

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. The Pledge of Allegiance.

[Pledge of Allegiance ends.]

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

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: So moved.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MAMBERS: "Aye".

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. All right, we're going to take a few minutes and go around the room and do an introduction of people that are here. Do you want to go first Donald?

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman, Commissioners. Donald (indiscernible) Deputy Director of (indiscernible) Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Commissioners and Director. My name is David Stanbach, Director of New Mexico (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, everyone in the public. Stuart Lyle Fish and Wildlife of New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Mike Phillips (indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good morning.

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GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Craig Sanchez Assistant Chief of Education Communications.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Chairman, good morning Commissioners, good morning (indiscernible). My name is (indiscernible) I'm the Assistant Director of the Resource Divisions.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commission, my name is Craig Chapman, Assistant Director of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Chairman. Good morning Commissioners. I'm Lance Cherry. I'm the Chief of Information and Education Division.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Commissioners. (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. Members of the public, I'm Harvey (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Mike (indiscernible), Division of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKKER: Good morning Commissioners. My name is (indiscernible) Williams, Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I'm Ray Sanchez. I'm an angler in the Northern Field Operations, Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Steven (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm (indiscernible) Perry. (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Nathan Potts of (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm (indiscernible) Chapman (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Chris (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Chris Calvert [Phonetic] (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Barnhill [Phonetic] (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Hello everyone. Thank you all for (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Michael Robinson (indiscernible) of New Mexico and I represent Spencer.
(indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Kate (indiscernible), Santa Fe (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Rita Collin (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Santa Fe Wildlife Magazine.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ray Sanchez (indiscernible).

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GUEST SPEAKER: Roy Anthym [phonetic] (indiscernible) of New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Lisa Simpson, Chairman (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Santa Fe.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) I'm a citizen.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning. I'm Nancy Savage (indiscernible). I'm a scientist and (indiscernible) and I'm here to support the wolves and (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Sue Green (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Jean (indiscernible) of New Mexico and (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) of New Mexico (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Shannon (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

Final

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman (indiscernible). My name is (indiscernible) New Mexico (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: My name is (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Todd (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Susan (indiscernible), Albuquerque (indiscernible). I'm also a member of the Southwestern (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Nelson. (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning. I'm Tom Gorman of the Sierra Club in (indiscernible). I'm also currently serving in the chair (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Commissioner, Director and esteemed part in staff (indiscernible). I'm a ranch owner.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning everyone (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, Ed Collins, concerned citizen and I belong to the Sierra Club (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning. Kerry Romero (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Lisa (indiscernible), Sierra Club (indiscernible).

Final

GUEST SPEAKER: Commissioners, Mr. Chairman, Tony Dunn, (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Johnson. (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning. I'm Kevin Bixby. I'm the Southwestern Environmental Center in Las Cruces.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible). Good morning.

[Laughter]

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, general public. I am Callie Reynard [Phonetic] with the Southwestern Environmental Center and a concerned citizen as well.

GUEST SPEAKER: Peter (indiscernible) from Santa Fe. (Indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. My name is (indiscernible) Nickles, the Department of New Mexico Game Warden. I'm a field Ecologist and Biologist. I'm a member of Wild Earth Guardians, Illegal Conservation Voters and a member of Union Over-Concerned Scientists and I support (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Commissioners. (indiscernible) My name is Evelyn (indiscernible) and I'm an active member of the (indiscernible) and the Sierra's Club.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning. I'm with Defensive Partners. We are in Santa Fe and we also have a (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. My name is Jim (indiscernible). I'm from Aztec, New Mexico and I'm the Chair of the Southwest Section of Wildlife (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. My name is (indiscernible) from Santa Fe and I'm (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning everyone, (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm (indiscernible) from the National Wildlife Federation.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Walter (indiscernible). I'm a citizen. I've lived in (indiscernible) New Mexico since 1967 and I'm (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning. Susan Torres from New Mexico Wildlife Federation.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think that's about it. Thank you. I appreciate everyone introducing themselves and I appreciate your participation today. Can I get a motion to approve the minutes from our November 19, 2015 meeting in Roswell?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: So moved.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. New Business: Selection of Chair and Vice Chair of the State Game Commission. Can I get a nomination for Chair please?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: I move- I'm sorry; I nominate Paul Kienzle for Chairman for Commission.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Do a....

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: We have to do Vice Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm getting there. Give me a second. I'm clicking through it. Nomination for Vice Chair?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I nominate Bill Montoya for Vice Chair.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Thank you. Agenda Item No. 8: Annual Adoption of the Open Meetings Resolution. Miss Valicenti.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chair while Miss Valicenti comes up to the table, you all should have the resolution in front of you as a reminder to the public and Miss Valicenti will go into this. This is something that we renew every single year and is on our webpage for review.

MONA VALICENTI: Good morning Mr. Chair, Commissioners. As this is the first annual meeting of the State Game Commission you are going to have to adopt this Open Meeting Resolution. And as you may remember from years past, the Open Meetings Act requires each public body to yearly adopt the resolution setting forth the public bodies notice requirements. So as Director Sandoval mentioned, you have a copy of the OMA Resolution in front of you and so to summarize it, the Commission will provide a ten day notice in advance of a regular meeting and three day for a special meeting. This notice will also include information about how to obtain an agenda and the agenda has to be available and posted at the Game and Fish Department and on the website at least seventy-two hours in advance of a regular or special meeting. Now for emergency meetings which would be far and few in between right? The requirements are twenty-four hour notice for the meeting and twenty-four hours or less for the agenda. But the OMA, the Open Meetings Act requires that in an emergency meeting they only be called under where unforeseen circumstances demand immediate action by the Game Commission to protect the health, safety and property of citizens or to protect the Game Commission from substantial financial loss. Now once the Commission calls for an emergency meeting, it has ten days to notify the office of the Attorney General of the emergency action taken at that meeting. And the resolution also provides Commissioners with the opportunity to attend meetings, public meetings cell phonically when it is otherwise difficult or impossible for them to appear in person. The Open Meetings Act requires though that when a member appears by telephone or similar equipment, that each member must be identified when speaking and all participants and members of the public in attendance are able to hear the speaker. The resolution also includes information about the publication of the notice and how to enter into a Closed Executive Session but I will stop here, unless you have any other questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: None for me. This is similar to last year's version.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chair just as a note, this reflects the current rule that lives under Title XVIII.

COMMISSIONER: Does this apply to all Commissions in the State of Mexico?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Oh yeah.

COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So you just need us to vote?

MONA VALICENTI: A motion to adopt.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Up or down, okay.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I'll make a motion to adopt.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Agenda Item No. 9: Future Meetings Schedule and Locations.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: So Mr. Chair this is up for discussion by the Commission. These are the proposed dates and locations. The dates of, there are some important dates that you need to be mindful of. The June meeting is important set at that date because our capital outlet projects are due in front of you by July 1st for approval so that we may submit. And then the

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same is true for the August 25th meeting. That is a requirement for submitting our annual budget for review. And then again, just as we're having the meeting here in January in Santa Fe, we need to schedule our first annual meeting here in Santa Fe. So those are the key points to those locations and I will say, we went back and looked at all the different locations across the State of New Mexico and these are locations in which we have not had a meeting in the last three years.

COMMISSIONER: Alexa, for next year I'd like the schedule for next year, I's like to see one in Artesia.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Okay. Mr. Chair, Commissioner, we can certainly entertain changing one of the locations for this year if that's your pleasure or we can wait until next year but we can do Artesia.

COMMISSIONER: No, I just threw that out. You know you looked at the ones, the ones we haven't been in three years and next year if we pick up Artesia and maybe whoever, that would be fine with me.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Will do Commissioner.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I note I may have a conflict on October the 6th. Can we move that back a day to the 5th? Will that present a problem for the Department?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Nope, that would be a Wednesday. So...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chair, last year we had one meeting on a Saturday to make sure that the public could attend. Perhaps that could be moved to the Saturday meeting?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That would be fine.

COMMISSIONER: That would be...

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chair, I understand in the Saturday meeting in October is right in the middle of hunting season so I don't know if that would work, if a Saturday in that date would be appropriate.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That sounds like a bad...

COMMISSIONER: It's not good.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let's move at least the October 6th one to October the 5th. Do you want to do it on a Saturday on any of the other ones that are not, other than the November one?

COMMISSIONER: I have no problems with the way it's set.

COMMISSIONER: I agree.

COMMISSIONER: I like the way it sits.

COMMISSIONER: I like the way it sits.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: No, that's fine.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Are you okay with keeping them on Thursdays? I don't mind moving any, either the August, June, May or even the April one to a Saturday.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: So the August one Mr. Chair, we would, I think our CFO and our accounting staff would die of a heart attack.

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CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right. We're whittling it down to April, May or June if you want to try for a Saturday.

COMMISSIONER: That's May 14th?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Well I, I mean you look at the Saturdays when we've had them, not a lot of people showed up. But if we're looking at budget constraints, what does it cost us to have the Saturday meeting for overtime and stuff? I know we want to accommodate the public. There again, I haven't seen the numbers show up on Saturdays. My opinion.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: So Mr. Chair, Commissioner Salopek, in terms of expense to the agency, we incur about another \$15,000 to \$16,000 for a Saturday meeting. That's largely due to overtime and travel, additional travels. So....

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Somebody needs to give me a motion to do something. If you want to move it to a Saturday let's move it. Keep them the way they are then?

COMMISSIONER: The exception then.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Except for October 6th when we move it to Wednesday, October the 5th.

COMMISSIONER: You have a public comment.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay. Go ahead.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you Commissioner Ricklefs for suggesting and reminding everybody about the Saturday meeting. Last year we- the first time in many years we had one in Taos, it would be June on a Saturday and it was poorly attended by

sportsmen and very well attended it seems to me by other members of the public. Nevertheless, we would like to encourage you to have another Saturday meeting in one of the bigger cities and so I would- and \$15,000 to \$16,000, yeah it would be an expense. We'd just agreed to pay Aubrey Dunn another \$800,000 which puts \$15,000 to \$16,000 in a different context. I would encourage you to take that to Las Cruces to maybe try and get the most people that are possible as opposed to say Silver or Santa Rosa. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I have a conflict on Saturday in April.

COMMISSIONER: The Saturday before?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Every Saturday in April.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Somebody needs to give me a motion. Whether you want it on a Saturday or not, keep them all on Thursday, one on a Wednesday, I still need a motion for someone to make.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I make a motion to approve the potential meeting dates and locations as is with the exception of moving the October 6th meeting to October 5th.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any discussion, further discussion? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Any opposed? Agenda Item No. 10: Action to be taken on Turner Endangered Species Fund Appeals and the pile of Applications to Import and Posses Mexican Gray Wolves. If you recall we've-these denials and the appeals have been

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making their way through the system. Our appeal was heard on November, sorry, November 19th. Since that, the appeal was heard. The fondest [phonetic] had the opportunity to supplement the record. That material has been provided to the Commissioners, both the Department and the Fund had the opportunity to provide what are called proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law for consideration by the Commissioners. Those were provided to us last Friday which brings us to today. There's no further presentations from either the Department or the Fund. This is on the Agenda today to let the Commissioners deliberate and have any final word if they want to have on the matter before we vote on that appeal. So with that, are there any comments? Anything the Commissioners want to say at this point? Commissioner Ricklefs, anything? Salopek? Montoya? Ramos? Ryan? Espinoza?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I'll go. In doing the research for agreeing what our Commission has authority to do and not to do under our controlling regulations, referenced several sections. But regarding, our Commission has different authority to do different things depending on what's before us and what type of hearing we're having. This hearing is on appeal onto a renewal of a permit and then an amendment to the permit and so we're sitting in appellate jurisdiction and the Chapter 35, part 7, Section 22(c) of Title 19 of the New Mexico Administrative Code states that we can only reverse the Director's decision if the Commission determines that the decision of the Director was arbitrary or capricious. That the decision of the Director was not based on law or regulation where the appellate provides additional data or evident that contradicts the data or evidence used by the Department to deny the permit. So the analysis that we've all been going through and determining in which the parties have been arguing on whether the Director has used her discretion in denying the permit and whether we were wrong in denying the permit at our meeting earlier this year. You know I want everyone to understand to understand that that

standard is the lowest standard offered by a reviewing body and if just because you disagree with the Director's decision making doesn't mean that she necessarily abused her discretion. If she had reasonable information, if she made a reasonable decision based on concerns and information provided to her then we are supposed to support that decision and the Director's given a lot of discretion under the enabling statutes and regulations. And so it, our analysis is limited to that kind of discussion. So before us is whether the Endangered Species Fund provided information and argument sufficient to carry its burden that she applied, Section 19.35.69 and 1935.6(13) was arbitrary capricious. When going through the records, that and all the documents that have supplied in this matter, it's my opinion that in both the renewal of the permit and then the amendment that she relied on information provided to her. That she relied laws and regulations that she's directed to rely on. There wasn't some kind of discriminatory action where she singled the Endangered Species Fund out differently from others, is a pre-release facility different from others within the state? So with that in mind- in addition, there wasn't any new additional information provided by the Endangered Species Fund for us to look at that would change our decision making. There is a compromised approach that the Endangered Species Fund has put in there, findings of fact and conclusion of law and I don't believe my personal analysis that that is, would somehow be new information provided to us. There is a compromised approach and there are some procedures that certainly before the permit gets to this Commission in a pellet review that can be some compromises that the Department can do with the Endangered Species Fund. Especially a new applications of permits and different conditions that could be said that may be, you know, a middle ground that could be taken between the Department and the Endangered Species Fund but I simply don't believe we have the authority to just grant a permit and start issuing new conditions on it from, you know

the bench here. That that's something that has to be done ahead of time and not and there are appellate jurisdictions, so I wanted to state that on the record that the Endangered Species Fund is free to re-apply and to, would want to direct the Department to work on, you know middle ground and issues that you know, if it seems that there are issues that that's something that can be addressed between the parties but certainly at this point in our pellet review I don't believe that's something the Commission has authority to do from where we sit right now. So my analysis all that wrapped to say is I believe we have to deny the appeal and affirm the Director's decisions in this matter.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

COMMISSIONER: Just to make sure, I think so that the public can understand as well, the current permit that's in place is good through the end of 2016. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Correct.

COMMISSIONER: The permit that's on the Ladder Ranch....

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, yes that is true. Their current permit 3443 is valid through 2016 with of course, what's in front of you is the amendment as well to the permit.

COMMISSIONER: Right. I do want to thank both our attorney and Mike (indiscernible). All the documents that you provided were concise. A lot to read through and I've spent a lot of hours reading through it. But I have to concur with Commissioner Ryan that, you know what we're hearing today, what we have jurisdiction or authority to do, I think that in my decision as

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well we have to uphold the appeal. But that doesn't- I would encourage you based on what you submitted for, some working together and some additional stipulations maybe to push that forward and work with the Department. I know the Department is more than willing to work and apply it and make that application with those new stipulations that you put in as soon as possible. I think we all agree that wolves are here to stay in New Mexico. Anybody that thinks that they're going to be gone and that this Commission is against wolves is living in another world. We're not against wolves. We want to manage them.

[Laughter]

COMMISSIONER: You can laugh all you want but that is a true fact.

[Laughter]

COMMISSIONER: So Mike, I would encourage you to do that. I think any one of these Commissioners up here, speaking for myself, would more than aid if we need to or if we have the ability to. I would offer my hand to do that but we have obviously a very well equipped staff to work with you. But what we're looking at today, I think I will uphold the appeal. Again, thank you for all the information.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I think the Endangered Species Fund and the Ladder ranch is in a difficult position because it doesn't have any control over what U.S. Fish and Wildlife is doing with its recovery plan. So I empathize with your situation and know that you guys are doing everything you can to help the-you know, what you can do with U.S. fish and Wildlife. I think we've made it clear you know from the Commissions standpoint that we want to work toward a collaborative recovery plan that addresses the science behind, the science based, that it has economical and moral considerations and that it's a collaborative effort between the states and

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various agencies and organizations that all want to make this work. So I empathize with your situation right now but we've got to get through some time for that recovery plan to have them and get in place.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: I was encouraged by the reports from the first meeting coming back from the recovery plan and I'm optimistic that that will come through and I've been pessimistic that they would even finish that. I believe the Director was very clear from the sense of the Commission on the May Meeting. Hat her decision to deny the renewal was not arbitrary and capricious and she had every authority to deny that and so I would move that we deny the appeal and uphold the Director's decision on the renewal of the permit.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm going to take any further discussion? Any further comments? Let me say that you do have the opportunity as Commissioner Ryan suggested to, if you will, reapply because you do have a permit that's good through the end of the year. I did cut you off in November's when you wanted to have a discussion about, you know what does a middle ground look like or what's a way forward on this? That was not meant to be rude but as Commissioner Ryan pointed out, when we sit as an appellate body it's different then having a dialog on how to really fix what is just the problem right? So there is plenty of time. You have an entire essentially to not really go back to the drawing board because it's not that dire the way I see it but there is probably a middle ground here where- and if you recall my comments, I was concerned about habituation and other things. You know what can we do to mitigate that and

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you had some suggestions in that regard and in your pellet presentation which I appreciated. So I, we can see this as the end or the beginning of the end or however you want to conceive of it but this does not have to be the last time we visit this subject. That having been said, if you recall, on any renewal like this it would come in front of the Commission. I will make every effort to get it on the earliest possible agenda and it could be as soon as April if you choose to visit with the Department and you know, rough out what a compromise might look like. If you choose not to go that route I'll respect that but I prefer to get things done cooperatively then you know might have had some fight or something. So, we can see this as the end or we can see this as the beginning of a way forward.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Mr. Chairman I would like to add to what you're saying in that when we sit in jurisdiction under Subsection J, when giving the Director policy instruction regarding reviewing and granting permits, there's a dialog that can happen when we're sitting in that type of jurisdiction and different from then what we are right now in an appeal. So it's just, which is what would be on, you know if this got on the agenda we would be sitting under Subsection J review.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And we have an archaic appellate structure if you will or set of rules such as they are and we will be reforming that I believe this year so that we don't necessarily have this problem again where it does give us some leeway to say, all right, we like half of what you're saying and here's some conditions. We're just limited by what our rules and regulations provide today in terms of trying to craft what might be a good position in the middle. It's called comfort today I think but it is something that we will look at this year so our hands are so firmly tied on a go forward basis.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTTOYA: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, Commissioner, Vice Chair Montoya?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTTOYA: I just returned from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies being in San Diego and I would like to assure everybody that the wolf issue has, a lot of people see it as that we're not moving in any direction towards the management and the perpetuation of wolves. There was many meetings held with four states. There was a lot of information that was coming out of Mexico on where, when and how we're going to go about the adherence you might say of a plan that is slow in coming but is going to get there and I'm glad to see that this issue isn't dead as a lot of people would think here. I don't think anybody on the Commission is against wolves. I think that what we're looking at right now is.....

[Laughter]

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTTOYA: You can laugh all you want to. If we were in a position where we were saying no to everything that's fine but our job I think is to look at the management to wolves and not to throw the door open and say here they come. So with I'll just say it's progressing whether you believe it or not, that's fine.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further comments, discussion?

COMMISSIONER: On the second issue I agree with Commission that discussion is necessary and it needs to be done as quickly as possible to get an amendment to the permit which is open until the end of this year to include moving those (indiscernible) wolves to the facility and to not include release. I would sure hope that could be done quickly.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I hope you'll take to heart what I said. You know this doesn't have to be adversarial and you know I think we can do this more cooperatively in the future and I think we can all learn from this that let's have more dialog in the front end rather than the back end. So, any further discussion? I have a question for the Director.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: So Mr. Chairman just as a point of order, you have one motion in front of you. You have two Items.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That was my question we have. So one, one appeal is on import and the other appeal is on possession.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Two for renewal-one is for renewal and the other is for amendment.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay. So let's....

COMMISSIONER: And the motion is on the (indiscernible) role of the permit. It is not on the amendment?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Correct. So you have a standing motion in front of you for the renewal and then there would, either an amendment to that current motion or a separate motion.

COMMISSIONER: Okay.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let's do them one at a time. So the motion on the floor is as to the renewal and that is to deny the appeal? That was your motion?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Of the renewal, correct.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Deny the renewal which would have the effect of affirming or upholding the Director's decision.

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COMMISSIONER: I second that motion.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Is that your motion Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Yes sir and I believe it was the seconded by Vice Chairman Montoya.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further discussion? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ayes have it. Then I need a second motion on the amendment.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Hey Chairman I make a motion to deny the appeal regarding the amendment of the permit.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Unanimous, the ayes have it. So the next step is, we need to adopt findings of fact and conclusions of law. We have been provided with two sets as a matter of logic. The funds set is rejected so are essentially working off of the set from the Department. That having been said, both sets can be rejected. Either set can be to some extent accepted and amended but we do need to adopt findings and facts and conclusions of law one way or another. We are not constrained by what was provided to us by the Department or the Fund. So with that I will either entertain a motion or I will ask for a motion that we adopt the findings, the proposed findings and fact in conclusions of law that were provided to us by the Department unless there

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are any, unless we have a discussion and there are any amendments that any Commissioner wishes to make.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Mr. Chairman I agree with the proposed findings and fact and conclusion of law. The Department, I don't even have any amendments to propose to what they submitted personally.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Can I get a motion to adopt the Departments proposed findings and fact and conclusions of law as the same for the Commission?

COMMISSIONER: So moved.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman for clarification would that be on the (indiscernible) renewal or the amendment?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We're going to do them both.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Okay.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: They're all in one set, unless the Fund and Mr. Sarra [phonetic] had a different idea. You provided us with one set of, I'm sorry two sets. So you want to do them both or split it up. So let's do the first one as to the renewal.

COMMISSIONER: So the motion on the floor died due to a lack of second?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes. I don't think we got a second.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: No we did not.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So then same motion that I made before to adopt the Departments proposed findings and fact and conclusions of law as the same for the Commission as to the renewal. Can I get a motion to that?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: So moved.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any discussion? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So that's on the renewal. And then similar motion as to the amendment to adopt the Departments proposed findings and fact and conclusions of law is the same for the Commission. Can I get a motion to that effect as to the amendment?

COMMISSIONER: So moved.

COMMISSIONER: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Okay, that is the end of Agenda Item No. 10. Again, I will instruct the Director to make her and her staff available if you choose to go that route and I hope you take to heart as I said. There is a middle ground here. This is not-the way these things get set up procedurally makes it sometimes a challenge to get the result you want. It's a learning exercise as I said to get things square and get things right but I would encourage you to visit the

Director and let's see if we can solve this problem. Thank you. We can take a brief recess here before Colonel Griego does Revocations.

COMMISSIONER: Come back to order. Now we go fast. Right, Bobby?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Amen.

COLONEL GRIEGO: I'm like a same old record.

COMMISSIONER: We love you Bobby.

COMMISSIONER: We do?

COMMISSIONER: We do. I do.

COLONEL GRIEGO: I reciprocate that (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER: Especially when you don't have Salopek on the Revocations.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm sorry, ready when you are. My apologies.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I'm here to discuss Agenda Item No. 11: Hunting and Fishing License Revocation. The Department has presented a list of individuals who have met the established criteria for the initiation of the suspension process for their hunting, fishing and trapping privileges. Each of these individuals has been served with a notice of contemplated action. They've been offered the opportunity for a hearing to contest or explain the violation points that have been accumulated. Three of the individuals on that if you'll notice, they did submit their request for a hearing within the twenty days. It was post marked within the twenty days but because of some mail issues we did not receive those requests in law enforcement in time so they were actually put on the list and you voted to revoke those

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individuals in November. So what we're doing now is asking that you suspend that decision to revoke until we hear the outcome of their hearing.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Do you have the specific names?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Yes, sir. Mr. Chairman if you look at your list it'll be those first three on the list, Ackerson, Shannez [Phonetic] and Mascariunce [phonetic]. So they did request a hearing, we just didn't receive it in time. But they had met their twenty day requirement according to the postmark. We also had one outfitter, registered outfitter who failed to provide proof of liability insurance as required by law. He was given a warning notice and then a notice of contemplated action that he, if he didn't get his insurance he would be suspended. So what we're asking the Department is to, or the Department is recommending that this outfitter registration be suspended until he comes into compliance with his insurance and pays the \$250 reinstatement fee. As always, we do have a list of individuals who have failed to pay their penalty assessment within the thirty days. There's a list of 414 of them. Once they request a penalty assessment they have thirty days to submit that penalty assessment. After that thirty days, if they don't they make the list here to be in front of you for revocation. We do have 203 obligors that have been certified by Human Services as out of compliance for child support. So you also have that list in front of you also. So with that I'll take any questions.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: So Bobby, on this one it's all the Parental Responsibility Act that you have like two or three fishing without a license. Why so many fishing without a license this go-around?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, we've just kind of gotten back on track on the revocation process. So this is going to be the norm. Again, we're kind of getting

back and what most of those penalty assessments are, the fishing without a license, if on average our compliance rate is about 56%. I think you all saw the email with our new penalty assessments. It's high 90's. So what that shows is those individuals are sportsmen who have licenses. They want to keep them and those without typically about half of them could carry their way.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: And that worked out good the way it changed right? It made it easy on you all?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, without a doubt.

COLONEL SALOPEK: Good.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Not only was I impressed with the figures of the money, you know of course what revenue it brought in, but I would like to see the hours and the manpower, you know justified as far as monetarily and I'll guarantee it was probably, what, five times more than the actual revenue that we brought in.

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

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any more questions, comments?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I just think due process requires us to temporarily reinstate the license, excuse me, their privileges of those three individuals until hearing.

COMMISSIONER: Agreed. Would you like a motion for that Mr. Chairman?

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COMMISSIONER RAMOS: I believe we have three motions right to present?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Can we do them all as one or do you want three separate?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, because of the nature of the issues being brought to you, they actually do need to be three separate ones.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Three separate, okay.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: I would move to reinstate these three individuals' license privileges for pending the outcome of their revocation hearings.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That's Ackerson, Shannez [Phonetic] and Mascariunce [Phonetic]?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Correct.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Ayes have it.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman I move to authorize the Department to administer this suspension of an outfitters registration on behalf of the Commission.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That's Chad Marshall. All in favor?

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ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ayes have it.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I move to authorize the Department to administer these suspensions on behalf of the Commission including the issuance and service of the notice of contemplated action to each individual listed that is out of compliance with the Parental Responsibility Act and to each individual that has failed to pay a penalty assessment within the thirty day time frame.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it.

COLONEL GRIEGO: Thank you all.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Agenda Item No. 12: Initiation of Migratory Bird Rule for 2016-2017 Hunting Seasons. Good morning.

STEWART LILEY: Good morning.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You do birds too?

[Laughter]

STEWART LILEY: Yeah, I do. Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commissioners, in front of you today is the initiation of the Migratory Game Bird Rule for this year. As most of you have well

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learned, it's set up by working in cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Central Flyway and also the Pacific Flyway which we're not a voting number of but we do have part of the state in the Pacific Flyway. And those seasons are set in cooperation with those Flyways and the Fish and Wildlife Service. So some of the major things that will happen is, is season dates and (indiscernible) that the Fish and Wildlife Service will allow us through the frameworks. It looks like they're going to give us a liberal framework again this year which is a positive for our duck hunters. This is the first year in this new regulatory cycle. If you remember in the years past, we're rushing in our August meeting to finalize the rule and adopt the final frameworks from the feds, get it published on our website with one day basically so quall hunter, excuse me, dove hunters can go out the next day to start hunting. So this is going to be a much smoother process. The initial proposed frameworks came out in the Federal Register in December. We have until- the final frameworks should be published in February. So we will have by our next meeting when this is heard, we will know exactly what the feds are going to allow us to or not to do for dates and bag limits, etc. Again, this is just a quick scheduling of what's going on. One of the big things with the new frameworks is going to be our Sandhill Crane allocation for the Rocky Mountain population. The survey results should be released this week, next week maybe and we should know exactly what our allocation for the rocky mountain population is. That's that population of concern in the middle Rio Grande Valley and that's where we have the shortened Sandhill Crane Hunts in the middle Rio Grande Valley and their a draw. We're only allocated so many birds to harvest per year on that Rocky Mountain population. So again, by the next you'll hear this in front of you in April we'll know exactly what the Federal Frameworks will be. We can set our cities and dates within those frameworks. One of the big changes that we did for the 2015 – 2016 Season was move the North Zone of the

Central Flyway to start the same date as the South Zone. We're getting a little bit of feedback now from hunters that they would like us to go back to an earlier start date in that North Zone before freeze. We're looking at about- and the next slide I'll get to will show kind of the dates that we're proposing that will fit within the Federal frameworks. The other thing of concern is Band-tailed Pigeons. The service is very concerned and would almost like to shut down Band-tailed Pigeon Hunting. One of the things I asked from the interior population states on Band-tailed Pigeon is to start issuing a free permit to Band-tailed Pigeon Hunters so we can track those individuals and track harvest a little more closely. I think it's similar to what we have for Light Goose Conservation Order-free Permits or the free permits for Sandhill Crane so we could actually reach out to those individual hunters and figure out what harvest is. We had offered free through our website like those others, just a hunter would have to pick that up before they can hunt Band-tailed Pigeons. The service continues to reduce the number of days available for harvest. It looks like this year we're only going to get a fourteen day season with two birds on that. So it is a big ask from the service. It is something that in order for us to continue to harvest I think we're going to have to have that Band-tailed Pigeon free hunting permit. Again, it will be free offered up on our website.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Is that part of that survey I noticed last night put in for hunts as part of that game there?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, that is correct. Part of that is really trying to survey to figure out how many Band-tailed Pigeon Hunters we have in the state. There's not a lot of people specifically targeting Band-tails and that's why in your survey they ask that specific question so we can get at how many people that's going to be. And then on the

back in the service we'll have some better data and we have some better data to work through to justify some of our harvests.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: All right. Thank you, sir.

STEWART LILEY: Again, there's a possible allocation change to our Sandhill Crane on the Rocky Mountain population. We should have that information in the next couple of weeks. You'll know what our allocation will be coming into the April meeting. We'll have what our bag- excuse me, what our state allocation will be so we can set our dates and hunts around that. So for the Central Flyway real quick, these are our dates that we're proposing right now. The only change that we're really seeing in there is that North Zone for ducks and mergansers is moving it to start a couple weeks, ten days earlier than the South Zone to take advantage for it. These would all fit in the frameworks. We've gotten some public comments on this so far to move that North Zone to start a little bit sooner right now than it previously is. The rest of this is basically no change. One of the big concerns was a Canvasback reduction. The service has allowed another liberal season for two Canvasbacks right now. So we're looking more or less like last year. And the Pacific Flyway is going to be a liberal season as well with a long season. So we'll be able 170 days of exposures or 107 days of exposure for hunting for ducks and mergansers and geese's. And with that I'd take any questions.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Stewart that Band-tail Pigeon Permit, we'll mail that out and we'll be responsible for getting the questionnaires back, correct?

STEWART LILEY: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Montoya, that is correct and what we would do is just have it available on our website so a person, when they go to buy a license like they are on web they just click on it and get it right there. It's very easy. They could get it at our department office, click and get it. We will know exactly who those people were. We'll do the survey rather than the service doing the survey so we have our data and we will share that data with the service we can help make Band-tail Pigeon Seasons in the future.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Well I'm tickled that you got the service to give us a little more led time on some of that stuff because I fought it for many years and it didn't work. Good, thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any more questions or comments? Thank you. Ah, audit.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: So Mr. Chair if I may, just a note to the record. There is a five day waiting period required once we get the release from the State Auditor's Office and that's why the Agenda is marked as tentative. We did get the authorization and release from the State Auditor's Office last week so we are good to go.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Did you want to comment? You sure?

[Inaudible]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You know, I don't want to make you wait. My apologies. Sorry to rush you off the stage but go ahead. Thank you for reminding me.

DAVID STANBACH: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Director Sandoval, my name is David Stanbach [Phonetic]. I wanted to just say something about Item No. 12 as water fowler. We do appreciate the Department and of course, Fish and Wildlife Services, the driving force behind

moving up all of the required meetings and setting the frameworks early in the year so that we're not down to the wire we have been previous years. So, and just to comment real quick about the season split, I understand that 2014-2015 Season was a warm year. (indiscernible) let's hunt up in the North Zone and really the ducks are there. I think in my opinion, maybe we made a mistake on that and of course this year, you know we're missing out on a month's worth of hunting in the North Zone, so it goes to January 31st but everything is frozen this year. So, just a couple of points, so I think the split is good. Stewart's idea for starting the Dark Geese and the rest of the state on the same day that ducks start, I think that's also a great idea. Is it less confusing for hunters, maybe less confusion for law enforcement? I appreciate your time.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You two have had an opportunity to visit?

DAVID STANBACH: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. False start. Okay, I'll say again, audit.

DAVE ROHRBACH: We can try this again.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So you were saying five days.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: So five days we had marked it as tentative on the Agenda but I just want to be clear that we did get the release from the State Auditor's Office in time and we are able to come before you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay.

DAVE ROHRBACH: Okay, with that I guess I'll begin. As you know, as pointed out I now come before you to prevent that or to present the FY 2015 Financial Audit. Before I begin I'd like to thank our department staff. A lot of folks worked very hard in preparation for this audit.

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This required compilation of not only all our financial records but literally thousands of documents and I'd like to commend ASD and our staff at the area level and throughout the Game and Fish that were able to gather up this information, cooperate with our auditors and present them what they need in order to conduct this. This year was a little bit difficult too because the department was required to move the audit up by two weeks and that was a requirement that was presented to us by DFA and of course, the State Auditor and that just added a little bit more pressure. However, we did manage to get through it. So with that, let's go to the next one. Okay, inside your binder I would like to begin by pointing out that inside your binder you'll have a copy of the audit. The audit is divided into primarily five parts. The first part is the management, discussion and analysis section and it is located on pages five through twelve. This section deals primarily it gives you an overview of the Departments, some of the management items within, with it found within the audit. Perhaps the most important part within the audit is you'll find our cash balance which right now is right at above sixty-one million dollars.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: As of June 30th.

DAVE ROHRBACH: As of June 30th, correct. Page eleven will give you a summary of the Departments Capital Assets in long term, financial activity-debt activity. The second part is a financial statement. The Departments Financial Statements are designed to provide a general overview of the Departments finances and to show accountability for the money it receives. You'll see that on pages twelve to forty-six. The third part is supplementary information and is located on pages forty-seven through fifty-eight. Supplementary information consists of inquiries to management regarding the methodology used to prepare this information, basic financial statements and other information obtained by the auditor. The fourth section is a supplementary schedules. It is located on pages on Fifty-nine through seventy-nine. And the
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supplementary schedules detail disclosures by audited statements as well as accounting, methods and assumptions used by management to derive, basically how we derived our accounting methods. The fifth part is a single audit which is an audit of our federal awards and can be reviewed on page eighty. It details the Department's expenditure of its federal awards. In summary, before I move forward with this year's audit I think I need to point out that last year the Department did receive one finding. This finding was in regard to inner-agency transfer whereby money was accounted for in over two fiscal years. The audit finding indicated the Department should have set up a receivable in order to record the revenue in its proper fiscal year. The audit nevertheless expressed an unmodified opinion. This unmodified opinion represents the best possible result the Department can receive. Looking at FY 15, we did have repeat finding in regard to inner-agency transactions and a new finding in regard to a deposit. The three categories of findings that an auditor will report, they're basically ranked from a material weakness to a significant deficiency and other non-compliance issues. As a matter of course, the material weakness is the most serious finding that an auditor could designate. Within that, the auditor will form its opinion in regard to the Department's finances as presented. Within that you'll have a modified opinion. A modified opinion is expressed when the auditor can conclude that based on the audit evidence, the financial statements as a whole are material misstated or the auditor is unable to obtain appropriate evidence to conclude that the financial statements as a whole are free from material weaknesses. Within that you have a qualified opinion which is bad. Progressively worse is an adverse opinion and third is a disclaimer opinion which is really the worst that you could have within that category. Secondly, the auditor may form an unmodified opinion. An unmodified opinion essentially states that the Department records and methodology are good and that the auditor does not feel that there needs

to be any modification to our books in order for them to add or that there can be reported as unmodified. I'm pleased to tell you that the auditors again expressed an unmodified opinion thus indicating the Departments statements, the Departments Financial Statements are as a whole very good and not in need of modification. Some of the results can be found on pages eighty-two through ninety-one. Now I would like to take a minute to briefly describe the findings that we did have. There were really two findings. One of them dealt with inner-agency transactions. In this case, \$62,000 was accounted for in Fiscal Year 15 and 14 and in another case we received a payment for \$15,942.00 that came in a little bit late. We did invoice the other agency, however the payment should have arrived a little bit sooner. Secondly we did find, we did have a situation where a \$20.00 invoice was not submitted on time. The Department has taken corrective actions to resolve this. We received training and plus we've set up a method where by all of our area financial specialists will submit any invoices to ASD, to our chief of ASD whenever they invoice another state agency and in addition to that our CFO will send out weekly reminders asking them if they any outstanding invoices to other agencies. In so far as the \$20.00 cash payment, this was involved, an employee who sold some game meat and didn't get the receipt turned in within the twenty-four hour period as required by, really by statute. Since then, we've provided training to all of our financial specialists and all of our division chiefs that oversee payments like that. So, in closing, I think a financial audit is an opportunity to show an agency how they can do better. We believe that it is important that we were able to demonstrate that we are spending our sportsmen's dollars in a very open and efficient manner. In those cases when auditors do find a problem, I think it is up to us to improve our processes. However, I am glad and happy to point out that for the last two fiscal years, we have received an unmodified opinion on both our audit reports. And, in the case of our financial awards, there were no

findings at all associated with that. At this point, I would like to remind the Commission, prior to going into the discussion, that this is an action item and will require a motion. And with that, I will stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, on page 91, references the exit conference, I attended that last year but was unable to attend it this year. I was actually getting skunked on an elk hunt on November 24th. And I do note in the audit, that at the time, that is done in a closed meeting and it is confidential. Is that no longer confidential now that this has been released? So, Commissioner Espinoza, you attended that. Would you mind telling us the good, the bad, and the ugly from that process?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: What I guess I really wanted to bring forward was, the auditors had nothing but praise for the Department. I mean, obviously as auditors, they do a lot of them for different agencies and they just kept saying, you know, "This was easy". The three things they found in the whole scheme of things were minute but they had to identify them. And, I felt very proud of our Department because of all the praise they were giving. It was a short meeting. We were in there all of 5 to 10 minutes and most of those were, how are you doing today, and how's the family type thing, because they really didn't have anything to say. So, we as Commissioners and our sportsmen can feel good that our Department is doing a bang-up job in internal accounting, policing, whatever you want to call it. Because I've been through lots of audits on different things, audit reviews, and you are there forever. But this one was like . . . and they beat up on you . . . this one was like, wow, there was a praise. So hats off to the Department, Director, and everybody else what was involved in putting this together. And it showed. Because, like I said, these guys . . . if you've never been to an audit . . . these guys are fine-tooth comb. I mean, if there's a decimal off, it is off a penny, they will catch it. And so, Director

Sandoval, your staff is there and I was proud to be a Commissioner in that room. So that, you can't say any more than that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That was my experience the year before when I attended the exit conference. Just listening to what comes out of the cabinet or agency meetings, I routinely hear that we run the cleanest commission or agency in State Government. Not that the other ones are dirty, but in terms of how good our books are. So, that lets me put my head on the pillow at night with some peace of mind.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Me, too.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, we like to think we challenge the auditors to find these findings (laughter). They found them, and we get better at what we do, but proving without a doubt for the last two years our folks here in ASD have been fiscally responsible and I think we can probably say we can account for every penny that the sportsmen paid for our activities.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: Look on page 1. We've got 2 vice-chairmen but other than that, that is a very minor, minor change.

MALE SPEAKER: You can get rid of the ex-vice chairman.

(Laughter)

MALE SPEAKER: I can appreciate what this is all about. We do the job.

MALE SPEAKER: It scared me. I thought my name changed to Bill Montoya. It was like, whoa!

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CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: If there is no further discussion or questions.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I move the Department Audit Report for the fiscal year 2015.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Good job. Thank you.

MALE SPEAKER: Thank you. Very good job.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right. AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Department Program Priorities.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, Mr. Chairman, we did a little bit. We switched up the format this year and thought we would do a short video. By no means is this video absolutely, obviously, inclusive of all the priorities, but these are ones we have been really gearing up to get ready for in 2016.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And for high production value.

SOUND TRACK FROM VIDEO: The New Mexico Game and Fish has identified the following priorities for 2016 in addition to our other ongoing projects and duties. The Department's top priority this year will be large scale habitat restoration. The Department has earmarked an estimated \$25,000,000 for wildlife habitat restoration projects including the creation of supplemental (indiscernible) sites for wildlife, the elimination of invasive species and vegetation and the re-establishment of meadow grasses and plants on a large scale to maximize return.

Much of this work can only be done with the cooperation of partnering agencies such as the U. S.

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Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico State Forestry Division, the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, private landowners, and the public. The Department staff will endeavor to build and maintain these relationships to leverage financial and contractual resources while (indiscernible), compliance, and implementation for targeted watersheds and wildlife habitat restoration projects. Our next priority is the mountain lion population study. Wildlife management staff will embark on an in-depth study to better understand mountain lion population distribution and density that will contribute to improved wildlife management decisions in the future. The Department will compare data-derived density estimates to those used in the current habitat model and test and validate a remote camera-based survey technique for estimating mountain lion density around the state. Native trout restoration continues to be a top priority with the Department and we will continue to focus on restoration of native Gila and Rio Grande cut-throat trout to waters throughout the historic ranges around the State including White Water Creek and the Rio Costilla. Restoration efforts include the elimination of non-native fish and the stocking of natives. We will also be doing riparian habitat improvements including fish, (indiscernible), barrier renovation and construction. Recruitment and retention of sportsmen and women is very important to our Department. So our next priority is to continue our family hunter education weekend programs. The program staff will continue to bring families into the outdoors by offering weekend hunter education programs that are family friendly and result in certification. The weekend program also provides positive exposure to other outdoor activities that fit into our overall mission. Another top priority for the Department this year will be revising our Share with Wildlife program. Staff are working on changing the Share with Wildlife Program so we had a variable funding from the State Wildlife Grant Program and other potential funding sources can be used

to expand the program to support targeted restoration efforts for specific wildlife in designated habitat. It will also meet the Department's obligations for both terrestrial and aquatic species recovery planning. Enhanced web-based data access is a top priority for the Department this year, too. We will be building pages on the Department's website to provide public access to both historical and current data generated by the Department and posted for educational and transparency purposes. Examples of the types of data to be posted will include the Department history and accompanying photos, information and evidence from archeological discoveries, and a place for people to post their photos of hunting, fishing, and outdoor experiences. Another top priority for the Department this year will be our riparian zone mapping zone project where we will develop the process and structure necessary to create a detailed, state-wide riparian map to assist in our decision-making process, support riparian aquatic habitat restoration, and enhance future Department-led projects. Some operational improvements the Department has prioritized for this year include continuing the work on improving the radio communications by transitioning our dispatching duties to the (indiscernible) which would provide enhanced support to the Department. Another operational improvement the Department will pursue this year includes continuing to decrease the vacancy rate across all divisions through proactive recruitment and a 30-day recruitment to hire goal when any position becomes vacant. Another big operational improvement the Department will pursue this year is complete validation and implementation of the Department's new web-based Federal Aid cost-tracking system. The Department will benefit from consistent Federal Fund cash flow, less human data entry error, and both time and effort efficiencies. And lastly, the Department intends to implement a web-based (indiscernible) reporting system which would decrease staff time spent on paperwork and

free up time for focused work duties, and also eliminate the duplicate data entry needed to (indiscernible) meet the State and Federal requirements. (End of video soundtrack.)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Got a lot on your plate? Good luck.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, if there is additional input that the Commission would like to see us work on in FY16, excuse me, calendar year 16, we are absolutely open for recommendations.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All those out first. Any questions or comments?

MALE SPEAKER: Good job. I like that presentation.

(Background, indiscernible.)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: How many months is that, weeks?

MALE SPEAKER: That is about one year.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: One year?

MALE SPEAKER: I also brought some license plates.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right.

MALE SPEAKER: (indiscernible) and 6 months.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Final Proposed Amendments to the Aquatic Invasive Species Rule 19.30.14 NMAC.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, as you know we've discussed this a couple of times. We are here to finally adopt a rule, I hope. James Dominguez, our aquatic species coordinator, is here today to do the presentation, and with that I will leave it to James.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Thank you, Commissioners, Chairman Kienzle, Director Sandoval. The first slide I have up there represents the current distribution of zebra and Quagga mussels across the United States. As you can see, across the Eastern side of the country, it is pretty spread out and pretty much has taken over that part of the country. As you go to the Western side, it is a little more sporadic but it continues to grow as each year goes on. I circled three water bodies in Arizona. Just last month, the State of Arizona designated three more water bodies positive for zebra, I believe it is Quagga mussels. So, that is Canyon Lake, Solara (phonetic) Lake, and Apache Lake. Primary vectors for moving these mussels is primarily watercraft. And, if we go to the next slide, you'll see the State of New Mexico is at risk for having watercraft bring in these mussels. If you would have asked me a couple of years ago if we received boats from New York and Florida and Georgia, I would have probably laughed. I would have said, "No way. They don't come to New Mexico." But they do. So out-of-state boats is a big concern of ours and we need to get a handle on these boats coming into our State. The proposed changes as we have presented them to you guys, primarily focus on these out-of-state boats. But there are some other things in there we wanted to address such as being able to issue a red tag and different methods. Primarily it used to be in hand when the boat was on the ramp and to me that seemed a little bit late. We wanted to be able to get this in the boat owners' hands or the transporters' hands so they knew what they were expecting once they got to New Mexico. So, it allows us to use mail or email or things of that nature. We want to require that all boats entering from out of state or New Mexico that leave the state and return, that they are required to receive an inspection before

launching their boat. We also put in there something, if we have an established watercraft inspection station that people need to stop. In the past, it has always been perceived that it was a voluntary program and it creates some challenges on the ramp at that time. So we need to put it out there that people need to stop if they are out there looking at boats. Another thing we are looking at is requiring advance notice for large watercraft entering the state, houseboats, cabin cruisers. They are very complex. They take a lot of time for inspection and/or decontamination, upwards of 100-plus hours at times. So if the Department knows ahead of time that these boats are coming, we can plan for that. We can get the staff in place. And it also benefits the boater or the transport company because they can make plans and they are not just ready to launch upon arrival and get on to the next job. Then, the big part, and it is part of the public involvement part, is listening to the boaters and what they would like to see us do. And that is part of a seal program. We don't have the ability to implement a seal program currently but we want to put that in place. It will allow a boater to have quick exit inspection, make sure the boat is dry, and we can put a quick seal on their boat and when they return the next time it just makes that inspection that much quicker because we know where the boat has been and what kind of protocols have been performed on. It also allows us to provide some sort of reciprocity with other states that have a seal program in place. Other states are encouraged on some of our activities and they want to start allow boats to cross state lines with the same trust in their program as in our program. So we hope to do that in the future. And then finally, the last one is a pull-the-plug requirement. Boats that are traveling on New Mexico water bodies or New Mexico highways should have their boat plug pulled. Most people do, but there are a few that refuse to do it. We've even seen them in some cases where they glued them in. I'm not sure why they would do that, but they would do it. By pulling the plug and making sure their lines, their bilge

lines are pumped dry, it just allows that extra time for the boats to dry as they are bounced around the highway or getting to their homes. And the picture I presented there is just some of the things we encounter as we do these inspections. That is a 70-foot houseboat that showed up from Texas at Navaho Reservoir. When it was all said and done, it was quite the challenge to crawl through the hull of the boat and find pups and different things that are needed for inspection. Public involvement since proposing these rule changes, we have had the proposed rule changes up on our web site. We have an AIS Facebook Site. We put it out on our Game and Fish (indiscernible) servers, and contacted some of the community that worked with State and Federal agencies, some of the boaters through email and phone conversations, to take a look at these things and what they think about them, if they have any ideas, comments, etc. We did get some media attention through the Santa Fe New Mexican as well as KNM Radio, so I think we did a fair amount of work to get the public to comment on these. In the end, there were 14 comments received, all positive to more neutral. I don't think I had anything that said, "We don't want this at all." So that was encouraging. Public involvement also comes on the ramp throughout the year as we listen to our boaters and, like I said, with the seal program. With that, I will take any questions you may have.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, refresh my memory. Other states have got a lake, it has aquatic invasive species. What do they do? I mean (indiscernible, static), off right? (Indiscernible, static).

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: It varies.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Chipping these things off, and start over again?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: It varies. Some states have pretty extensive programs and they won't allow a boat from a positive water to leave if it is planning on going to another state, another

water body. They will decontaminate it or scrape it. Other states, especially as we continue to move east, they have pretty much (I don't want to say, given up) but they have . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: My question, though, is, once you've got them, you've got them, right?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Right.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: There's no good way to get rid of them.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: At the present time, there is no way to eradicate them.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, if that's happening after a year, if you've got water intake valves or something like that, then they are all over those, too, right.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Correct.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Do you get the guy in the frogman suit down there to chip these things off or what do they do?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: That's a great question. I think there are some preventative measures. They have put in UV filters to try to keep the numbers down. In some cases they are actually physically going out and removing them by hand. There have been videos of (indiscernible, coughing) in the water cleaning piles and piles of these mussels up. So the economic impacts are quite large once they arrive in a water body or in the state.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Is there a way to drain a lake, if it's somewhat small, that can lay there dry for a period of time, or do they just live in the mud and spring back?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: That's a great question, Commissioner Montoya, Mr. Chairman.

Presently I think most of the studies they are doing on eradication have dealt with chemicals.

There is always the option of drying out a water body but it would have to be probably on a small, really small, scale, more like a pond or something of that nature. As long as there is water available they have that ability to survive, staying hydrated. Once they dry, then you have about 30 days when they still have that ability to withstand environmental conditions and survive. And that's all based on temperature and humidity, so . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: They're like cockroaches.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: It's a challenge.

MALE SPEAKER: Can't kill them.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other question?

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: You know, we've visited a few time. One of the things that you were saying was that you were going to try to catch the boats as they came into the state. Have you made any progress on that, (indiscernible), etc.?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Thank you for the question, Commissioner Espinoza, Chairman. We have not made progress on that but it is always an option. Some of the difficulties we have is to try and get other agencies' support, whether it is Department of Transportation or maybe even Homeland Security where they already have established stations set up and we could, I don't know what the best word would be, piggy-back onto those stations and do some of the same

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work, or provide some of the training so they could do some of those things. I think in the past it has been approached but it has never been accepted by other agencies just yet. So it is definitely a challenge.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: One other question. The public perception, I know I live up around Navajo, and there are guys up there in boats, and they are mindful of other boats coming in from other states because I think you've done a great job in educating the public or at least getting the word out because I know a lot of boaters, they are looking for something, say "Has that boat been inspected? It came from Colorado where (indiscernible)." In your interactions with the public, are you seeing a lot more of that, concerned boaters and stuff?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Thanks for the question. I appreciate that. Yes. In the 3 years we've focused on more routine inspections and education outreach, we are getting a better outlook on what the community thinks. I don't think anybody is wanting to move these things. It is lack of knowledge a lot of times. And once we teach them what the problems are, implications, and prevention methods, most people are ready to do what they can. That houseboat I showed you there, we didn't know that one was arriving until we got a tip from a boater, "Hey, I think this thing is coming; we don't want these mussels here." So it's, I think the education outreach is the biggest part of our program. We will probably spend a lot more money on prevention efforts, but the education goes much farther. I need the public to do a lot of these things before getting into the reservoir and it makes the inspector's job that much more easy as well as thorough.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, also December 16 I had an opportunity to go to Cruces High School. The FFA Chapter down there invited me to come in and listen to all their presentations with this and they have definitely are doing their part for awareness as well. But I know they are

also eager to help in anything that you can do, possibly Elephant Butte. I know we have some people over from Sierra County over here as well. But to utilize these recourses, especially on these busy weekends and of course you know FFA is all about our future and involving youth in those leadership opportunities. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thanks.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: The requirement for out-of-state boats to notify you 14 days ahead, is there a system? Do boaters know to call the states ahead and find what the requirements are? And is this going to be hard to enforce?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Thank you for that question, Commissioner. It's a lot of phone calls. It's a lot of emails. My plan, once we are done here and you guys give me the go-ahead to move forward is to continue that outreach, calling marinas, Lake Powell (phonetic) Marina for one, and providing them our current rules and regulations so they have in hand what we are expecting. Having other boaters repeat it to other boaters. You know the boating community is great at getting together out at the lake, and if I can get in the ear of one or two of them, they pass it on to the next boat. So, in the last 3 years, it has gotten much better. Before, we were scrambling when one of these large houseboats would show up in New Mexico, trying to get staff on board and make sure somebody was at the ramp to do an inspection. Just this past week, I inspected a boat at Navaho, a 60-foot houseboat. He contacted me back in November to let me know that it was coming. And during that time, we provided scheduling. We talked about some of the things he

would need to do. We talked to the transporter so he didn't make his next appointment too soon after arriving at Navaho, that he might need to wait a few days before he could leave.

MALE SPEAKER: I notice from your slide for Navaho Lake and Ute Lake, it amazed me where they come from. It just seems like it would be hard for a man from New York State to know what the requirement is for New Mexico.

MALE SPEAKER: Go ahead, I'm sorry.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, we do plan to do a significant outreach both electronically and with other states once this rule is adopted. And I think that contacting other state's game and fish agencies, DNR's. In our state it would be parks to try to get to those boaters which will be an important step.

MALE SPEAKER: Excellent.

MALE SPEAKER: You mentioned, of course, draining the boat. But if they come within the 30 days, there is still a chance they could still survive?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Correct.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: So, is there anything we are going to be looking at, a chemical or anything, a wash?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: That's an excellent question, Commissioner Ramos. What we currently do when a boat arrives is go through a risk assessment. Where have they been, and how long has it been since they were there. In addition to that, then we do the physical inspection looking for water. Water is primarily our big concern. You know, if a boat shows up like this, this is pretty easy to spot. The waters are a difficult one because the (indiscernible) are microscopic. So, we

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are having to get all that water out of the boat. So what we do, based on that risk assessment and if we find water, then we can go to the next level which is decontamination. We don't currently use chemicals. There are chemicals out there but we rely on hot water which is 140 degrees or hotter for several reasons—compliance, safety. You know it is difficult to get people to comply when you want to put chemicals on their 80-thousand-dollar boat so it is much easier with hot water. And, it is effective. It has been proven and the research shows that. Hot water destroys these or kills them.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Out of curiosity, say in 2015, how many boats have you guys inspected that have come in and were positive, had them on it? Do you have a clue, and idea?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Commissioner Espinoza, I believe we did just over 10,000 inspections in 2015 between New Mexico Game and Fish and then a few conducted by the City of Farmington out at Farmington Lake. Between those 3 reservoirs, we did just over 100 hot water decontaminations. So those were the highest of risk, so we said let's just not take a chance. High risk boats that we said, "Well, we'll do a second look through that boat just to insure we're not missing something." I'd have to look at it, but probably about 500 or so. Not everybody gets a hot water decontamination, but it is based on that risk.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: So there are some boats that come in?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: If we would, if you guys wouldn't have been in place, we'd have contaminated water.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Yes. It's a small number, and again it is mostly water. There are certain types of boats that hold water compared to other types of boats, and we know those are the risky boats. Ballast boats, for one. Great boats but they hold water in internal compartments that we can't always get to. So those are boats that we know, when they come from Lake (indiscernible) they are going to get a decontamination because the likelihood of mussels being on there is pretty great. We have some of our, the houseboat I inspected 2 days ago, it did have mussels on the boat but they were all deceased. It's pretty much impossible to eliminate 100 percent of dead mussels on a boat, scraping and cleaning everything, there is just so much to it.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Some of these rules, then, as I listen to you, may be a deterrent. Which is to say, if I'm coming from a high risk place I may not come here because I don't want to go through the hassle of it. I'm not saying whether that is good or bad, maybe turn people away. But maybe we are not getting as many high-risk boats because they know they have to go through a pretty rigorous process when they get here somehow. Not really a question, just a comment.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: But I think with these new rules, that's more firmly in place, the process it sounds like you're already using, right?

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: For the most part, using. I think there is the tag system. We've been wanting to implement it but we didn't have things in place that said we could do so. That would be a large part of the program and I think one that the boating public would appreciate if we could do something like that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Any other questions or comments? I think this is an action item.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman, I move to repeal and replace the Aquatic Invasive Species Rule 19.30.14 NMAC as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives or administrative corrections.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Thank you. Good luck. I keep telling you, good luck.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: Thank you, Chairman. Thank you, Commissioners. Thank you, Director.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Chairman, if I may, I would just like to commend James for all his work. He's known across the Western United States as being very proactive and being a program leader for AIS, so thank you very much, James, for all your work.

JAMES DOMINGUEZ: I appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Final Proposed Amendments to Hunting and Fishing License Application Rule (NMAC 19.31.3).

CHRIS CHADWICK: OK. This should be a little less complicated than the AIS rule. Today I come before you, as this slide indicates, with the final proposed amendment to the Hunting and Fishing License Application Rule. As you may recall, the Department initiated this process to repeal and replace this rule last November at the meeting in Roswell. License application rule

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governs the process that the Department utilizes to issue permits, licenses, game licenses, a whole array of functions that we do within the Department. The rule also governs the manner in which the Department conducts the draw and other aspects related to the issuance of licenses. By way of background, back in August of 2014, the Commission authorized the Department to seek legislation to simplify the manner in which or to simplify the number and the manner in which we issue licenses to active duty military and veterans and residents of New Mexico. While providing tangible benefits to those who served in the Armed Forces the array of licenses were both confusing to both the public and also at times to our Department staff. As a result of that House Bill 203 was introduced, passed, and subsequently signed into law. This law provides a 50 percent discount on all licenses to active duty military and veterans of the Armed Forces, provided they are residents of New Mexico. As a side note, what it did not change was the 100 percent or free license to those veterans who are 100 percent service related, who have a 100 percent service-related disability. Now, before you we have the final proposal. As indicated on the slide before you, the rule was originally established in 1967 and has received numerous revisions as our licensing system has evolved over time. In addition to a 50 percent on the licenses as I spoke of before, the Commission requires--House Bill 203 requires the Commission to develop a definition for resident veterans or active duty military and a criteria for verifying proof of service. The Department has worked closely with Veterans' Affairs to develop a valid proof of service and our licensing team has worked closely with our IT section to develop the manner in which this benefit will be integrated into the Department's online licensing system. Again, the Department is seeking to repeal and replace the current rule and has made some minor modifications to better reflect the changes that have been made over time and how the Department issues licenses. As promised at the November meeting, the proposed draft has been

available for review and comment on the Department's website. To date, we have received no public comments. Now, before we go on to a discussion, I do want to point out that, as a reminder, that this is an action item, and will require Commission action. With that, I will stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any questions or comments?

FEMALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible) the rule, a copy of the rule is not in the books. So,

CHRIS CHADWICK: I've got a copy here. I can ask Sandra (phonetic) to hand that out.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, could you describe what the changes are that have been proposed in the rule, please?

CHRIS CHADWICK: Yes. So what it basically did, it combined our licenses that are issued to resident veterans and active duty military. The rule provided for a definition which is actually the definition which is adopted by the Veterans' Service Administration. And with that, it allows for the Department to basically audit any applicants who identify themselves as a veteran or on active duty. The process that we are going to do, that is we are going to match a data base belonging to, 2 different data bases, to verify this. In those cases where we can't make a positive identification, the rule allows us to contact those individuals and audit them individually. They will be provided instructions to provide us with proof of service. If they are unable to provide proof of service, we will essentially stop their benefits until such time that they do. This is just a way to insure that those people who are enjoying these benefits are, indeed, active duty or veterans of the U. S. military. One thing that is worth noting is that if you are a veteran, you are always a veteran. If you are active duty, that will have to be checked and verified on an annual basis because status can change. Essentially, in addition to that, there are certain aspects to this

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rule that are no longer applicable. For example, we don't mail out paper applications; it is all done online. So we went through that, cleaned it up in order to insure that the new rule itself is reflective of our new systems for vending licenses. Those are really the high points of this rule.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: How many vets do we have, percentage-wise, as far as hunters in New Mexico?

CHRIS CHADWICK: You know, I honestly don't know that number. I want to say that there were several hundred thousand throughout the state. But don't quote me on that.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, the average population is about 10 percent of the State's population. It fits within that category. When we took and looked at it with Alan Martinez from the Department of Veteran Services, it's about 6 to 7 percent of our actual license holders for the Department.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, to add to that, we do have a very good data base for those veterans that are already enjoying benefits, the 100 percent disabled, we've got a good data base because we have had processes in place all along in order to give them the free deer hunting, fishing license, combination license. So there is going to be a lot of work that we are going to have to do within our licensing section. There is going to be some verification. Some of it is going to be ongoing. But we feel we can, utilizing our IT resources, be able to match those 2 data bases up though not perfectly. There is going to be a human element. But we think we can get to a point where we can verify their status. Not only that, we have a system that we can implement that will essentially turn off the benefit if we are unable to verify, until such time as we are able to verify, the criteria as listed in this rule.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments? This is an action item. Can I get a motion on this?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to repeal the existing rule 19.31.3 NMAC and replace it with the final proposed changes with a new rule 19.31.3 NMAC as presented by the Department, to allow the Department to make minor corrections if needed in order to comply with the filing requirements of State Records and Archives or administrative corrections.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioner Ryan, this is on the veteran's discount, active military discount. Was there anything you wanted to say on that?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: No.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. I didn't want to surprise you, but I know you had spoken out on that, I think when we had this on the agenda another time. We have a second. All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: State Game Commission Award, Commission to Designate a Commissioner to Review and Select the 2016 Recipient. Mr. Chadwick.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, you are going to have to sit through me for two more. With Agenda Item No. 17, we have come before you to discuss the Governor's Awards that will be handed out at the Department banquet scheduled for February 20, 2016. As you may recall, last year's event was the first annual banquet held in Albuquerque. Some of you were in attendance at that banquet. It was a huge success with over \$200,000 being
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raised for the Department. We anticipate that this year's banquet will be even better. We anticipate that up to 400 people will be attending and this year hoping that the entire Commission will be able to attend. New this year is that we will be handing out what we've termed the Governor's Award. Governor's Awards are divided into 3 categories. Of these categories, the first category is the Governor's Conservation Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes distinguished individuals who have made a contribution of lasting significance to the benefit of New Mexico's wildlife. Nominees should be individuals whose lifelong efforts have been dedicated to conserving New Mexico's wildlife for future generations. The Commissioner's Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award recognizes an organization that promotes wildlife conservation in New Mexico. Nominees should be organizations that made significant contributions of their time and skills through volunteer service, financial resources to further the mission of the Department of Game and Fish. The third category is the Director's Wildlife Conservation Professional of the Year Award which recognizes a Department of Game and Fish employee who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to wildlife conservation in New Mexico. Nominations should be Department professionals whose work inspires others and benefits the Department's wildlife conservation efforts. These contributions may include noteworthy research, innovative approaches to wildlife conservation, and excellence in developing outstanding outreach programs. In this case, nomination, or in all cases, nominations should include a submission of a letter of no more than 1500 words explaining why the nominee is deserving of the award along with the nominee's curriculum vitae or biography. Questions and nominations will be accepted only by email, and I put the email up on the slide. And the deadline to submit the nominations is February 5, 2016. Awards are to be presented, again, during the 2016 Governor's Special Hunt Auction and Banquet which will be February 20, 2016 at New

Mexico Expo. In this case, the Department is asking the Commission to select one of its members to review the nominations for the Commissioner's Wildlife Partnership Award. Selection of the winner will be made on behalf of the Commission by this individual. Awards, again, will be presented on February 20 at the second annual Benefit Auction and Banquet. At this point, I would like to stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Who's going to the banquet?

MALE SPEAKER: I'll be there. That was cool last year.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: When are you going to be meeting to do that? To figure out the final lists and whatnot?

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, we obviously have set up the email inbox. We will be receiving, and I don't know where we're at right now. We just got it set up last week. But as those come in, once we reach that deadline, at that point we would make sure that whoever the Commission selects receives those, and it will be up to that individual to select the appropriate nominee, and so that's what we are seeking as the entire Commission's authority to designate that individual. So the deadline is February 5th. You would receive all those nominations, whoever that individual is, shortly thereafter so you have as much time as you can to review those nominations and make a selection.

MALE SPEAKER: I'd like to participate in that. I'll go ahead and volunteer on that.

MALE SPEAKER: There's an Easy Button.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Where's the motion and the second for this?

MALE SPEAKER: The word, volunteer. I thought we needed to get legislation involved in that one. In fact, I do have some questions on this, since we are discussing it. How did these awards come about? Was it legislative and then if you could also explain a little bit about the actual auction portion of it to people and just kind of wrap our brains around that a little bit more.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I will answer the part about how these awards came about. It is something I've been wanting to do as Director in recognizing efforts made within the State of New Mexico. We see it at a national level through the Association of Fish and Wildlife, and through Western Association of Fish and Wildlife. And we have some tremendous individuals and partnerships in this state that work very hard. And it was something I felt pretty strongly about in (indiscernible) starting a program to recognize the work that's being done here in the State of New Mexico. So that was something I had wanted since I became Director and so have moved it forward. As far as the auction items, those are actually set statutorily. It's defined under Chapter 17, though the authorizations that are auctioned, that's purely authorized through statute as an auction item.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: If I could just add, and I'm thinking outside of the box, I think it is great with the awards system and everything. But I'd also like to take it maybe a step farther to maybe involve future youth with some type of a recognition possibly through FFA, 4H, some of our shooting programs, and to really highlight the efforts that we are doing either through Hunter Ed—you know, I think State FFA Conventions and stuff like that, there is a lot of wildlife focus. It's not only about raising cows and steers. It is about future biologists, future game wardens, future—and we've really got to start driving that. And I think I'd like to take it to the next level. I know February 20th is here, but to shoot for the stars down the road on that. Not only that, but also just thinking here out loud, we have a lot of outstanding animals that are harvested

throughout New Mexico due to the biologists and management that we're doing, and I'd like to see if there could be some kind of a recognition for some of these huge animals that are harvested or something in that sort of form or fashion with that.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, in reference to both your questions and comments, I think that easily something could be developed to recognize the programs that are out there supporting our youth and I think we can have further conversations down the road so we understand precisely what you're doing, but I think we would all be in agreement that our youth is the future to hunting and fishing and really the management of the wildlife. Insofar as your other comments, without a doubt we can get together and we can discuss that. I think the future . . .

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: And I don't know if we should have a committee to brainstorm some things. But being a principal in the public education, we have a lot of key partners out there that support the agency and, you know, whether it's sports, service, or private, or smaller organizations that come into the picture, that's the time to, I think, to recognize their efforts and how much we appreciate that partnership, you know, to really move on and take it to the next level and whatever our projects are doing, I think a great place (just thinking again) is the habitat improvement, you know what volunteers are involved with that. But maybe getting a committee to brainstorm on how we could really take that banquet to the next level where, hey, there's also maybe some goal and criteria that people can work towards to help out. And you know even I'm thinking the money that's brought in from, you know, possibly an auction or something like that—and I know that all this is possibly legislative and I'll kind of go with that—but maybe even some scholarships or something, you know, to promote either at Eastern or NMSU, UNM, going into our career avenues. And I know I'm talking that a lot. But here's another thing that

I'm really kind of wanting to tackle and possibly part of that committee is, and I'm all about the blue collar person. I'm about the average guy having an opportunity to have a chance at getting one of these Governor Auction tags, and to me, what I would like to see is possibly continue with what we are currently doing. But I know that some of these species have up to 3 tags that we auction, maybe one of those going to some type of drawing where say, for example, I'm putting in for my drawing this year for elk and then if you pay an extra \$25 or so, you can get into a special permit that can allow that. And I know this is going to take some articulation to present to legislation but to me it is about the blue collar hunter out there, the average Joe versus the guy that's bidding in New York that buys the permit who hires . . . and again it's money and it's great for the outfitters and finders' fees and helicopters up in the air looking for that lucrative big old trophy animal. To me it's more about the average guy going out there and spending the time on the ground, using strategies, techniques to harvest that awesome animal that they end up harvesting.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, I think you have a volunteer.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're the man. So I think we just need a motion.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I'll make the motion . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: To designate.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: . . . to designate Ralph Ramos as our (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER MONTROYA: I'll second that, Mr. Chairman.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, just to clarify, nominate him to be the one to select the award for the Commission.

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MALE SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And the second from you?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think it's a great idea. All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you for doing that.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: You're welcome.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, and the rest of the Commission, thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: So, we'll communicate together then?

CHRIS CHADWICK: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Thank you, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: (indiscernible) to Chris.

CHRIS CHADWICK: That's OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Oh, Chadwick again. Tentative? Is this no longer tentative?

FEMALE SPEAKER: It is no longer tentative.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. AGENDA ITEM NO. 18: Property Acquisition.

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FEMALE SPEAKER: It got approved.

MALE SPEAKER: Oh, good. We've been working on this.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Did we get an appraisal? Someone will tell me, I guess.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes, we did.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, I am about ready to answer that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chair, if I may introduce Anetha Tess (phonetic). She is the Deputy General Counsel who has been working on this project.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Welcome.

CHRIS CHADWICK: And with that, I'd like to add to that, she has been working on it just diligently to make this happen. Today I come before you in reference to the acquisition of property in the Albuquerque area. As you may recall, in September 2015, the Commission authorized the Department to initiate the process of acquiring property in the Albuquerque area to develop a Northwest Area Office. As part of that motion that passed, the Commission authorized the Chairman and the Director to negotiate a purchase agreement. Since then, a suitable property has been identified and, as directed, the Department has entered into a purchase agreement to acquire this property. Before I get into the specifics, I'd like to talk a little bit about the background that precipitated this decision. As you know, the Northwest area office, currently located in Albuquerque, we have really outgrown it. Not only has our annual rent gone up to \$168,000 a year, the parking space for equipment and storage has become limited. Several

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programs out of this office have grown including our field operations and our information/education section. Our conference room size and associated amenities no longer meet its purpose. As a result of that, the Department has sought and received legislation that authorized approximately \$6,000,000 in capital outlay to develop a new area office. In addition to that, the Department should be able to leverage additional funds through our Federal Awards program. Since that meeting, we have identified suitable property. The property consists of approximately 15 acres on the west side of Albuquerque just south of Paseo del Norte. The original asking price was 13-1/2 million dollars . . .

FEMALE SPEAKER: 3-point-5

CHRIS CHADWICK: 3.5 million dollars.

(Laughter)

CHRIS CHADWICK: Sorry! I think I need to get my glasses. Just trying to make sure everybody is paying attention. At 3.5 million dollars, I stand corrected. But it was appraised through a Yellow Book appraisal process at 2.8 million dollars. The seller, though, at a much lower price has agreed to accept the 2.8 million dollars. And pending your approval, the Department is prepared to move forward with the due diligence phase with this purchase to make sure that all legal requirements are met prior to finalization. To give you a little bit of an idea of the property itself, the property represents one of the largest undeveloped parcels of land fronting the Rio Grande River in this area. It provides prime access to the river and Albuquerque's Cottonwood Bosque, supports multiple species of migratory waterfowl including many duck species, Canada geese, and sandhill crane. Nearby property to the north and south are managed by the Albuquerque Open Space and again, these properties provide additional habitat for

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migratory birds. Before you now, up on the slide, is an aerial view of the property that I am discussing. North, if you go up to the top of the slide, just north, out of view, would be Paseo del Norte. If you were to go just to the east, you will see some structures. That is SIPI. I don't know what the acronym stands for but it is a college for Native Americans. Albuquerque Open Space, again, owns fields, open fields, just to the North and to the South and if you were to drive past there today you would see sandhill crane, Canada geese, in those fields. Behind you, or to the West, it is fronting the Albuquerque Bosque, and a little bit farther you would find yourself there at the Rio Grande River. MRG, the Middle Rio Grande conservancy district, manages that portion of the Bosque between the river and the bike trails, and there is a levee system. And, again, like I said, bike trails, dirt trails that are there to the east. This is a front view of the property, a photograph that was taken. You will see that it offers spectacular views of the Sandia Mountains and behind you will see the cottonwood trees which are basically the Bosque River in Albuquerque. The property is currently under cultivation and it includes middle Rio Grande Conservance District irrigation rights and can be, again, parts of it could be cultivated to attract migratory birds. It contains easy access to nearby water. Ditches are in place to efficiently irrigate the entire parcel, parts of which, again, could be used to benefit wildlife. So, moving forward, pending the Commission approval, the Department would continue with this acquisition. The next step requires the Department to participate in the due diligence process. This requires the Department to investigate any potential environmental hazard issues, water delivery issues, survey issues, title issues, and any other issues associated with the use of this property for this purpose. Now before you, as a reminder, there is a motion associated with this before we can move forward. However, at this point, I would like to respond to any questions that the Commission may have regarding the property in question.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, I signed off on the, what was it, the purchase agreement?

MALE SPEAKER: That is correct.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And that had the 90 percent, they could pull the plug if they didn't like the number, or was it 90 percent?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. And it was below that, but they, we have an amendment and they have agreed to that price.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Do I need to sign that amendment, or are we square

FEMALE SPEAKER: No. We're square.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So I got, you gave me, the authority to basically I think negotiate a purchase agreement at our meeting in November. I've got to look at that. It was pretty much a standard form, purchase agreement that I've seen before. It did have a 90 percent figure in it, so if the appraisal came in and it was too low then the seller was not bound to abide by that number but it sounds like they backed off on that, got an amendment. So it is an even more favorable price than we expected. Looking at the checklist here of issues to be resolved, are there any known issues that need to be resolved at this point.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, at this point, we are not aware of any, but we are just beginning that phase. We're at the point now where we are coming before the entire Commission to move forward with that next step which would be that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Did we get something along the line of the seller's disclosure"

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, I will have Anetha (phonetic) answer that question.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Anetha (phonetic), Mr. Chairman, I am not sure yet if we received that. We just started the due diligence phase. The due diligence phase starts the first day we sign the agreement so we're going into those steps next.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right. So I need to sign something else, then? Or is there anything further?

FEMALE SPEAKER: We need further approval, Mr. Chairman. And then as we go through it if there is a problem then we will back out. If not, then today is really the day that we move forward and then if all is good then . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: There is a motion. When is the expected closing date if everything goes well? Do we have one?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, the expected closing date is March 31st, or 45 days after the end of due diligence, whichever comes later.

MALE SPEAKER: That's good.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That's all normal. Any further discussion.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Just a couple of questions. You mentioned water rights. How much water rights do we have?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, we'll be looking into that further during the due diligence phase. We do know that there are MRGCD water rights associated with it. That hasn't been definitively quantified in the purchase agreement yet, so we will be able to look at that further in the due diligence phase.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Then beyond, once we purchase it, I am presuming you guys will bring before the Commission, next phase, what you plan to develop it, office construction, etc.

CHRIS CHADWICK: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza. Anything that we do as we proceed as far as the development and the many steps related to this property beyond this will be brought before the Commission. At this point, as we discussed in the previous meeting, this is the next step, once we have identified a property and negotiated a purchase agreement, was to come before the entire Commission with a presentation that you can discuss here at this time.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Time frame, as far as, I know we all want it to happen tomorrow, but how soon are we looking at having actual construction? Will it be a year, 2 years, 3 years?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, I don't expect any ground breaking within 2016 because we have the Federal compliance issues we will be working on. That doesn't mean that it's not a possibility but it'll be a sprint if we do that. So we would ideally be looking at 2017, beginning of 2017.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What are the compliance issues?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, we are planning on using some Federal aid to help support the construction of that so we need to make sure we comply with NEFA Section 7, Section 106, the SHPO (phonetic) requirements, so we just need to make sure that we get approval from Fish and Wildlife Service to make that happen. Because it is already a previously disturbed area, the considerations that we have to look at are not as burdensome as if we were going out to a fresh piece of property. But they are things we have to do nonetheless.

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CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Just keep all that in mind, I'm not enthusiastic about buying a problem. So if those issues crop up during the due diligence period, let me know.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Absolutely, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You know, ones that are out of the ordinary, because we'd hate to buy something and then get stymied on developing it because of something like that. Yes, sir?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Perhaps I missed it. How many acres?

CHRIS CHADWICK: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ricklefs, it is approximately 15 acres.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: Are we looking at potentially maybe like, for hunter ed, maybe have indoor shooting ranges for rifle, bow, everything.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner, we are actually engaging in a conversation with the Albuquerque public range and the possibilities of doing some things out there, so not necessarily at that Albuquerque property for an indoor range there. There might be some opportunity for some 3D target for archery but specifically for indoor range, we have a really neat opportunity in working with BLM and the City of Albuquerque for the gun range. So I think that type of development would happen over there.

MALE SPEAKER: I'd think an indoor range answers a lot of liability issues, people hearing shooting, and you look at Albuquerque we'd like to have them across the state. But, wow, if we

have one in Albuquerque as many people as that serves, and then getting to Albuquerque is not that bad for the rest of the state.

MALE SPEAKER: If we built a big one, it would be truly interesting. (indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments? This requires a motion.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I would move to direct the Department to finalize the purchase and authorize the Chairman to act on behalf of the entire Commission to complete all necessary transactions to finalize the purchase.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. Clue me in if there are any problems.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Absolutely.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Sooner rather than later. It's a lot of money.

MALE SPEAKER: Good location, though.

MALE SPEAKER: Good location.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: AGENDA ITEM NO. 19: Closed Executive Session. We need a motion to adjourn. Can someone read that for me?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to Adjourn into Executive Session, closed to the public to discuss the acquisition of real property located in Bernalillo, Chavez and San

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Juan Counties as authorized by (indiscernible) Section 10-15-1(H)(8) and pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(7) on matters subject to the attorney-client privilege relating to threatened or pending litigation in Docket No. 4:15-cv-245-JGZ, and Docket No. 1:12-cv-00118-JCH-SCY in which the Commission and/or Department is in or may become a participant.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: This requires a roll call vote.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Espinoza?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ramos?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ryan?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Salopek?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Vice Chairman Montoya?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Yes.

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DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Great. Sandra, where are we headed?

(Return from Executive Session, audio begins mid sentence)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: . . . session closed to the public during the executive session, the Commission discussed only those matters specified in its motion to adjourn and took no action as to any matter.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I don't believe we have any public comment. Do you want to say anything, Joel? Kerry (phonetic), any comments?

FEMALE SPEAKER: They are online and we are printing.

GUEST SPEAKER: Susan Torres (phonetic), I will be taking over for Joel.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Stambaugh (phonetic), sure you don't want to say anything? OK. Thank you.

MALE SPEAKER: So, Joel, are you out?

JOEL: Yes, I'm out of the day-to-day operations. I be the one doing the (indiscernible) I'm going to the (indiscernible) weekend plan.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I like that plan!

MALE SPEAKER: You know, I have (indiscernible), I just need to get out more.

MALE SPEAKER: Nothing against your looks, but they just got improved a thousand percent.

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(laughter)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let's see. Can I get a motion to adjourn?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Moved.

MALE SPEAKER: Somebody moved.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The ayes have it. We are adjourned.

In Re:

Game Commission Hearing

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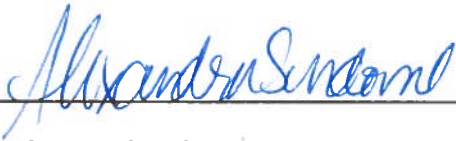
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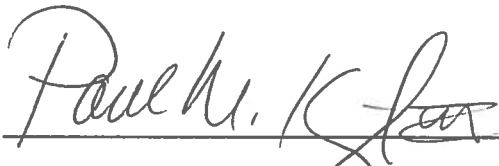
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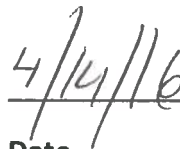
Alexandra Sandoval, Director and Secretary



Date



Paul M. Kienzle III, Chairman
New Mexico State Game Commission



Date

AS/scd