

**Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism**  
**Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, June 22, 2017**  
**George Meyn Center, 126<sup>th</sup> & State Ave,**  
**Kansas City, Kansas**

**Approved** Subject to  
**8/10/17** Commission  
Approval

The June 22, 2017 meeting of the Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission was called to order by Chairman Gerald Lauber at 1:00 p.m. at the Wyandotte County George Meyn Center, Kansas City. Chairman Lauber and Commissioners Ward Cassidy, Emerick Cross, Tom Dill, Gary Hayzlett, Aaron Rider and Harrison Williams were present.

**II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS, STAFF AND GUESTS**

The Commissioners and Department staff introduced themselves (Attendance roster - Exhibit A). Chairman Lauber recognized former commissioner Shari Wilson.

**III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS**

Sheila Kemmis – Revised agenda to add item 5 under general discussion, Boating Regulations to be presented by Chris Tymeson, also Chris will be presenting item 3 under the workshop session, fees and licenses. (Exhibit B).

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE April 20, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Harrison Williams moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Gary Hayzlett second. *Approved.* (Minutes – Exhibit C).

**V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Commissioner Rider – Gave Secretary and commissioners documents I received yesterday on Mined Land deer creek project (Exhibit D); pit was filled in and doing more reclamation on areas. Manager had a meeting and several people concerned that Health and Environment using department lands, because they have money to spend. Safety concerns and using excess amounts of money that don't need to be used. Some of things department wants to do is limit vehicle access to some of these centers, affects trappers and access to finger pits, working on larger areas. Public concerned about losing access to inner areas, can still walk in, but no vehicle access for picking up carcasses or bringing in fur trapping equipment. Heard discussion for weeks now on this. Constituents are concerned about process and how this goes through the department. Want to keep these areas primitive. Don't take away from wilderness aspect of this area. Different from any other area in the state that we have to offer. Chairman Lauber – Do you have an opinion on that? Commissioner Rider – See both sides, talked to David Jenkins, the manager,

quite a bit, but see constituents concerns about interior access too. Don't know what process is, working with KDWPT and KDHE on this. The sportsmen don't feel their concerns are heard before the process begins. Chairman Lauber – Under umbrella of safety see areas closed off, happened to me in the past. Want to look at both sides; people in your area have good point. Look at that area. Secretary Jennison – We will. This came up about two years ago, see if Stuart's folks can put together presentation for October meeting. Commissioner Rider – As far as access, gates were put up, understand the reason, know there are times when an area needs to be closed off, but feel closed for extended periods of time. Need to look at that.

## **VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Welcome – Doug Bach, Wyandotte County Administrator – Welcome to Wyandotte County, on behalf of Mayor Holland and our Commission appreciate you having one of your meetings here. We are one of two consolidated governments in state of Kansas, 40 across the U.S. We have 162,000 people in county, 150,000 in Kansas City; consolidated and incorporated 20 years ago. Efficient for community and reduced mill levy by 20 percent. Some of you looked at new sporting complex, doing a lot for state of Kansas, we were able to negotiate to bring in speedway in 2001 and now this complex; most successful star bond in the nation; paid off last year, five years ahead of time. Sends \$44 million in sales tax to state of Kansas and captures about \$12 million back into local government. Sporting stadium, no incentive and still did it five years ahead of schedule. Our county is based off industrial and manufacturing, GM builds Malibu here at Fairfax Plant and see many other products built here. Routinely in top five for increased employment in the country; also close to state line and other cities. Thank you for coming here today.

Law Enforcement Division Award – Dan Heskett – A major portion of my duties include representing the agency and the state as the State Boating Law Administrator. This duty includes oversight of our recreational boating safety program, administration of our grant compliance within the guidelines of the United States Coast Guard and representing the State in attendance with the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA for short). Each year the National Association of Boating Law Administrators delivers several awards during their annual conference. Two of these Awards include the National Boating Educator of the Year Award and the Butch Potts Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. With 50 states and six territories, the process involves nominations of deserving individuals through the Boating Law Administrator to the District Association of the states membership. Three districts exist involving the Northern States, Southern States and the Western States of which Kansas is currently a member. Last year Kansas had a National Winner in Erika Brooks who won the Western States Boating Educator of the Year Award and was named the NASBLA National Award winner. Erika resigned from the agency and is currently employed by Cabela's of Wichita. This year Kansas has another Western States Award recipient for the Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. It is with honor that I have the privilege of reading the nomination for Game Warden Ryan Smidt and presenting him his award from the Western States Conference recently held in Cody Wyoming. Officer Smidt will now be in the process of selection with two other counterparts from the Northern and Southern regions for the NASBLA selection of the National Award. Game Warden Ryan Smidt was selected as this year's Western States Boating Officer of the Year from individuals nominated from the member states of:

Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Northern Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming (read nomination – Exhibit E). *Hesket and Eric Denault presented Ryan with plaque and replica of 1851 Navy sheriff caliber 44 ball and cap pistol.* Ryan Smidt – Surprised, been to these commission meetings before, but this is the first one I was required to come to. Thank you, more to come, I am not done yet.

Mark Rankin – Operation Gamethief, started in late 1980s, early 1990s, administering in Wichita to begin with, then KHP, then staff and answering machine at night. Put out word for someone to answer the line and interviewed and selected Mike Vestal 11 years ago. He is retiring now and we would like to present him with a plaque. Mike Vestal – Job has been rewarding and love taking care of officers and helping catch the bad guys. Some calls are crazy or about stuff they already should know.

### **A. Secretary's Remarks**

1. Agency and State Fiscal Status – Robin Jennison, Secretary, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit F). Park Fee Fund (PFF) continues to have fairly significant growth, year-to-date 8.5 percent above where we were last year. Having some trouble with new licensing structure, difficulties in getting those monies into the appropriate accounts as quickly as we used to, so a little behind. When you look at the current year \$213,000 missing from March that was not in yet and we only have figures to May 23, takes about a week or so to show up. Likely will end the year with strong revenue in PFF. If you look at the graph, top line is this year and we have continued to increase our balances in the PFF. Challenge we had this year, faced with \$500,000 rescission, which took place about six months into the year, of EDIF money coming to the department. We took money from parks because parks has more flexibility. As we come to the end of the year we will adjust part of that back; probably have additional EDIF money in our admin exec and information services sections and a little extra in Tourism. We are going to modify that \$500,000 rescission. When we took that money out of parks we immediately started spending out of PFF, so that is why you see it come down so hard. Hope to build that back up and it will only be a one-time deal and next year we won't be faced with that. The Cabin Fee Fund (CFF) is continuing to see increased revenues; year-to-date at \$1.1 million; last year just over \$1 million and under \$1.1 million the year before that. The current balance in the CFF, a little over \$800,000, last year about \$500,000 so have built into the balance. Using for utilities across the parks system; growing number with increases in number of cabins and increased campgrounds at Hillsdale, Sand Hills and several smaller areas; have had increased costs, but also increased usage. The Wildlife Fee Fund has significant growth because of fee structure change. Challenges with new licensing structure is not getting money in accounts as soon as we would like, but in March \$566,000 short and should be in before the end of the year; not only for WFF, but PFF too. Significant balances in WFF, agency will grow into that increased revenue, in short term there are some one time monies we could spend, maybe some deferred maintenance types of things we could do which has been laid out for us. We had significant rain event at Woodson State Lake, will be fair amount of FEMA money in that; work at Clark State Lake, Crawford, Scott State Lake and Leavenworth. A number of our facilities a wide variety were either CCC or WPA projects and may need some work now. Hopefully over next five or six years take care of any deferred maintenance and O&M will grow into the revenues we are

bringing in. Chairman Lauber – How old are CCC projects? Jennison – In 1930s and 1940s, some significant work to be done at Woodson on spillway which was not cement and tower was built back then so not sure what that will entail; dewatering to make those repairs. Clark County will be next with a spillway issue as well, Crawford had a slip in the dam, and Scott State Lake has similar problem as Woodson with spillway.

2. 2017 Legislature – Chris Tymeson, chief legal counsel, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit G). First year of two-year cycle, bills not passed still alive for debate and action next year. So far 114 days, tied for longest session; working on taxes, education funding and budget mostly. On Tourism side, STAR bonds reauthorized through 2022 with one year moratorium on new projects. Pay increase for state employees in budget also, language interpretation issues occurring beyond our agency, originally two percent across the board, proposed language on law enforcement and that did not make it through, settled on 2.5 and 5 percent depending on classification. Also, during budget bill debate, on both sides an attempt to add transferable deer permits into budget bill, one per 80 acres and both attempts were defeated. SB 24 – department initiative designating channel catfish as state fish, went to Senate Ag and Natural Resources and saw no action. SB 25 – department initiative, dealt with removing public hearing requirement to set cabin fees; also introduce in Senate Ag and Natural Resources who modified it to include camping permit fees to make them operate more dynamically, passed Senate 26-14, went to House Agriculture, rerouted to House Commerce and was tabled after debate. Also, an attempt to add transferrable deer permits to that. SB 26 – increasing vessel registration fee cap, passed Senate 35-4, passed House 79-43 and was signed by the Governor in April. Will talk more about that later in item number 5 in general discussion. SB 70 – Kansas Amusement ride act; impacts us because of Agri-tourism areas; passed 39-1 and 124-1 with signed by Governor April 17. Had implementation date of July 1 and realized a lot bigger than what they thought so came back with SB 86 which extends implementation date out a year; that bill has been enrolled but not signed by the Governor, he has until June 26 to sign all bills. SB 77 – dealt with Wildlife Parks and Tourism bison herd in southeast Kansas, would name after former legislator Bob Grant, out on Senate general orders and sits below the line. SB 162 – would have amended statutes related to dangerous regulated animals, a HSUS bill. It would have added wolves, non-human primates and a couple of other things, saw no action. SB 240 – authorizing land purchase in Sherman County by KDWPT, went through Senate Ways and Means and went on Senate general orders below the line, however topic still in another bill we will talk about later. Legislature has to approve all purchases of land over 160 acres unless under appraised value. HB 2068 – child support orders, registration of vehicles and vessels, we already preclude vessels if in arrearage for child support, so no affect on us. HB 2098 – bill passed that renamed Mined Land wildlife area bison herd after Representative Bob Grant, passed 115-0 and Senate 39-0 and was signed by the Governor May 10. HB 2191 – department initiative, relating to licenses, permits, stamps and other issues of KDWPT, law enforcement-related bill as we transition towards electronic licenses and mobile applications, provisions in there on that and provisions on citations, passed House 124-0, Senate 40-0 and was signed by the Governor April 7. Hung up in legislature a few years ago, but finally passed. HB 2192 – renames Lake Scott State Park to Historic Lake Scott State Park, passed House 122-0, Senate 40-0, signed by Governor on March 28. We have meeting there in October. HB 2193 – would have required and phased in boater education, similar to hunter education and furharvester education. Had a hearing on January 31, but saw no action. HB 2199 – a rendition of anti-conservation easement

sentiment, would have authorized county boards of commissioners to regulate conservation easements, saw no action. HB 2207 – substitute bill dealing with hunting on private land by written permission only, substitute got out of Committee and went to House floor, sent back to Committee because of opposition on House floor. HB 2208 – also transferrable deer permit bill, had a hearing February 14, no action in Committee after that, but was an attempt in House Commerce to add to SB 25 and add to budget on both sides. HB 2246 – deals with agriculture noxious weeds, sets up noxious weed council and moves noxious weeds from statute to regulation, had a hearing in February, set up a subcommittee and saw no further action. HB 2276 – dangerous regulated animals, saw no action. HB 2277 – a Tourism-related bill, dealing with common consumption areas, similar to Power and Light downtown where people can walk around with alcohol at different venues, passed and signed by the Governor on June 7. HB 2078 – conceal carry in hospitals, quite a few attempts this year to roll back some of the concealed carry provisions, one ultimately passed, will become law without the Governor’s signature on June 26. Governor chose not to sign, but after 10 days it becomes effective without his signature. HB 2363 – would have authorized the Department of Administration to sell off surplus property, listed a number of properties that the department owned including Cheyenne Bottoms, about \$12 million of our property as well as other agencies’ property. Came out of House Appropriations but didn’t go anywhere, no hearing or action. HB 2407 – came in late in session, enrolled, but not signed by Governor yet, dealing with land donated to department, for instance in a city someone donated an old site through probate. Will require some major cleanup and as a result the legislature came back and said Attorney General and Secretary of Administration have to agree to accept that property, expressly through written consent prior to donation through probate. For all other donations, requires Secretary of Administration and agency receiving the donation to have written consent prior to donation. Passed Senate 39-0, passed House 93-20. As process moving along on Senate side, they amended Sherman County purchase to that bill and authorized purchase of 1,000 acres. House Concurrent Resolution 5008 – an attempt to have a Constitutional Amendment to fund state water plan, which for last several years has not been funded or under-funded. Had hearing in February and saw no action. Chairman Lauber – Kansas Amusement Ride Act, talked about Ag businesses, like a pumpkin patch, where you may ride on a wagon behind a tractor; was as a result of death in this county? Tymeson – That was major impetus of that. Chairman Lauber - How did that affect those pumpkin patches? Tymeson – That is what the issue is. It was centered around a death and since then another death in Wichita area on an amusement ride. Not sure people thought about the broad implications of when that bill passed how it would affect folks. It is not regulated by us, but Department of Labor (DOL) who was not consulted on the process, but has been faced with implementing and regulating this. Not aware of impacts on agri-tourism businesses. Chairman Lauber – You may not know all the details, but is it something that says all rides shall be conducted in a safe manner or more detailed than that? Tymeson – It is pretty detailed, it says if it is a mechanical ride or has mechanical parts then it is regulated and has to be inspected by an engineer who has experience of certain levels, which there are few. If you have a slide at a swimming pool higher than 15 feet, which sweeps in municipalities; broad ranging effects on this. DOL trying to figure out how to implement this and comes into effect July 1 and no inspectors, the trailer bill delayed implementation for a year. Our small part is trying to help agri-tourism businesses out and help DOL regulate those. Chairman Lauber – Clearly see the problem. Tim Nedeau – In Topeka meeting in March, on HB 2207, you said department was neutral; at Pratt meeting you said opposed to it and didn’t think it would go anywhere. That bill was intended to protect

landowners from unwanted trespassers. Nearly three million people in this state and 98 percent of land is owned by private individuals and three percent hunt. When can Kansas landowner have control over their own land? Tymeson – I assume that is a rhetorical question. What I said, was the department opposed the bill originally and we were neutral on the substitute. If you crossed my property, in trespass laws, I have to tell you to leave. The substitute is confusing, but we stood neutral on it; if you want strict enforcement you need to be ready for strict result. Heard many comments as the bill went on, the way it was written originally, there are concerns about that. Nedeau – The bill was amended before the Topeka meeting. It was substituted that you didn't have to have written permission, you just had to have permission. The way it is right now, our land is posted no hunting and posted with purple paint, what meaning does that have? Tymeson – What is described in statute. Nedeau – Somebody can still come on our land without asking my permission first to pursue wounded wildlife, or the claim of pursuing wounded wildlife? That is a get-out-of-jail free card. Tymeson – Lot of implications, philosophically what you are proposing you are entitled to, but it is not the bill of the legislature. They didn't send the bill out. Nedeau – Does this have to go through the legislature, can this go through a regulation? Tymeson – No, it is a statutory exemption. Nedeau – It bewilders me; I have one neighbor I have repeatedly told to leave our land. I had a hunting signs aren't working; the no trespassing, the purple paint, the keep out, doesn't work. This year for the first time I had a hunter call before season and asked if he could pursue a deer if he shot one across our land. He fence line hunts, I can touch his treestand from my fence. I told him no, but call me and I will go with him to pursue it. This man has hunted for 15 years on our fence line and this is the first year he has ever contacted me and I feel it is due to the trail cameras I put up and I caught my neighbor on our land hunting and I confronted him. The purple paint doesn't work. I am not in charge of my land when they say they are pursuing wounded wildlife. There are people who own a lot more than we do, we own just less than 200 acres. I've worked our land and want to hunt my land. The way it works now a group of individuals could walk through with dogs on a leash; go through my hunting area and leave scent and the deer I know was there has been driven off by them. Why don't I have rights, why can't somebody call and ask for permission? We teach that in hunter education. We are not talking about the ethical hunter, but the unscrupulous person who is always going to find a way to get on land that they don't have permission. I wish we had some backing for we the people.

## **B. General Discussion**

1. Private Owned Cabin Permit Fees – Steve Adams, special assistant, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit H). Issue we will bring back in future meetings. KAR 115-2-6 sets the permit fee charged for private owned cabins that are in place under a permit on public lands, three locations in particular, Cedar Bluff, Webster and Lovewell reservoirs. The department operates wildlife areas and state parks at a number of Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) lakes in northwest Kansas, including Cedar Bluff, Webster, Glen Elder, Lovewell, and also the fishery at Kirwin. All of those activities occur under what is referred to as a master lease for our operation of those areas. The existing master lease expired as of May 31 and a new master lease was signed June 1. As a part of that process, with new master lease all third party leases, including these cabin leases, marinas and other private operations that occur on public lands. With the renewal of the cabin leases there is a federal requirement to establish a new lease rate. Once lease rate is finalized we will have to update on KAR 115-2-6. At the

department's request, public meetings were held last week at Lovewell, Webster and in Hays for the cabin owners at Cedar Bluff. More information will be provided prior to subsequent meetings. Chairman Lauber – What is the rate now? Adams – Average rate is \$274 a year. Chairman Lauber – How many cabins does this affect? Adams – There are 104 cabins at Cedar Bluff, eight at Webster and 62 at Lovewell. In addition there are 55 house trailer sites at Lovewell. Chairman Lauber – Are these permanent structures? Adams – Yes, with exception of the house trailers. Private owners own structure, but the property it sits on is owned by the federal government and part of the lease the department has. Chairman Lauber – Do we know who owns them? Adams – Each of the cabins has an existing permit and have owner of record on each one of them. Chairman Lauber – Cabins at Woodson State Lake, I was never sure of who owned what and if we had any record; they go back longer than 25 years? Tymeson – Woodson State Lake situation is much more complex.

### *Break*

2. Archery Program Update – Aaron Austin, bowhunter education coordinator, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit I, PowerPoint – Exhibit J). I work for Hunter Education department, responsible for bowhunter education, furharvester education, Archery in the Schools program, Scholastic 3D archery and archery ranges. My working title is the Outdoor Skills and Recruitment Coordinator. I became more interested in the motives of hunters, so R3 is a huge interest in my field. R3 is recruitment, retention and reactivation of hunters and anglers – where conservation professionals are addressing the declines in hunting, target shooting, fishing, boating and other outdoor recreation activities. Seventy to Eighty percent of conservation funding comes from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program, through excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, hunting/fishing/archery equipment, now over \$16 billion. Declining numbers of hunting licenses sold from 1980 to 2015, a loss of nearly 1.5 million hunters; \$83 million less in license sales alone. The department has taken measures to evaluate where we are on the national scale, and where we want to be, by putting together an enthusiastic committee of agency experts. Our goals on R3 task force are to evaluate Kansas efforts, learn where to focus more attention in the future, approve cooperation with agency partners and increase agency R3 involvement including the addition of a full time R3 coordinator. The group identified challenges: improving reporting, evaluation of individuals participating in all outdoor recreation, increasing awareness and acres of public lands. In order to understand R3 in hunting, for example, need to understand natural pathway of an individual going through the decision process of becoming or not becoming a hunter. Using Outdoor Recreation Adoption model, the first step is awareness, is activity relevant to my life; interested in looking into; trial stage is first time individual has experience to back up preconceptions; after first experience the individual know whether they want to continue or not; mentorship in continuation with support, hunter needs a lot of resources and help to continue and is most fragile step in model; if we can get hunter to jump to the next step of continuation without support they are what we consider a seasoned hunter and that is the end goal. Sometime along the timeline they could lapse or stop for whatever reason, but following a lapse there is an opportunity to reactivate them, which is a dynamic cycle. Recruitment if first three phases: awareness, interest trial; when individual has tried it and identified himself as a hunter we call that retention stage where they decide to continue with or without support; and the reactivation phase where a hunter requires different efforts and tools to participate again. It is important to understand that social network support should and must exist

for initial adoption process to occur, without acceptance from their peers it is highly likely they will stop. After the individual tries hunting for the first time and they begin to identify themselves as a hunter can be the bridge to cross to continue. R3 Task Force took time to map programs in decision process and where they fall on model. We identified gaps, redundancies and any kind of crowding in our efforts as an agency. Must understand process and design everything we do around it to be successful. Survey conducted by Responsive Management found that archery participation in the U.S. climbed about 20 percent from 2012 to 2015 and in an effort to support the rising trend the department has been constructing and maintaining archery ranges around the state parks; three new ranges in last year are at Scott, Webster and Glen Elder and we updated other areas at Lovewell, Clinton and Hillsdale. Some existing and successful archery ranges are at Eisenhower, El Dorado, Prairie Center, Pratt and Tuttle Creek. Future plans at Meade, Cedar Bluff and Cheney; diving into accounting side of things in community-wide areas, one being Harvey County East Lake in Newton and potentially Banner Creek near Holton. Since 2006, KDWP has facilitated the National Archery in the Schools (NASP) program teaching youth 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade archery within school curriculum; program teaches fundamentals of archery improving patience, concentration and self confidence. Our state NASP coordinator Gary Keehn will get further into this program. Another national program I hope to bring to Kansas is the Scholastic 3D Archery (S3DA) program, which allows youth to take the next step, with their own archery equipment, focused on 3D animal targets; provides information on other opportunities including bowhunting, archery with Pope and Young Club who developed a clear path initiative providing beginning training to become lifelong archers and bowhunters with emphasis on responsibility and ethics in the outdoors. Archery in the Schools is a terrific recruitment tool and is responsible for providing lifetime target shooters, with many deciding to becoming hunters. S3DA gives NASP students the next step to learn advanced target archery with emphasis on producing responsible bowhunters in recruitment and retention phases. These two programs provide social support from team members and coaches to help them become self reliant. Giving the public a place to shoot is often overlooked, but is successful in all three phases. Archery ranges will help facilitate youth outdoor recruitment events, provide public resources to both new and avid target archers and bowhunters of all ages and in terms of hunters and target shooters it could be one of the department's most valuable R3 efforts to produce and support lifetime outdoor enthusiasts.

3. Kansas National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) Update – Gary Keehn, NASP coordinator, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit K, PowerPoint – Exhibit L). Introduce survey and exciting results in national survey. Survey done, end of June is last day for data, 18 million youth affected by this program. During survey collaboration was done between leadership and staff of Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Responsive Management and Wayne Young, Kentucky NASP executive director. Focus on ongoing R3 and perceptions that impact archery industry and motivational factor of academic success. Methodology was through survey monkey software; an email was sent to active members of NASP basic archery instructor database with hyperlink and instructions for educators and coaches to share link with students. The 16-question survey was completed by 6,715 respondents; with 2.43 million youth active right now, plus or minus two percent error rate, with a 99 percent likelihood that collected sample data reflects attitudes of total population of potential respondents, what youth are like. Survey categories included: general programmatic, education and R3/Archery Industry. The first question was on gender, about 50/50 on teams, a

good balance; Kansas compared to Missouri, less than two percent in Kansas. Asked how old they were, 9-18 and what grades they were in. When in High School, kids are active in a lot of things, have some retention. Asked about first experience of shooting a bow, 48 percent was first experience was NASP, also 19 percent were introduced through brother or sister in NASP. What is NASP doing for education, 58 percent felt it helped them in school to be better connected. Only thing we ask is shoot straight down towards target safely. Had young man in wheelchair shoot a few years ago and last year two blind boys shot. Not only changes kids' lives but instructors too. Ask what other school programs they were involved in because of NASP. Which response describes impact, NASP helped become part of the school. What we don't have is how many already doing well in school. Academic patch program, designed nationally, assembly recognizes them if C and above average, register with NASP and give away free bows and other items in a drawing from those kids. Another question, has someone asked you about applying for college or job? Last year at nationals 13,000 shooters, \$100,000 in scholarships awarded to these archers and seniors get a shoot off for that. Could give \$5,000 in scholarships in Kansas if we want to for high school seniors. Because of NASP what are you doing? Purchase only bow or target, 37 percent; 14 percent participated in bullseye archery competitions besides NASP; also listed bow fishing, bow hunting, target shooting, fishing and hunting, taken hunter education and if participating in other outdoor activities. What do you want to do now because of NASP? There is that next level Aaron talked about. What keeps you from being involved in it? Do they need a ride, lack of time, money, where to go, know where to get started, rather participate in other activities or other things. Can't control attitudes, but can help how trained, challenge is how we can we keep them interested after program. Have to do Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) training to be a coach, 351 schools trained and 112 BAI coaches trained. Not only schools, but church groups, top winner in NASP male and female get a bow. Teaching and training adults to work in other areas. Like home schoolers, church groups and recreation departments throughout the states. Started with Olympic coach and his team. Have seven in state. Help assist local tournaments and provide equipment we can. Help Secretary of State Kobach hold tournament each year. Assist state tournaments, most states do their own, may run it in Kansas soon. Asked to be on committee for NASP. Also, I work with OK Kids, school field days, military families, NWTF shoots for veterans, Women on Target, camps and boy and girls scouts. Schools get equipment, blessed to put in funds to help with some equipment, don't pay for it all; in partnership with NWTF to help schools buy rest of the equipment we don't provide. Commissioner Williams – Do you contact school districts or they you? Keehn – They contact us, myself or Aaron and we work with them. This program is as safe as table tennis. Two of six national winners came out of our schools. Commissioner Dill – Have list of schools participating on website? Keehn – Don't think we can publically give that out. Can make a map and show hot spots.

4. 2018 Turkey Regulations – Kent Fricke, wildlife biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M). The 2017 spring turkey season was open from April 1 to May 31 and included three seasons: youth/disabled, archery, and regular firearm. The fall 2016 season ran from October 1 to January 31, but was closed during the regular firearm deer season (November 30-December 11). Hunting is regulated within the same six turkey management units during both the spring and fall seasons. The six hunt units align with the management units the department uses to monitor turkey populations and hunter activity, which allows us to utilize both population and harvest data to guide harvest and season recommendations. The department currently sells

spring turkey permits to almost 40,000 hunters and fall turkey permits to almost 9,000 hunters. Those individuals purchased 71,313 carcass tags for the spring 2016 season and 12,134 tags for the 2015 fall season. Non-residents accounted for 39.0 percent of Kansas' spring 2017 hunters and 21.7 percent of the fall 2015 hunters. Harvest has averaged around 33,000 and 13,000 turkeys over the last several spring and fall seasons, respectively. In recent years, the Kansas turkey population has stabilized. Despite stabilized turkey abundances, the population is still far below the peak levels observed in the mid 2000s. The vegetative conditions were generally good entering the 2017 nesting season across most of the state. However, recent precipitation events in the eastern and north-central portions of the state have coincided with the peak hatching period for turkeys, which is generally detrimental to production. The department uses an adaptive harvest management strategy to guide staff recommendations on wild turkey bag limits for both the spring and fall seasons. The strategy aims to maintain a high level of hunter success in each hunt unit and provides a consistent method of developing staff recommendations. The strategy includes a hierarchy of bag limit combinations and uses established thresholds to determine when each combination will be recommended. At the time, the data from the spring 2017 season has not yet been analyzed so it is not yet known if any of the established triggers have been met. The staff recommendations for the 2018 turkey bag limits will be presented at the next commission meeting in August. Recall that recent commission action reduced bag limits during fall 2014 and 2015 seasons, and changed the spring 2015, 2016 and 2017 season structure. Chairman Lauber – In the second paragraph, you say harvest averaged around 33,000 and 13,000; I think 13,000 is not a harvest, but a hunter number? Fricke – Yes, a hunter number. Chairman Lauber – What are you leaning toward if you were to make changes for spring? Fricke – Don't anticipate changes to the spring season, focus is on fall season, being the initial point where we could potentially make reductions, however that would have to go through Turkey committee and staff recommendations. Commissioner Rider – Have you talked to many people about flooding issues, boots on the ground in southeast area about nesting? Fricke – Have not heard a lot, early to know if should or should not be seeing poults at this point. Generally have seen reduced production and spring rains this year same as last year. We will have brood production numbers in July or August. In general, timing in east part of state not great. Chairman Lauber – What time of year should we see poults on road? Fricke – Some of earliest nests now, in July mail carrier survey we will get some information, staff brood survey will be done in August. Not unreasonable to start seeing them, should notice first poults.

5. Boating Registration Fees - Chris Tymeson, chief legal counsel, presented this update to the Commission. Last minute addition to agenda because of SB 26 passed this year. Bill raises cap on vessel registration fees and we had proposed to the legislature to raise that cap, to double it from \$30 to \$60 and come back in regulation and set a fee somewhere in that cap. In August someone else will be up here once we analyze the data on that. Fee last raised in 2006. A comment from legislature is that we would go to \$60, which is unfounded because we raise cap to work in that for some period of years. Purpose for increased registration fee is we are having difficulty meeting the match for federal funds to put in boat ramps and other projects.

### **C. Workshop Session**

1. Park Regulations – Linda Lanterman, parks division director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit N). First attempt to try some dynamic pricing until we can hopefully

get SB 25 passed. Talked about El Dorado State Park in past commission meetings on pricing for seasonal camping; where somebody can apply to stay longer than our 14- or 28-day requirement. Typically, stay 14 days then move out for five days. The Corps of Engineers has provided us the opportunity to allow someone to stay up to nine months, still by application, by month only and our internal policy is to not let them stay longer than six months. El Dorado fees are already higher than some of the other state parks, also Tuttle Creek and Milford, because use and demand is higher. El Dorado has 45 sites, attempted to increase those sites one, two and three utilities of \$25 a month. In addition to this fee they have to buy an annual camping permit, which we increased last year. We don't have any one utility sites right now at El Dorado and occupancy rates are at 47 percent, will watch and see if that rate changes. Public that utilizes this uses our trails, fish and it is an atmosphere and we try not to compete with private sector. Commissioner Williams – That \$25 is per year? Lanterman – Per month and by application only and we do by drawing and if no one puts in for draw first come first serve.

2. Fishing Regulations – Chuck Bever (substitute for Doug Nygren), fisheries division supervisor, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M). Reference document is special length and creel limits used by biologists to more efficiently manage our public waters. First one is Milford Reservoir, add a 25- to 40-inch slot length limit and no more than 1/day 40 inches or larger creel limit with rest of the creel four or five under 20 inches. This proposal is product of commission input by the public and studied by the fisheries committee and we feel this would more efficiently allow the harvest of the abundant fish below the 25 inch minimum and allow for protection and development of larger trophy fish over 40 inches and allow some harvest of those trophy fish which would be about 40-45 pound fish. Second, Glen Elder Reservoir, change to a 21-inch minimum length limit on smallmouth bass, good smallmouth population and designed to develop a trophy fishery. Cedar Bluff Reservoir, change to a 21-inch minimum length limit on walleye, and 10-inch minimum on crappie. The 21-inch minimum is because of nice population of walleye, a recruiting population with good growth, but we would like to protect walleye brood stock for development and propagation of walleye across the state, but also improve the quality of fishing for walleye as a whole. Removal of 10-inch minimum length limit on crappie at LaCygne, performing well without this and local biologist would like to improve the opportunity. El Dorado reservoir, proposing 20/day creel on crappie to spread out harvest over more anglers, currently 50/day. Tuttle Creek has a developing blue catfish population and since it takes 5-7 years to produce a reproducing population we are requesting a 35-inch minimum length limit. Commissioner Hayzlett – Receiving emails and calls on Cedar Bluff 21-inch limit on walleye, what is logic on that? Bever – Dave Spalsbury is here today and he is the local fisheries biologist. Dave Spalsbury – Last several years, spring and fall sampling data showed dramatic decline in 21-inch and larger fish at Cedar Bluff. We have a lot of fish in the lake, but quality is steadily declining in last four years and this is an attempt to halt that decline, improve quality of population and protect brood fish. My concern is, once anglers harvest 2014 year class 18-inch fish they will be complaining that they are no fish and we are trying to get ahead of the harvest. Commissioner Hayzlett – Fisherman are complaining about the quality? Spalsbury – Beginning to, not catching larger fish or declining numbers of large fish. What I am seeing in my sampling is alarming to me, seeing larger fish decline. Chairman Lauber – There isn't a chance we will be overprotecting that 2014 year class to where they will never go through that limit? Spalsbury – Not that worried about that good percentage of that year class are legal for harvest right now and think they will already be thinned down, competition will be alleviated by this year's harvest.

Chairman Lauber – On walleye, the day they reach the limit they are gone. As long as you don't overprotect them to where they die before they reach there they will be harvested this year at 18.1-inch this year or 21.1-inches in two years or whatever. Concern about 24-inch limit at another reservoir at one time. Commissioner Williams – Anglers wanting smaller creel limit but keep length the same, would that help to lower the creel? Spalsbury – Not as effective at protecting the fish, have to consistently catch creel limit for the limit of two fish to actually save fish from harvest, but with length limit protecting every fish over that limit. Part of my goal is to increase the yield to the angler and by pushing the average size of the fish up, but letting angler keep five fish they are actually taking more pounds of fish home per angler. Commissioner Williams – Satisfied if they can catch four 18-inch fish rather than two 21-inch down the road. Spalsbury – Because they are starting to see the end of the road with the bigger fish because so few in number and real easy to catch those 18-inch fish now. Commissioner Cross – In some of the emails we received there are some suggestions from local anglers about offering up three walleye from 15- to 18-inch and one over 23-inch. What are your thoughts on some of these combinations? Spalsbury – That requires a lot more study and now is the time to implement this, if we wait too long they will impart serious harvest on this 2014 year class and once those fish are gone we will be back to status quo and they will be disappointed because it will take us back quite a bit. To do something like that it would take more scientific effort and take several years to figure out how we want to do that. The simple answer is, a lot of these kinds of management strategies that have been shot by me include keeping some sort of short fish and we have no case in Kansas where we have documented where recruitment is excessive. We don't have an overproduction of small fish, which is why we have such an extensive stocking program, we can't justify keeping small fish. Chairman Lauber – Slot limit won't ever work unless you get reproduction. Part of problem is walleye are popular. We harvest more white-tail deer than walleye in the state and once walleye reach length limit it is gone. We are on the southern end of range and are doing the best we can. Unknown audience – Successful spawn there? Spalsbury – Yes, stocked twice 2001 and 2013 and in 2013 the cities of Hays and Russell were asking for water releases from Cedar Bluff right during the walleye spawn. Normally one of the few case studies in the state where we have not stocked for walleye for serious stretches of time, so seeing good recruitment. Commissioner Rider – What is your response to claim that department is using this and sending eggs elsewhere and that is why Cedar Bluff is being restricted? They feel their fishing is being hampered for the betterment of other places? Spalsbury – I hear that a lot. Stocking doesn't matter at Cedar Bluff, data available; been harvesting eggs since 2006 up to the present and we had some of the best year class production in the history of the lake during that period and they have been natural recruits. Taking advantage of the opportunity to arrest the state's culture system, but it is not hurting our population. Bever - Change 115-7-4, deals with possession of fish, unlike wildlife section there is protocol for transfer of game and fisheries is proposing adding requirement that legally taken fish may be given to another accompanied with donor's name, address and signature. 115-25-14 - We have two designated Type 1 trout waters at Cedar Bluff Stilling Basin and the Sandsage Bison Range not stocking due to water quality and quantity and we want to change them to Type 2 waters from November 1 through April 15. In addition, the Scott State Park Pond is currently designated Type 2 water, which requires a trout permit only for anglers fishing for or possessing trout; we propose changing to Type 1 water, which requires a trout permit to fish there during trout season because we are stocking there. A clarification of change in management. 115-17-2, vendors are already selling dead gizzard shad across the state in packages and it was determined it wasn't a legal way to sell the fish. We are

proposing to allow dead gizzard shad to be sold commercially in Kansas for fish bait. We don't want live gizzard shad hauled around, but have no problem with dead gizzard shad. Dave Studebaker, Catfish Chasers President - Can I go out and throw my cast net and catch gizzard shad and sell to bait shop? If they are dead? Bever - I will defer to Chris. Tymeson - No. Studebaker - They have to buy from commercial bait provider. Somebody is going to ask me that. Also, I have question on blue cat regulations. At Milford 40-inch slot limit proposed, was 35-inch, what is the purpose of that versus the ecosystem of the lake? Bever - Several impoundments with 35-inch minimums designed to protect blue cats in our developing populations, unlike other fish they don't reach sexual maturity for 5-7 years. We have a lot of 35-inch and to establish this population and allow it to reach sexual maturity and hopeful abundant reproduction. We currently have one at El Dorado and a group met, we had an abundance of recruitment on blue cat with 35-inch minimum. We wanted to give them to harvest resource, but protect older fish, runs from 25- to 35-inch slot. Input from public to protect Milford large fish over 35-inch because destination fishery. Idea was develop a plan to protect trophy fishery into the future and still allow good reproduction under 25 inches, which weighs about 6 1/2 pounds. Studebaker - Protecting fish from 6-40 pounds. Not opposed to it necessarily, but in standpoint of appeasing the public, they are largest apex predator in the state and every other fish species of fish in that body of water will be affected because blue catfish will eat all of those other fish. It gets confusing when different regulations for different lakes. A lot of those fish won't ever reach 40 inches, genetics won't allow it and we will have natural die-off and slot limits don't work with the exception of Perry, Melvern and El Dorado, lakes that were stocked 10 years ago and are getting there it will protect them for four or five years. I fish everywhere across the country for catfish, nowhere does it protect over 34 inches except in Kansas. If we eliminate 75 percent of population of this lake you will have limited numbers of 25-inch fish because they can keep five-a-day and abundance of 40 pound, the ecosystem can't sustain that, in my opinion. Why not one over 35-inches at Milford, which would essentially be the same thing? Bever - Proposal is designed to take opportunity and slot length limits will function well if you have recruitment and good growth through the slot; we believe this will occur and have harvest at each end. If it doesn't, in the future we will change it. Different than El Dorado, but intent was to protect and develop true trophy fish, wouldn't have proposed it if thought we were hurting it in the long term. Studebaker - No disrespect, I push conservation on blue cat. If doing a slot need to do it at Perry and Melvern, because those fish will get to legal age and will all be taken out, like walleye, if you don't protect some for brood stock. You use the word trophy multiple times, but that doesn't fall into conservation whatsoever, the wrong message to send from a biologist standpoint. It is a dollar thing, not a proper thing. Chairman Lauber - Slot limits comment was intended to refer to walleye. What would be average difference in size between 35- and 40-inch fish? Bever - Yes it is. Studebaker - Huge, it goes from about 22 to 40. Chairman Lauber - That extra five inches adds 10-15 pounds? Bever - It is pushing 10, yes. At Milford a 40-inch fish is going to weigh over 40 pounds; protecting fish that weigh from 6.5 pounds to over 40 pounds. We are protecting reproductive fish and allowing harvest of smaller fish and a "trophy" in my opinion, over 40. Trying to maintain production into the next decade. Chairman Lauber - Do we have other species at risk from this apex predator in that lake? Bever - They have a wide and varied diet, are a good predator and also eat gizzard shad, goldeye and whatever gets in the way. Studebaker - In my experience, they eat channel catfish and white bass. A 35-inch fish at Milford is going to be roughly 22 pounds, I weigh a lot of fish a year. Bever - I just couldn't remember. Studebaker - Biggest concern at Milford is it is a fantastic fishery and if we upset that

because we want giant fish then it becomes a situation similar to what they have on east coast where they call them blue catfish and down south call them flathead catfish, an invasive species because they are eating every living thing in the body of water. Some harvest of mature fish is vital and you will be lopsided. I have vested interest in crappie, walleye and white bass too. I question why that body of water? Bever – Taken us a long time to get here, years and years of stocking and waiting and suddenly it evolved and developed into a destination. Received a lot of input and this is an attempt to allow harvest at bottom and utilize slot length limit to protect and develop this quality fish. Studebaker – Not opposed to the slot, saying eliminating a vast majority of fish in the lake will upset the public. Anglers paid the money to get them in there and they have waited too for those fish to get big. Chairman Lauber – See both sides, believe you have a strong ethical approach to fishing and I respect and appreciate it. I would ask Doug and Chuck to talk it over and be sure they are comfortable with decision your group recommends.

115-25-14 - Major change in how we manage channel and blue catfish, for many years had combined daily on creel limit of 10. We are proposing separating blue cat and channel cat into separate categories and allowing 10/day channel catfish limit and 5/day blue catfish creel limit. To alleviate the problem of identification, this regulation says that catfish with more than 30 rays in the anal fin it will be considered blue catfish and those with less would be channel. Chairman Lauber – Is color and shape best way to identify them? Bever – Angler can, but number of rays is defining moment in identification. Commissioner Ward – Had some emails on Glen Elder, they had three guiding services; I didn't know you could chum fish in Kansas, they throw in 50 pounds of soybeans or whatever and take out party barge and fish. My concern is, if that is all legal, that will deplete the resource. Am I right? Bever – Don't have a problem with chumming on federal reservoirs; many locations across the state, small impoundments and city and county governments, where that is illegal. Commissioner Ward – In federal reservoirs do biologists check populations for catfish? Bever – We have annual sampling and monitor populations and don't see it as a problem. Agree, when high density blue catfish, channel catfish will decline.

Commissioner Dill – Also, received emails on chumming, not just five gallon bucket, but rolling out 55 gallon drum and party boats would pull up and catch fish like crazy. That seems a little excessive. Bever – I don't believe blue cats come to the chumming activity, channel cat do.

Commissioner Dill – Talking channel catfish since talking about Glen Elder. Bever – Next regulation if 115-7-1 that deals with legal fishing equipment, a public input proposal allowing bowfishing at impoundments with length limits. We have discussed and staff has come to conclusion that with difficulty of identifying channel, blue and flathead catfish, it is not the right thing to do and would like to leave regulation as it is, illegal on lakes with length limits. Change 115-25-14, fishing; size limits. Proposed designed to improve opportunity for wiper fishing in streams and locations below our impoundments; would allow stateside creel limit to go to 5/day. Biologists would still have the opportunity to have 2/day on daily creel limit and covered under first part of special regulations and all of those locations would remain at two. Very few impoundments would go to 5/day on wipers. The main intent is to allow increased opportunity below our impoundments to harvest escaped wipers.

115-17-3, commercial fish bait requirements and applications. Proposing going to a five year commercial fish bait permit instead of every year, designed to save having to go through permitting process every year. Also, go to five-year permit fee. 115-18-19, in previous commission meeting this proposal was not on the list. The result of the fishery committee, dealing with paddlefish requirements, restrictions and permits. Proposing minor streamlining and some improvements. The first part would be to allow young anglers, less than 16 years old to use an adult unused tag while he accompanies on a

snagging trip, which is similar to trout impoundments. A permitted angler with a snagging permit and an unused permit could have a young angler in his company utilize unused permit. If a youth wants to buy his own permit that is okay. Another addition would require barbless hooks for paddlefish snagging statewide. Currently barbless hooks are required at Chetopa and would align with Oklahoma's barbless hook requirement. It would be easier to understand statewide and allow for more catch and release without harming the fish. Lastly, youth mentor pond which we already have, but proposal is to create a youth/mentor fishing pond designation and define youth under 16 and allow adults to mentor if he has a state valid license and could accompany an actively fishing youth. Length limits could be set by the fisheries biologist or statewide designation for youth/mentor pond.

3. Fees and Licenses – Chris Tymeson, chief legal counsel, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit N). Part of a committee looking at auto-renewal option and packages. Looking to establish a 365-day annual licenses instead of having them expire December 31. Several states have gone to that and have been successful. Also, looking at offering discount for auto- or early-renewals. Package deals is another option, ran into difficulties figuring out big game, instead of discount for package, discount would be for number of items bought per transaction, don't know what that number is yet. Utah gives discount on number of years purchased for example, more discount for each year purchased. Commissioner Rider – Where are we on electronic licenses? Tymeson – I don't know. Hunted in Missouri last year and they have that, however you can only pull that up when you have service, which is unfortunate. I would have to get with Todd to see where we are at. Jennison – No question we will go to electronic licenses, our concern is finding a system that is easy to deal with. Also, concerned that going to electronic license could increase churn so a person doesn't get their license until the first time they go fishing, for example. If we get all the changes the committee is working on and get all of these concerns addressed it will happen, timeframe up in the air. Commissioner Ward – Update on licensing system, everybody online now? Jennison – Everybody online, but has changed how we get our ACH and how we distribute to the right funds. As far as vendors, all online. The problems we are having now, the license holders will not notice. Commissioner Ward – If applying for several licenses online, not sure whether got it through, do they get anything back? Craghead – Can print out license online. Unknown Audience – Required to print even if bought online? Tymeson – Requirement to carry license on your person, made changes to a regulation that allows you to carry confirmation number if you called in and went hunting before license received in the mail. Can be electronic version, don't know that is an issue that has to be overcome. Audience – Do I need paper or screen shot of it? Tymeson – Currently have to have paper license. Audience – Kids don't have printers, understand problems in the field but whole world is going that way and you need to figure it out. Tymeson – For hunting and fishing license that is okay, but more complicated with deer and turkey carcass tags.

2. Threatened and Endangered Species Regulations – Chris Berens, environmental services chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit O). KAR 115-3 and -4; based on changes to law in May 2016. At the last meeting Chris notified us that we had to do a 90-day public notice which was put in federal register on June 1. Taking public comments now and pending regulations are posted on our Wildlife and Parks website.

**VII. RECESS AT 4:08 p.m.**

**VIII. RECONVENE AT 6:30 p.m.**

**IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**

**X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Richard Kiblinger, Kansas Bass Nation – Thank department and for hard work, Doug Nygren and staff for stocking and see big movement in our youth so I commend all of you.

**XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**D. Public Hearing**

*Notice and Submission Forms; Kansas Legislative Research Letter and Attorney General Letters (Exhibit P).*

Rich Schultheis – First four items deal with recommended changes to exotic dove seasons to permit the expanded year-round take of them.

1. KAR 115-16-3. Nuisance bird control permit; application, provisions, and requirements – Rich Schultheis, migratory game bird biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit Q). Regulatory housekeeping issue to remove feral pigeons, which are also listed in 115-20-2. Staff recommendation is to remove feral pigeons from this regulation.

**Commissioner Tom Dill moved to approve KAR 115-16-3 as presented to the Commission. Commissioner Harrison Williams second.**

Chairman Lauber – The pigeons that fly around the barn, are those feral pigeons? Schultheis – Yes, those are the ones we are talking about.

**The roll call vote on to approve was as follows (Exhibit R):**

<b>Commissioner Cassidy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cross</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayzlett</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Rider</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Williams</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion as presented passed 7-0.**

2. KAR 115-20-2. Certain wildlife; legal equipment, taking methods, possession, and license requirement – Rich Schultheis, migratory game bird biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit S). Staff recommends to include Eurasian Collared and Ringed Turtle Doves in text of species listed, as well as text requiring a fully feathered wing on all exotic doves

possessed in excess of the aggregate daily bag limit or possession during regular season for doves.

**Commissioner Aaron Rider moved to approve KAR 115-20-2 as presented to the Commission. Commissioner Gary Hayzlett second.**

**The roll call vote on to approve was as follows (Exhibit T):**

<b>Commissioner Cassidy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cross</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayzlett</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Rider</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Williams</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion as presented passed 7-0.**

3. KAR 115-20-7. Migratory doves; legal equipment, taking methods, and possession – Rich Schultheis, migratory game bird biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit U). Recommendation is to amend the language so it only applies to migratory doves (mourning and white-winged doves). This would allow more expanded method of take we are proposing on Eurasian Collared and Ringed Turtle Doves. Chairman Lauber – Eurasian Collared doves would not be considered migratory? Schultheis – Correct. Chairman Lauber – So it can be shot on the ground or in a tree? Schultheis – Yes. Chairman Lauber – Migratory birds can be shot only in flight.

**Commissioner Gary Hayzlett moved to approve KAR 115-20-7 as presented to the Commission. Commissioner Emerick Cross second.**

**The roll call vote on to approve was as follows (Exhibit V):**

<b>Commissioner Cassidy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cross</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayzlett</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Rider</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Williams</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion as presented passed 6-1.**

4. KAR 115-25-19. Doves; management unit, hunting season, shooting hours, and bag and possession limits – Rich Schultheis, migratory game bird biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit W). Amend regulation to do away with current framework we have for exotic dove season and replace with language to open year-round. Chairman Lauber – How is it different or is it different than the what we had? Schultheis – This regulation, in the past, held migratory dove season and exotic dove season; changed language to say exotic dove season runs

year-round instead of mentioning the season dates. Chairman Lauber – Are ringed turtle doves and Eurasian collared doves the same? Schultheis – No, but both considered exotic doves. Chairman Lauber – The ones all over town are generally the collared doves. Schultheis – That is correct. Chairman Lauber – Does the ringed turtle dove have a ring around its neck? Schultheis – The reason we considered these two species together is be it may be hard to tell difference. We don't have many of them (ringed collared doves), but it is considered a mimic species, very similar in appearance. Chairman Lauber – Can shoot them both on the ground if we were so inclined. Schultheis – Yes.

**Commissioner Ward Cassidy moved to approve KAR 115-25-19 as presented to the Commission. Commissioner Tom Dill second.**

**The roll call vote on to approve was as follows (Exhibit X):**

<b>Commissioner Cassidy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cross</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayzlett</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Rider</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Williams</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion as presented passed 7-0.**

5. KAR 115-25-9a. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits; additional considerations; Fort Riley – Matt Peek, research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit Y). Introduced new deer biologist, Levi Jaster started this week and was lucky enough to be able to come here and witness a commission meeting. He is from Missouri by way of Emporia State University where he got his masters degree and most recently from Nevada where he had been working on a PhD. You will see more of him at upcoming meetings. This regulation exists to better accommodate military personnel who hunt deer on military bases in Kansas and to make adjustments for unseen training activities. We work with personnel at each of three bases to come up with these recommendations. In section (a) and will have an amendment; strike (a), which was left over from last year's regulation and has duplicate/equivalent information in section (d). Starting with section (b), Fort Riley has a couple different changes to recommend from our standard deer regulation. They would like to establish youth season October 6-9, which also happens to be same dates as pre-rut antlerless-only season in regular deer seasons. If you look down to (e) Fort Riley wishes to strike the pre-rut season. Basically, rather than have pre-rut season they want those days to be youth/disabled season. Moving down to (c) the preferred firearm dates at Fort Riley are November 24-26 and December 16-24. Moving to (d) proposing archery season by special authorization September 1-10, 2017 and January 2-31, 2018. These archery season dates are in addition to the general archery season dates that occur outside Fort Riley. Moving onto Fort Leavenworth in (f) they have a couple of recommendation that vary from standard regulations. Preferred firearm dates are November 18-19, November 23-26, December 2-3, December 9-10 and December 16-17. They also would like to have an extended firearm season for antlerless-only from January 1-14, 2018; and an extended archery antlerless-only season January 15-18, 2018. Smoky Hill wishes to have same season dates as established in

KAR 115-25-9. Chairman Lauber – Need motion to bring on the floor, then amend to delete all of paragraph (a), if successful vote on actual regulation. Commissioner Dill – Wanting firearms the day after Thanksgiving through 26<sup>th</sup>, but then archery, does that coincide anywhere to the rest of the state? Peek – The rest of the states’ archery season is in play and includes them and Fort Riley archery dates are in addition to those dates outlined in 115-25-9.

**Commissioner Tom Dill moved to bring KAR 115-25-9a forward as presented to the Commission. Commissioner Harrison Williams second.**

**Commissioner Tom Dill moved to amend by deleting paragraph (a) from KAR 115-25-9a. Commissioner Aaron Rider second.**

**The roll call vote to amend was as follows (Exhibit Z):**

<b>Commissioner Cassidy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cross</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayzlett</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Rider</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Williams</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion as presented passed 7-0.**

**The roll call vote on as amended was as follows (Exhibit Z):**

<b>Commissioner Cassidy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cross</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayzlett</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Rider</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Williams</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion as presented passed 7-0.**

## **XII. Old Business**

*None*

## **XIII. Other Business**

### **A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates**

August 10, 2017 – Cheney State Park, Ninnescah Valley Yacht Club (will need special event permit for park entrance)

October 19, 2017 – Scott City, Bryan Conference Center

January 11, 2018 – Milford, Acorn Lodge

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

(Exhibits and/or Transcript available upon request)