

**Valdez Fish & Game Advisory Committee
March 6, 2015
Valdez City Council Chambers**

RC 018

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BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Tim Bouchard, Chair.

Members Present: Tim Bouchard, Dave Hunter, Bill Connell

Members Absent: not applicable – everyone’s terms expired.

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3

List of User Groups Present: Trapping, Sport Fishing, Subsistence, Hunting, Photography, Guiding, Personal Use, Outdoorsmen, Conservationist

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date 2-18-2015 (no minutes only discussion notes were taken as there was not a quorum).

Fish and Game Staff Present: Charlotte Westing, via teleconference; Sherry Wright

Guests Present: Jeff Koontz, Derek Hall, Chris Steinel, Katey Connell, Bill Comer

Old Business: None

New Business:

The committee met to reactivate the Advisory Committee. Elections were held with the following results: Tim Bouchard and Dave Hunter for 3 year terms; Bill Comer and Derek Hall for 2 year terms; Bill Connell for a one year term and Chris Steinel as a one year alternate.

Officer elections were as follows: Tim Bouchard, Chair; Bill Comer as Vice Chair; and Bill Connell as Secretary

The committee discussed the purpose of advisory committees and preference of regular meetings. They would like to have at least two meetings per year and invite local area biologists to discuss issues with the community.

Charlotte Westing brought a GMU6 overview and provided ADF&G positions on proposals.

Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOG	140		Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6C.
Support	5	0	The committee believes this is a good management tool that would protect habitat.
BOG	141		Restrict the taking of goat for five years when a nanny is taken in Unit 6.
Support	5	0	Opposition spoke to the one time hunter would not effect anything. This would be better for only Unit 6C, but don't believe it would be enforceable. Mandatory

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			education should be an option. We have enough of a resource that we don't have to limit to only billy harvest. The committee discussed an amendment to apply this only to GMU 6C. They also discussed the option of reducing the number of years the penalty would apply perhaps to 1 or 2 years instead. Chris didn't want an amendment or a 5 years waiting period and most all thought it was too hard to enforce because you don't have get it sealed. We have lots of hunters that hunt annually. They believe Cordova has an issue and want to support it there. The goat numbers in the 80s here were much better and that would be similar to regulations in other GMUs. There are only 7 goats available and there have been times here others have been limited for the same reason as stated in the proposal. Nanny harvest should be cut as much as possible. We need to put the needs of the resource above our personal needs. It would be difficult to not get to have the opportunity to harvest a goat, due to unwittingly taking a nanny.
BOG	214	Modify the Board of Game Agenda Change Request Policy	
	1	2	This would limit the ability of the public to bring items before the board. The most recent example was the bear proposals in GMU 6 which caught a great deal of people off guard. 2 abstained.

Bill Connell was supported as the representative for the Board of Game meeting.

Alaska Board of Fisheries comments on proposals

BOF	247	Modify pot limits per person and household, and increase the pot limit from five to 10 shrimp pots per vessel.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	5	0	This year gas prices have gone down, but when gas prices were higher boats would stay closer to shore and fish out the shrimp. Support and would even consider amending to 15 or 20 pots so a couple of guys could sport fish on one vessel.
BOF	248	Modify reporting requirements for sport and personal use shrimp fishing in the Prince William Sound Area, including monthly reporting.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	4	Prefer status quo on reporting. It would be onerous. If the department needed it they would have requested it. Abstention lacks knowledge about shrimping.
BOF	267	Repeal exception for use of footgear with felt soles while sport fishing in fresh water.	