Thursday, August 9, 2018 – Capitol Room – DoubleTree Hotel, Olympia

Vice-chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

1. **2019 - 2021 Capital Budget Request**
   Tim Burns, Assistant Director, Capital and Asset Management Program, briefed the Commission and requested approval of the 2019-2021 Capital Budget proposals.

Commissioner McIsaac moved, seconded by Commissioner Kehne to approve the 2019-2021 Capital Budget request as presented, allowing for minor adjustments to project scope, priority and budget, unless alterations are approved by the Commission under agenda item 2. Motion passed.

2. **2019 – 2021 Operating Budget Proposal and Legislative Proposals**
   Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison presented the Commissioners the Operating Budget, Legislative Proposals and Long-term Funding Plan.
The following people provided testimony:
Denis DeSilvis    Lance Winecka

This item was tabled until Friday afternoon.

Vice-chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

**Fish Committee meeting** – Commissioners Carpenter, Graybill, Thorburn, Kehoe
*Location:* Olympia Room – DoubleTree Hotel
*Agenda topics*
- Frog petition
- Usk Hatchery
- Columbia River Policy review – progress report on comprehensive evaluation

**Friday, August 10, 2018 – Capitol Room – DoubleTree Hotel, Olympia**

**Wildlife Committee meeting** – Commissioners Kehoe, Holzmiller, Thorburn, Baker
*Location:* Olympia Room – DoubleTree Hotel, Olympia
*Agenda topics*
- Overview of lands showcase and the recreational strategy
- Recreational Strategy
- Corn pond baiting
- Skagit elk
- Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse

Vice-chair Carpenter called the regular meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

3. **Call to Order**
   a. **Commissioners’ Discussion**
      The Commissioners discussed the following items:
      - WAFWA Meeting in Eugene, OR
      - Meeting between department staff and Inland NW Wildlife Council about topics for cooperation facilitated by department outreach liaison
      - Suction dredge mining rule change stakeholder meetings
      - Tri-cities meeting and Region 3 award ceremony
      - Governor’s Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force meeting in Wenatchee
      - Range riders and rangeland fires
      - Wynoochee boat launch opening
      - Farewell gift to Commissioner Kehne

   b. **Meeting Minute Approval**
      The Commission considered approval of the minutes of the July 20, 2018 conference call.

      Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

   c. **Committee Reports**
      Commissioner Kehoe highlighted the topics from the Fish Committee:
      - Frog Petition
      - Usk Hatchery
      - Progress on the Columbia River Policy Comprehensive Review
Commissioner Kehne highlighted the topics from the Wildlife Committee:
Overview of lands showcase and the recreational strategy
Recreational Strategy
Corn pond baiting
Skagit elk
Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse

4. **Open Public Input**
The following people provided input on various topics:
- Senator Curtis King – Naches Hatchery
- Randy Good – elk damage
- Don Wallace – banding American Dippers
- Paul Rudnick – reclassify frogs
- Molly Linville – trust re: wolf management
- Jeff Dawson - trust re: wolf management
- Shawn Cantrell – wolves
- Sarah Ryan – grazing on 4-O, Riparian mgmt., trust re: wolves and elk

5. **Director’s Report**
The Director provided a written report and briefly discussed various topics and meetings.

6. **Land Transactions**
Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager and Amy Windrope, Region 4 Director briefed the Commission and requested approval for the acquisition of property in Whitman County and a transfer in Skagit County.

The following person provided testimony:
Paul Lubbesmeyer

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the transactions as presented. Motion passed.

7. **Annual Wolf Update – Briefing**
Donny Martorello, Wolf Policy Lead, Candace Bennett, Wildlife Conflict Specialist, Scott McCorquodale, Wildlife Regional Manager and Ben Maletze, Biologist presented an approach to analyzing the scientific literature as Washington changes its management as wolves recover. Wolf Advisory Group Members Dave Duncan, Molly Linville and Paula Sweeney requested some guidance from the Commission on the next steps.

Director Susewind explained that he heard from both the community and staff about proposed changes to wolf location data that the department shares with livestock producers. It was clear that more time was needed before implementing further changes, especially since it is the middle of grazing season. He and staff decided that no further changes to information sharing will occur during the current season and that the conversation will be continued.

Commissioner Holzmiller made a motion to provide policy guidance to the Director to not implement the “Blue Blob” method as a replacement of providing wolf presence information to those who use this information to minimize wolf-livestock interactions, currently scheduled to be implemented in the near future. Direction was given to continue to use the current information along with the “Blue Blob” through the balance of this season. Commissioner McIsaac seconded the motion and it passed.
8. **Executive Session**
The Executive Session was cancelled.

**Habitat Committee meeting** - Commissioners Kehne, Kehoe, Baker, Thorburn
Location: Olympia Room-Doubletree Hotel, Olympia
Agenda Topics
- Priority Species and Habitats
- Update on Gold and Fish rule-making processes

9. **North Pacific Fishery Management Council – Briefing**
Bill Tweit, Special Assistant presented an update from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

The following person provided public testimony:
Bob Alverson

Commissioner Kehoe would like to take a look at updating the Policy and asked the Director to send a letter to the Council regarding enacting regulations regarding the observer program which are consistent with the changes to the observer program that were previously approved by the Council.

10. **Delegation of Authority - Discussion**
This item was postponed until September.

11. **2019 – 2021 Operating Budget and Legislative Proposals – Follow Up and Possible Decision**
Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison provided additional information and requested approval of the proposed packages.

Commissioner Thorburn moved seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the following items:
- 2019 second supplemental operating budget
- the long-term funding plan
- reduced fees for disabled hunters and fisher legislative proposal
- extension of the Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Program legislative proposal
- increasing participation in recreational fishing and hunting legislative proposal

All were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Graybill made a motion to remove the Naches Hatchery from the operating budget cut list and add it back to the maintain list, Commissioner Kehne seconded the motion, Commission McIsaac moved to amend the motion to move the entire $2.4M cut list to the maintain list. Amendment motion failed.

Commission Graybill’s main motion all were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Thorburn moved to approve the 2019-21 Operating Budget with Maintenance and Performance items included, Commissioner Baker seconded. Commissioner McIsaac moved to amend the main motion regarding hatchery production enhancements, Commissioner Holzmiller seconded – after discussion the
motion was withdrawn and staff were directed to come back at a later date with more details.

The main motion made by Commissioner Thorburn passed.

Commissioner McIsaac made a motion to set the across the board fee increase at 5% and include bullets 1 - Admin fee collected on next purchase and 4 - future inflation fee-setting authority, Commissioner Kehne seconded it and the motion passed.

Vice Chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Saturday, August 11, 2018 - Capitol Room – DoubleTree Hotel, Olympia

Vice Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:56 a.m.

12. Future Meeting Planning
Commissioners discussed the Year at a Glance, 2019 meeting dates and locations, and upcoming conference calls and meetings.

13. Open Public Input
The following people provided input on various topics:
Denis DeSilvis – uplist grouse
Laurence Bucklin – Point no Point, Puyallup Hatchery
Jim Tuggle – Deschutes Hatchery recovery plans

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director provided a briefing on pinniped management.

The following people provided testimony:
Laurence Bucklin               Tom Drews               Dave Reese
John Risser                   Ron Garner

Commissioner McIsaac moved to provide the following policy position on pinniped management:

Based on the information on record at this time, and until such time as there is a more equitable balance between the population abundance status of pinniped species and ESA-listed wild salmonid populations in the State of Washington, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission advocates for authorization of greater flexibility in the management of pinniped populations in Federal and State legislation, towards a goal of significantly reducing pinniped predation on salmonids. Further, the Commission tasks the Director with expeditious and efficient implementation of any flexibility forthcoming from successful passage of such legislation.

This policy position applies to the Columbia River, coastal river basins, and Puget Sound including the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Flexibility in management activity should include a priority to actively discourage pinniped residence in areas of salmonid predation, including effective harassment and lethal removal, both done in a humane manner that discourages residence and predation behavior.

Commissioner Graybill seconded. Motion passed.
15. **Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief**

Commissioner Kehne thanked the Commissioners and staff for everything.

**Commissioner Thorburn moved to request a briefing from staff on Pronghorn Conservation and Management. Commissioner Kehoe seconded the motion, all were in favor.**

Commissioners asked Director Susewind to take a fresh look at what’s going on with the boat launch at Point no Point.

Vice-chair Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant