

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Dini
Mr. DuBois
Mr. Jeffrey
Mr. Mello
Mr. Redelsperger

The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m.

The topic of discussion was the Department of Wildlife fee proposal. (AB 220)

Mr. Mello questioned why the Department of Wildlife was recommending that only certain fees be raised and others left alone, which has resulted in this alternative plan. Mr. Mello and Mr. Greenley were assigned to work on this and this is the proposal they came up with. Currently the Resident Junior Fishing License is \$2.00. They proposed an increase to \$5.00 and we are recommending to the committee \$3.00. A copy of the Alternate to Fee Proposal is attached to these minutes as EXHIBIT A.

Mr. Mello stated that the Department of Wildlife would be generating \$15,245 through this increase, which is not exactly true. This figure is only the difference. The correct total going from the original \$2.00 to \$3.00 will generate \$24,144. Mr. Mello continued to cover the remainder of the changes recommended. In addition, he stated, there is a correction in the total Income for '82 from \$582,622 to \$582,602, showing an error of \$20.00.

Mr. Mello indicated that the total budget for the Fish and Game Department, with these fees and those on which no changes are being suggested, has to generate approximately \$3 million. He explained that after these suggested changes, they were only \$35,000 below the budget.

Mr. Mello recommended that the fee changes be adopted as presented, keeping one other thing in mind. Currently, the hunting licenses are issued on July 1 and the fishing licenses are issued on January 1. According to the fee proposals, it would be \$27.00 a year to buy both licenses. Mr. Mello proposed the idea of a combination license which would be issued March 1. A combination license fee would be \$25.00, a savings of \$2.00. He again stated that the department's budget is \$3,041,982 and they are \$35,000 below.

Mr. Mello commented that with these proposed fees, the Commission will not have to increase the special deer tags, resulting in a savings. He recommended a letter of intent stating this or insert in the bill that the special deer tags not be increased until January 1, 1983. He suggested March 1, assuring that those hunters will not have that special fee increase.

Mr. Jeffrey asked about the option of the big horn sheep tag.

Mr. Mello read, "The Commission may accept sealed bids or auction one big horn sheep deer each year. The money received from the bid for auction must be deposited with the State Treasury for credit to the Wildlife Account in the State General Fund."

Mr. Mello then suggested that he request amendments to coincide with the changes, moved by Mr. Dini and seconded by Mr. DuBois. Mr. Jeffrey, Chairman, called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Mello stated that it is extremely important to the Department of Fish and Game that the Department of Wildlife know exactly what they are going to receive. He suggested a move to adopt these amendments and then also move when they return from the printer, to be re-referred to the Ways and Means Committee, because their budget is predicated on these fees.

Mr. Mello explained that if Ways and Means chooses to cut their budget, there is no reason why they should not cut some of these fees. He said if it is passed out of here and passed through the Senate, it becomes law and they generate those monies.

Mr. Mello requested the Chairman talk to Mr. Bremner to find out what the feelings of the subcommittee working on that budget are.

A discussion followed on the big horn sheep auction.

Mr. Jeffrey adjourned the meeting.

Jason L. D.

DRAFT OF COMMITTEE MEETING AFTER GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 8, 1981.

10:30 A.M.

Department of Wildlife fee proposal

Mr. Mello:

I asked them why they were only recommending that certain fees be raised and others left alone, that's why they came up with this alternative plan. Joe and I were assigned to work this over and this is the proposal we came up with. If you notice the changes we are making on their plan, on the Resident Junior Fishing which is presently \$2.00. They wanted to go to \$5.00 and we are recommending to the committee, \$3.00. A copy of the Alternate to Fee Proposal is attached hereto as EXHIBIT A.

They were not giving us a true picture. They were just showing us that they were going to be generating \$15,245. That was not exactly true. That was the difference. That doesn't tell you anything. The correct total going from the original \$2.00 to \$3.00 will generate \$24,144. (Mr. Mello then covered the remainder of the changes recommended). There is a correction in the total income for '82 from \$582,622 to \$582,602. They were off \$20.00.

Their total budget for the Fish and Game Department, and incidentally, these fees and those that we do not have on here which are in your bill on which we are not suggesting any changes, have to generate approximately \$3 million and after Joe and I came up with these suggested changes, we were only off \$35,000 below their budget. So I would like to recommend that we adopt these fee changes as presented to you with one other thing in mind. Right now, the hunting licenses/issued on July 1 of this year and the fishing licenses issued January 1. If you notice with our fee proposals, it is \$27.00 a year if you were to buy each one for those licenses. Joe and I came up with the idea of a combination license which would be issued March 1 and actually would not affect hunting or fishing. It would work out just beautiful for one who wanted to buy a combination license. A combination license fee proposal is \$25.00; that would be a savings of \$2.00, and that might be enough to get people to buy that one. Their budget is \$3,041,982 and we are \$35,000 below. So, we hit pretty close.

The other thing I would like to recommend to the committee: it is my understanding by talking to the Fish and Game people and Joe Greenley that with these fees, the way they are being presented to you now, the Commission will not have to increase the special deer tags. So, that would be a savings.

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I would like to see that either in a letter of intent that they not do that if we adopt this, or, if we feel that we should, we can put it in the bill that they not increase the special deer tags until January 1, 1983. March 1 would be better. That way, we can assure our people that those hunters will not have that special fee increase.

Mr. Jeffrey:

Don, have you considered the option of the big horn sheep tag?

Mr. Mello:

No, that's not in the bill. 221 or 222. Oh yes, it is in here:

"The Commission may accept sealed bids or auction one big horn sheep deer each year. The money received from the bid for auction must be deposited with the State Treasury for credit to the Wild Life Account in the State General Fund".

If the committee will accept this, I could go down and at the pleasure of the chairman and request amendments to coincide with our changes.

Mr. Dini moved that Mr. Mello do that. Seconded by Mr. DuBois.

Mr. Jeffrey, chairman, called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Mello:

One other thing I would like to recommend to the chairman of the committee: It is extremely important to the Department of Fish and Game that they know (Department of Wild Life) exactly what they are going to get, and it is very important to the money committees. It would be my suggestion that, if the chairman chooses, I will move to adopt these amendments and then also move, when they return from the printer, to be re-referred to the committee on Ways and Means. This is because their budget is predicated on these fees. They gave them a figure of a little over \$3 million, and the problem I have with this is that it is going to be a controversial thing. If Ways and Means chooses to cut their budget, there is no reason why they shouldn't cut some of these fees. They could look at the \$14.00, for instance, (fishing license) and trim it to a \$1.00 less, to \$13.00 if they had to. You see, if you pass it out of here and pass it through the Senate, it becomes law and they generate those monies. If Ways and Means cuts them, there is no reason why the fees shouldn't be cut.

Mr. Jeffrey:

I will talk to Bremner, but I think that because of the problem they have getting their printing done, we will have to get an

early indication from Ways and Means and get an early hearing on this thing so they can speed it along.

Mr. Mello:

If you wanted to, Mr. Chairman, is talk to Bremner and have him find out what the mood of the sub-committee working on that budget is; and if their mood is to cut the budget or add to it, and they're going to have to come up with some general fund money; they will have to realize that we are \$35,000 below their budget.

Mr. DuBois:

Not taking into account the big horn sheep auction.

Mr. Mello:

Yes. The figure mentioned is \$10,000, I believe.

Mr. Redelsperger:

It was done in another state, Wyoming. It was \$20,000-\$25,000. But they didn't know if we would generate that much here our first year.

Mr. Jeffrey adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Lucille Hill
Lucille Hill
Assembly Attache

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Alternate to Fee Proposal

	From	Sold	To	Generation	TOTAL
Resident Jr. Fishing	\$2.00	8,048	\$8.00 3.00	15,245	24,144
Resident Reg. Fishing	10.00	90,078	15.00 1400	219,116	1,120,392
Resident Regular Hunting	10.00	42,015	13.00	126,045	546,195
Resident Trapping	10.00	2,069	20.00	20,690	47,380
Resident Fur Dealer	5.00	18	50.00	720	900
Master Guide-Resident	100.00	40	125.00	1,000	5,000
Resident Sub-Guide	50.00	15	60.00	150	900
Nonresident Jr. Fishing	5.00	817	10.00 6.50	4,085	5,310.50
Nonresident Fishing	20.00	3239	30.00	32,390	97,170
Nonresident Regular Hunting	50.00	3777	75.00	94,425	28,275
Nonresident Trapping	50.00	175	100.00 125.00	8,750	21,875
Nonresident Fur Dealer	35.00	16	100.00	1,040	1,600
Nonresident Master Guide	200.00	2	250.00	100	500
Nonresident Sub-Guide	100.00	2	125.00	50	250
Quota Hunt Application Fee	2.00	47,212	3.00	47,212	141,636
Resident Antelope Tag	25.00	568	30.00	3,365	17,040
Resident Elk Tag	25.00	10	75.00	600	750
Resident Bighorn Tag	25.00	72	75.00	2,175	5,400
Nonresident Bighorn Tag	250.00	9	500.00	2,250	4,500
Nonresident Mountain Lion	100.00	47	125.00	1,175	5,875
Live Bait Dealer	50.00	29	75.00 60.00	725	1740
Private Non-Commercial Fish Hatchery	5.00	89	10.00	445	890
Importation Permit	2.00	103	5.00	309	515
Dredging	0.00	30	5.00	150	150
Scientific Collection Permit	0.00	78	5.00	390	390

Income

'82
\$582,622
582,602

'83
\$669,357

Biennium Total

\$1,251,979

Budget Needs

\$1,208,836

(based upon \$604,418 each year)

Difference

+ \$43,143

This plus factor may offset the anticipated decrease in sales experienced during fee increases.