



Mendocino County Fish & Game Commission  
501 Low Gap Road  
Ukiah, CA 95482

## AGENDA

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015  
**TIME:** 6:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** Willits Branch of the Mendocino County Library  
390 E. Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490  
**AND** Via TELECONFERENCE with call-in number (707) 969-7490

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:** *Present:* President White, Commissioners Vann, Morgan, Bremer  
*Absent:* Commissioner Trouette  
*Resigned:* Commissioners Martin, Anderson

### 2. PUBLIC EXPRESSION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (NO ACTION)

**Regarding an issue discussed at the Commission's February 10, 2015 meeting:** Biologist Scott Kohler affirmed that Tule Elk are endemic to California and originally ranged throughout the Valley and Coastal prairies (the last elk was harvested from Laytonville in 1920), although there is scientific uncertainty about which subspecies roamed throughout the area. The count for Round Valley elk stands at approximately 50 head (a local landowner had each elk subunit identified to bull and cows). There may also be some Roosevelt Elk migrating south into Mendocino County. Fencing that is 6-8 feet tall with streamers is less likely to be destroyed by elk; elk jumps (rounded poles) can also be installed. Private Land Management and Share Programs (including public draw hunts) have been instituted in Mendocino County by the DFW. An official DFW response to Mr. Terry Proschold is in the process of being signed and sent by the Department.

Terry Guerrero received a DFW abalone survey; notes that results from the 1500-1700 respondents will be on the DFW Invertebrate website. Recent prohibitions on low-tide harvest between 0800 hours has impacted traditional rock pickers.

**3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Commissioner Vann motioned to approve the February 10, 2015 minutes, Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion, it carried unanimously and the minutes were approved without correction.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (NO ACTION)** No announcements were made.

## 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Report on the 2015-2016 round of grant proposals and the evaluation process, including oversight by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors and mandatory report submissions from previous grantees.

The recommended slate of grants were approved unanimously by the Mendocino County of Supervisors during their April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting. Supervisor McCowen expressed detailed concern about specific proposals that received low scores from the Commission (Supervisor McCowen did not attend the Commission meeting where the grants were reviewed, instead spoke separately with a select number of grant applicants without consulting the Commission). The President reached out to Supervisor McCowen and clarified how a number of proposals had not been funded due to lack of following the posted guidelines, and reiterated Commission policy that it is considered unfair to reach out to a select number of applicants without reaching out to all applicants simultaneously.

The President asked the Secretary to send out an email to all the Commissioners asking if anyone would like to proposed improvements to the existing grant review process; including more careful review of comments made on each proposal.

Commissioner Morgan was pleased to note how much more quickly the proposals had been vetted this year. In the future, the President hopes that the slate of recommended proposals be placed on the Board of Supervisor's Consent Calendar.

The Secretary will contact the DFW Wardens to remind them of the arrangement through Ukiah Rod & Gun Club to obtain funding for their approved grants (or to sign the grants agreements as individuals).

- b. Commissioner recommendations for the annual granting cycle budget and timing.

Due to the late approval of last year's slate of proposals, this year the Commission's grants fund was drawn upon for two grant cycles; this will not happen in future years as we will return to our November Request for Proposals with voting at a special January meeting.

The Commission needs to clarify when the "time clock" starts for grant applicants to submit reports, Commissioner Vann recommended the year-clock start upon receipt of funds. The Secretary will check with County Staff on how to work the reporting deadlines.

- c. Commissioner Code of Conduct.

The Commission reviewed the eight-page draft Code of Conduct and made minor corrections. The Secretary will forward the Code to County Staff and County Counsel, and request comments in time to schedule the Code for a formal vote during the June 2015 meeting.

- d. Open Commissioner seats for Districts 4 and 5.

The Secretary will send an email on behalf of the Commission to Supervisors Djerde and Hamburg calling their attention to the empty seats and forwarding a copy of the Letter of Interest by Terry Guerrero. Commissioner Bremer recommended that she be transferred into District 4 seat, and that Guerrero be appointed to the Coastal At-Large seat.

**6. COMMISSIONER REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL – NO ACTION)**

Commissioner Bremer will be temporarily moving with her fishing family to Alaska for 2-12 months due to the abysmal urchin season this year (coastal kelp is largely absent).

Commissioner Trouette and the Mendocino County Black Tail Deer Association are having their annual auction this weekend.

**7. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- a. Commissioner Code of Conduct

**8. ADJOURNMENT at 7:22pm.**