

Minutes of the Telephonic Meeting of the
Arizona Game and Fish Commission
Friday, February 2, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, Arizona 85086

PRESENT: (Commission)

(Director's Staff)

Via telephone:

Chairman James R. Ammons
Commissioner James S. Zieler
Commissioner Kurt R. Davis
Commissioner Edward "Pat" Madden

In person:

Deputy Director Tom P. Finley
Assistant Attorney General Linda Pollock

Chairman Ammons called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Deputy Director Finley conducted roll call and Commissioners Ammons, Zieler, Madden and Davis were present via telephone. Commissioner Sparks was not present and there were no members of the public present. Several Department staff members were present. This meeting followed an agenda dated February 1, 2018.

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1. HB 2404 License to Practice Taxidermy; Repeal.

Presenter: Ed Sanchez, Legislative Liaison

Mr. Sanchez briefed the Commission on proposed legislation regarding the repeal of taxidermy licenses and requested direction on the measure. The Department has been monitoring HB 2404, License to Practice Taxidermy, at the Legislature. The current legislation would repeal taxidermist licenses and would repeal the need for a registry of records. The sponsor of the bill has asked for some assistance from the Department and feedback from the Commission on the legislation that would make it more accommodating to the Department. Mr. Sanchez discussed with the Commission the Department's proposed amendment (below). Additionally, Mr. Sanchez noted two things, 1) the fiscal impact to the Department from loss of license sales will be approximately \$22-23,000 and 2) that Title 17 allows the enforcement ability to make sure the taxidermists maintain a registry.

17-363. ~~License to practice taxidermy~~ PRACTICE OF TAXIDERY

A. No person shall engage in the business of a taxidermist for hire until such person has ~~procured a license which may be granted to any person at the discretion of the commission.~~ REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

B. A taxidermist shall keep a register, ~~and exhibit it upon request of authorized representatives of the game and fish department and the United States fish and wildlife service,~~ of the names and addresses of persons who furnish raw and unmounted specimens, the taker's tag or license number, the date and number of each species of wildlife received, and shall: ~~by the tenth day of~~

~~October January, April and July, file a legible report in English with the department of such entries except names and addresses on forms provided therefor.~~

1. EXHIBIT THE REGISTER ON REQUEST OF AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
2. EXHIBIT THE REGISTER ON REQUEST OF AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
3. MAINTAIN THE REGISTER FOR FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE THE WILDLIFE WAS RECEIVED
4. FILE A COPY OF THE REGISTER IN ENGLISH WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR.

Mr. Sanchez stated that the Department will remain neutral on this bill, but will continue to monitor the bill as it goes through the process.

Ms. Pollock stated that if taxidermist are no longer required to get a license, but are instead required to register with the Department, the Commission will lose enforcement authority against taxidermist that don't maintain the register unless there is an amendment to A.R.S. § 17-340, which currently authorizes the Commission to revoke or suspend a license. A.R.S. § 17-340 would need to be amended to include revoke or suspend a registration as well as a license.

Motion: Davis moved and Madden seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT AS DESCRIBED FOR SECTION 17-363, SECTIONS A AND B, INCLUDING THE PROVISIONS IN 1, 3 AND 4; AND FOR PROVISION 2, DELETE: "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE" AND REPLACE WITH: "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT"; AND TO AMEND 17-340 TO APPROPRIATELY CORRESPOND TO PRESERVE THE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORITY TO DEAL WITH REGISTRATION VERSUS LICENSE; AND THAT THE COMMISSION TAKE NO POSITION ON THE BILL AS A WHOLE.

Vote: Unanimous
4 to 0
Sparks not present

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Motion: Madden moved and Zieler seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING.

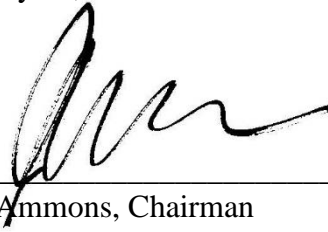
Vote: Unanimous

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Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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These minutes were approved by the Commission at the February 16, 2018 Commission meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James R. Ammons', is written over a horizontal line.

James R. Ammons, Chairman