

**Jackson County Wolf Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 13, 2019**

**Members Present:** Glenn Eary, Star Priester, Greg Roberts, and Randy Wolf

**Members Absent:** Ted Birdseye and Jeremy Wargnier

**Staff Present:** Jackson Baures and Rebecca Ward

**Commissioner Liaison:** Bob Strosser

**Guests Present:** Jani Zigray-Cochran, Paul Wolf, David Biggs, John Stephenson, Kristina Haug, Margo Bush, and Jim Thraillkill

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**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Randy Wolf called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Roundtable introductions were performed and a quorum was established.

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

***Approval of the Minutes***

Greg Roberts made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 17, 2019. Glenn Eary seconded the motion. All those who voted aye: Glenn Eary, Star Priester, Greg Roberts, and Randy Wolf. The minutes were approved as presented.

Glen Eary made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 21, 2019. Star Priester seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Glenn Eary, Star Priester, Greg Roberts, and Randy Wolf. The minutes were approved as presented.

**DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION ITEMS**

***Reappointment of Ted Birdseye, Greg Roberts, Randy Wolf, and Jeremy Wargnier***

Chair Wolf announced that Ted Birdseye, Greg Roberts, Randy Wolf, and Jeremy Wargnier's terms would expire on June 30. Concerns were expressed that reappointing Mr. Birdseye could cause a negative public perception, as he is a major recipient of depredation reimbursement funding approved by the Committee. John Stephenson pointed out that Mr. Birdseye's property is a well-documented hot spot for wolf activity, with several proven depredations; a strong argument against any conflict of interest. Commissioner Strosser explained there is no issue as long as Mr. Birdseye does not vote on or participate in discussions regarding topics that pertain to him or his property. After further discussion, Glenn Eary made a motion to recommend that Ted Birdseye, Greg Roberts, Randy Wolf, and Jeremy Wargnier be reappointed to the CWAC. Star Priester seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Glenn Eary, Star Priester, Greg Roberts, and Randy Wolf. Commissioner Strosser abstained. The motion passed as presented.

***Discussion/Deliberation to Allocate Grant Funds***

After reviewing the application process, Jackson Baures reported the Committee was allocated only a portion of the total amount requested; \$6,200 for depredation compensation and \$13,000 for non-lethal categories. The application was reviewed favorably by the state, and additional amount may be granted at a later date. All funds must be spent no later than January 31, 2020.

Members discussed several potential non-lethal projects to allocate funding for - Ted Birdseye's fence, an educational, non-lethal workshop, a Wildlife Services technician, and bone pile disposal fees. Steve Niemala announced a local group was interested in contributing \$5,000 towards a workshop and had arranged to hold the event at the Expo free of charge. John Stephenson reported an estimate of approximately \$45,000 had been received for the fence project. He was excited to announce that Fish and Wildlife was approved to contribute \$25,000, and Defenders of Wildlife had also expressed a willingness to possibly provide a few thousand. He encouraged members to fund as much of the remaining balance as

possible. In response to a question, Mr. Stephenson explained that Mr. Birdseye would contribute 30 rollers. Further discussion was held regarding the locations additional rollers could be purchased.

Glenn Eary made a motion to allocate \$1,000 for bone pile disposal, \$9,000 for the fence project, and \$3,000 for a non-lethal workshop (to be reallocated to the fence project if funds are provided by another organization.) Greg Roberts seconded the motion. All who voted aye: Glenn Eary, Star Priester, Greg Roberts, Bob Strosser, and Randy Wolf. The motion passed as presented.

Glenn Eary asked whether there would be an agreement between Fish and Wildlife and Ted Birdseye to ensure that the fence is maintained in good repair. Mr. Stephenson confirmed an agreement would be required, and questions were raised about how it would be administered. Jackson Baures indicated he would research whether the County could serve as the fiscal agent and coordinate with Mr. Stephenson.

***Review of Depredation Applications***

Chair Wolf reported that Ted Birdseye recently lost another calf and a dog, but no applications for reimbursement had been received to date. Chair Wolf explained there had been some concern and controversy because the dog was found outside of Mr. Birdseye's property line by about 160 yards. This could indicate a violation of the rules. Steve Niemala pointed out that Mr. Birdseye may have an agreement with the other property owner that allows his dogs to be there. John Stephenson explained that the original rules did not cover dogs working past certain dates.

**ROUNDTABLE UPDATES**

David Biggs introduced himself, Kristina Haug and Margo Bush as members of Douglas County's new Wolf Advisory Committee. Mr. Biggs provided an overview of their efforts to establish the committee and explained they came to hear about Jackson County's issues and how they were being addressed. In response to a question, Mr. Biggs explained Douglas County had not experienced any depredations to date, but wolf activity had been confirmed. The committee was waiting on a response to their grant application for materials and equipment. Discussion was held, and Jackson Baures explained that the CWACs meeting minutes and forms were available on the County's website for reference.

Kristina Haug spoke briefly about the committee's efforts to partner with the Agricultural Association on an educational event in Douglas County.

Discussion was held regarding the current location of the Rogue pack. John Stephenson explained the den site had been moved, but they were continuing to scout and would work to get one of the animals collared once the pack was found.

**CLOSING COMMENTS**

Chair Wolf encouraged members to notify him of any future agenda items. He indicated that another meeting would be scheduled if additional funds were received.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Rebecca Ward, Committee Support

***Next Regular Meeting: TBD***