

State of Alaska
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATION, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018

By the authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.86.030, and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Big Game Commercial Services Board was held in Anchorage Alaska on Tuesday, March 20th & Wednesday, March 21st 2018.

The Chair brought the meeting to order at 9:02 am

Board Members Present in Anchorage, constituting a Quorum:

Cash Joyce, Licensed Transporter-joined the meeting at 9:16 am

Thomas Sullivan-Public Member

Henry Tiffany-Licenses Registered Guide-Board Chair

Adam Trombley-Public Member-Board vice Chair

Larry Van Daele-Board of Game Representative

Michelle Heun-Licensed Transporter

Jason Bunch-Licensed Registered Guide

Robert Beans-Private Land Owner-joined the meeting at 9:04 am

Absent:

Nicholas Jackson

Staff Members present:

Sara Chambers-Deputy Director

Lee Strout-Investigator

Greg Francois-Investigative Chief

Dawn K Hannasch-Occupational Licensing Examiner

Members of the public present:

Mike Flores-Transporter

Clay Roberts-Registered Guide Outfitter

Dick Rohrer- Master Guide Outfitter

Mark Richards-Resident Hunters Alaska

Casey Peterson

Wayne Kubat-Master Guide Outfitter

Loren Karro- Registered Guide Outfitter

Jeff Burwell-Master Guide Outfitter

Dan Montgomery-Master Guide Outfitter

Tom Atkins- Registered Guide Outfitter

Mel Gillis- Registered Guide Outfitter

Lance Kronberger- Registered Guide Outfitter

Aaron Bloomquist- Registered Guide Outfitter

Sam Rohrer-Master Guide Outfitter

Gary Wall- Registered Guide Outfitter

Tim Nelson- Registered Guide Outfitter
Shalome Cederberg-Office of Boards and Commissions

Review & Approve the Agenda:

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Daele, with unanimous consent it was resolved to amend the agenda as follows:

- Under new business-move "E" Guide Conflicts to the top of the list.

Ethics Review:

Chairman Tiffany reminded the Board that each member volunteered for their appointment, attendance is mandatory and that if their lives are too busy, they should consider stepping down. He also welcomed new Board members Michelle Heun, Robert Beans & Cash Joyce.

Mr. Tiffany spoke to the Board about a situation where he was the complainant in an investigative file. He was unable to recuse himself because that would have left the Board without a quorum. Attendance to meetings is vital.

Review/Approve Past Meeting Minutes:

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from December 2017, January 2018 & February 2018. Finding each one correct and true.

In a motion duly made by Adam Trombley and seconded by Jason Bunch, with unanimous consent, it was resolved to accept the meeting minutes as written for the December 2017, January 2018 & February 2018 meetings.

Division Update/Fiscal Report/Board Training

- Division Update/Fiscal Report

Corporations, Business & Professional Licensing Deputy Director Sara Chambers provided fiscal year 2018 quarter two financial report to the Board and the public. At the end of quarter two, the Board's deficit is \$107,784. This has gone down considerably from \$508,729 at the end of fiscal year 2017. Henry Tiffany asked Ms. Chambers if the Board is on track to be debt free by the end of fiscal year 2019 to which she replied "that is what we are anticipating." Board member Jason Bunch inquired of Ms. Chambers if the Division would be able to tell the Board how many \$300 annual filing fees have been received and how the Division keeps track of who has not paid yet. Ms. Chambers referred the questions to Occupational Licensing Examiner Dawn Hannasch. Ms. Hannasch informed the Board that when an individual sends in completed hunt or transport records for processing, staff confirms that the fee has been received. If the fee has not been received, staff will contact the individual and hold off on processing the records until the fee has been received. Staff can search in the Divisions receipting system for any \$300 fee that has been received by the Guide program, however, many individuals have paid for 2017 & 2018 at the same time, paid the \$300 along with other fees like their renewal, so there is potential for staff to provide inaccurate information.

Board member Jason Bunch thanked staff for sending reminder emails to all Registered and Master Guides regarding the annual filing fee. This communication is helpful and encouraged.

- Division Analysis-Executive Administrator

Ms. Chambers provided the Board with a memo on March 8th 2018 detailing the cost, process and how staff time is currently being spent. The Board was encouraged with the information and will continue the work on whittling down their deficit and revisit this topic once that has been accomplished. Chairmen Tiffany told the Board that they need to make a plan and then work the plan so that they will be able to accomplish the goals in a timely manner.

Break 10:30 am – 10:38 am

- Board Training

Ms. Chambers, at the request of the Board, provided the Board with training on the following topics:

1. Overview of the board's statutory role
 - a. What are the board's powers? (What can you do/not do?)
 - b. How does the board partner with the division to accomplish its mission?
 - c. What are the separate roles of stakeholders such as Alaska Wildlife Troopers, industry associations, etc. and how do we maintain healthy boundaries?
2. Proper communications among the board, licensees, and stakeholders
 - a. Open Meetings Act/executive session
 - b. Ex parte communication
 - c. Regulations process

Chairmen Tiffany thanked Ms. Chambers for all of the time she put into the presentation and training. Mr. Tiffany believes that this information will help the Board to work more effectively and within the confines of the open meetings act.

Lunch Break 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm

Regulation Review

At this time, Mr. Tiffany directed the Boards attention to the questions that have come from the Department of Law concerning 12 AAC 75.920(e). The intent behind the purposed regulation was to allow a licenses Registered Guide outfitter to work for another Licensed Registered Guide Outfitter in the capacity of a Class-A Assistant Guide or an Assistant Guide. The referenced statute in the December meeting minutes was incorrect. The purposed change should have referenced AS 05.54.610(d)(1) not AS 08.54.630(d)(1). Board staff was directed to update this information with the Regulations Specialist.

Mr. Tiffany announced that the regulation pertaining to the hunt records, 12 AAC 75.260(e) are on Lt. Governor Byron Mallot's desk for review. Once the Lt. Governor signs the purposed regulation it will become law 30 days from that date.

At the December 2017 meeting, the Board discussed giving the Boards investigator Lee Strout the authority to look at cases and if seeing that the situation is similar to a case that has already been closed, use that same standard to close out that case as well. However, Investigator Strout and his Supervisor believe that this would be taking the authority that belongs solely to the Board and place it with the investigator. The Board agreed that the process currently in place will continue.

Through the Chair, Dawn Hannasch, Occupational Licensing Examiner presented the Board with information regarding the processing of hunt records. She suggested that the Board consider a

regulations change that will follow along with Sec. 08.54.760(c) that says hunt and transport records can be “distributed, received & stored electronically”. It was her suggestion that the Board consider changing the hunt record so that they can be printed by each guide from the website. This will allow them access to the document as needed and not need to contact staff and wait for them to arrive in the mail. She also encouraged the Board to review the regulations requiring hunt records. The Alaska State Wildlife Troopers need the information provided on each hunt record, however the licensing program does not.

Investigative/Probation & Application File Review

- **Investigative/Probation Report**

Investigator Lee Strout presented the Board with the investigative report showing that he has 84 open cases. The cases range from falsification of documentations to criminal actions with conviction. Mr. Strout also provided the Board with the probation report showing that all individuals that are currently on probation are in compliance.

In accordance with the provision of Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c), I Larry Van Daele move to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing (2) subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character or any person, provided the persona may request a public discussion. Board and Legislative Audit staff to remain in the room. The motion was seconded by Jason Bunch with unanimous consent.

Entered into executive session at 2:27 pm

Exited executive session at 3:37 pm

- **Application and Consent Agreement Review**

Case #2017-001015

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was resolved to accept the consent agreement for case #2017-001015, Jordan Wallace license number 109093

Michelle Heun - Yes

Adam Trombley - Yes

Jason Bunch - Yes

Thomas Sullivan - Yes

Larry Van Daele - Yes

Robert Beans - Yes

Cash Joyce - Yes

Henry Tiffany - Yes

Case #2017-001074

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was resolved to accept the consent agreement for case #2017-001074, Daniel Ellsworth license number 114622

Michelle Heun - Yes

Adam Trombley - Yes

Jason Bunch - Yes

Thomas Sullivan - Yes

192 **Larry Van Daele - Yes**

193 **Robert Beans - Yes**

194 **Cash Joyce - Yes**

195 **Henry Tiffany - Yes**

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198 Case #2017-000993

199 **In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was**
200 **resolved to accept the consent agreement for case #2017-000993**

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202 **Michelle Heun - No**

203 **Adam Trombley - No**

204 **Jason Bunch - No**

205 **Thomas Sullivan - No**

206 **Larry Van Daele - No**

207 **Robert Beans - No**

208 **Cash Joyce - No**

209 **Henry Tiffany – No**

210

211

212 Case #2017-000915

213 **In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was**
214 **resolved to accept the consent agreement for case #2017-000915, Graham Morrison license number**
215 **125406**

216

217 **Michelle Heun - Yes**

218 **Adam Trombley - Yes**

219 **Jason Bunch - Yes**

220 **Thomas Sullivan - Yes**

221 **Larry Van Daele - Yes**

222 **Robert Beans - Yes**

223 **Cash Joyce - Yes**

224 **Henry Tiffany – Yes**

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227 **In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was**
228 **resolved to approve the Class-A Assistant Guide application for Graham Morrison.**

229

230 **Michelle Heun - Yes**

231 **Adam Trombley - Yes**

232 **Jason Bunch - Yes**

233 **Thomas Sullivan - Yes**

234 **Larry Van Daele - Yes**

235 **Robert Beans - Yes**

236 **Cash Joyce - Yes**

237 **Henry Tiffany - Yes**

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In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the Registered Guide Outfitter application for Rudy “John” Martinez pending the passing of the RGO & GMU exams.

Michelle Heun - Yes
Adam Trombley - Yes
Jason Bunch - Yes
Thomas Sullivan - Yes
Larry Van Daele - Yes
Robert Beans - Yes
Cash Joyce - Yes
Henry Tiffany – Yes

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the Assistant Guide application for Aaron DeRose.

Michelle Heun - Yes
Adam Trombley - Yes
Jason Bunch - Yes
Thomas Sullivan - Yes
Larry Van Daele - Yes
Robert Beans - Yes
Cash Joyce - Yes
Henry Tiffany – Yes

n a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Dale with a roll call vote, it was resolved to deny the Assistant Guide application for Rolando Hernandez under the authority of Sec. 08.54.710 (3) *The Board may impose a disciplinary sanction in a timely manner under (c) of this section if the board finds that a licensee (3) has negligently misrepresented or omitted a material fact on an application for any class of guide license or a transport license.* In the application submitted on March 23rd 2017, the applicant answered “no” to the personal fitness questions. Once the background check was received, it was discovered that the applicant had an extensive criminal history. The Board regards this non-disclosure as fraudulent deceit.

Michelle Heun - Yes
Adam Trombley - Yes
Jason Bunch - Yes
Thomas Sullivan - Yes
Larry Van Daele - Yes
Robert Beans - Yes
Cash Joyce - Yes
Henry Tiffany - Yes

Public Comment

Chairmen Tiffany opened the floor to the public that had signed up for public comments.

Aaron Bloomquist-Registered Guide Outfitter

- Commended Staff Member Dawn Hannasch on the electronic hunt record presentation-efficiencies are important.
- Documents to register for a GUA have changed twice and is getting closer to what the regulations require. DNR made it clear that they issue registrations not permits. He suggested that the sworn statement should "go away." DNR has been unwilling to provide CBPL with the information to clarify the language on their permits/registration/LAS.
- Would like to provide a regulation change proposal for 12 AAC 75.230(a)(3)(4). Remove (3) completely and move (4) to the bottom as its own section. It should read "(f) You may not conduct a hunt in a GUA unless you have authorization for that area"
- Licenses are being help up unnecessarily. Unless an individual is charged with something, the Board should issue/renew the license.

Board Chair Henry Tiffany explained to Mr. Bloomquist and the public that the Board doesn't hear about an issue unless the investigator believes they need to. The public will hear about it before the Board will because of the "grape vine." Investigator Strout takes care of the cases per the division's policy and procedure manual. As for the GUA registration issues, Mr. Tiffany told the public and Mr. Bloomquist that "if you want to play, you've got to pay." You can spend the money and get a permit that will take care of the entire year. The Board will be addressing this issue tomorrow.

Mark Richards-Executive Director of Resident Hunters Alaska

- Thanked the new Board members for "stepping up" and volunteering to work on the Board.
- The RHA have reached out to Boards and Commissions in protest at the appointment of Cash Joyce. The RHA believes that the transport position on the Board should not be filled by a Registered Guide Outfitter who is also a transporter.
- RHA is supporting house bill 263-water taxi bill and is disappointed that the Board does not support the bill.
- Conflicts in GMU 9 came up at the Board of Game meeting last week. The Board wants proof of the conflict. Mr. Richards would like to know if this is information that Investigator Strout can provide. RHA is greatly concerned about this conflict and finding a resolution.

Board Chair Henry Tiffany addressed the GUA 9 conflicts, "let due course and procedure follow its natural path." Whomever is having the issues needs to file a complaint. Unless these issues get documented, the Board can't help resolve the problems. Investigator Lee Strout stated that all complaints go through a Board member for review.

Lance Kronberger-Master Guide Outfitter

- Unit 9 issues may be resolved by requiring a 2 year registration.
- Requested clarification from the Board on "harvest" vs "take" on hunt records.

Board member Van Daele asked Mr. Kronberger if the Guide Concession Program would help eliminate the conflicts in GMU 9. To which Mr. Kronberger answered "yes, but we have been waiting and going to these meeting for a long time and are still kicking the can."

Board member Van Daele requested that the Board revisit this topic at the next meeting in July. Chair Tiffany and Dawn Hannasch will work on researching this topic for the July 2018 meeting.

335

336 Sam Rohrer-Master Guide Outfitter & President of the Alaska Professional Hunters Association

- 337 • Mr. Rohrer welcomed the new and returning Board members. He also thanked them and all
338 members for their continued service on the Board.
- 339 • Mr. Rohrer strongly recommends that the Board's attorney always be present at all Board
340 meetings. The time this would save while working on Statutes and any purposed regulations
341 would be very valuable. It would be money and time well spent.
- 342 • The industry is frustrated with the status of regulation projects. Mr. Rohrer would like to see an
343 interactive spread sheet on the Boards website showing the status of each regulation project.
- 344 • APHA would like to know how many contracting registered and master guides there are. At this
345 time the division doesn't have a way to track that. Dawn Hannasch will work to figure out a way
346 to do that if possible.
- 347 • Pursuing electronic hunt records and electronic reporting is definitely something that the Board
348 should do. A subcommittee might be helpful. This is a great direction.
- 349 • Reporting harvest on hunt record: ADF&G has a very general and broad definition. One license is
350 currently under investigation for not reporting correctly. The problem is that the statute and the
351 regulations do not line up. The BGCS regulations have not been defined in regulation and they
352 need to be.

353

354 Chairmen Tiffany stated that he and staff member Dawn Hannasch will look into this more for the July
355 2018 meeting. Ms. Chambers spoke to the Board to explain that the Board will want to have their own
356 definitions for these words. Definitions will need to be in the regulations.

357

358 Wayne Kubat-Master Guide Outfitter

- 359 • Mr. Kubat thanks the Board for serving on the Board
- 360 • Incidental air taxi exemption is not incidental at all. Many guides use transporters.
- 361 • Mr. Kubat handed out a copy of the Boards statutes: 08.54.610, 620, 630 and 635. He also
362 handed out regulations: 12 AAC 75.240 & 250. It was his intentions to notify the Board of the
363 inconsistencies in these sections.

364

365 Dick Rohrer-Master Guide Outfitter

- 366 • Disturbed that the "harvest" vs "take" is even an issue.
- 367 • Recommended that the hunt record be changed to "harvest" or "wound"
- 368 • The information on the HR is very important for those that would like to take the RGO exam and
369 for those that are involved in prospectus programs and for the concession program in the
370 future.
- 371 • Having the Department of Law and the trooper representative be available at all times is vital to
372 a successful meeting.
- 373 • The Board should be in the black in the future, but may find themselves in the red soon after.
374 Don't be too fast to spend the surplus.
- 375 • Mr. Rohrer agreed that the program should have an Executive Administrator or at least
376 additions to staff.
- 377 • Kodiak brown bear hunting would end if the Board of Game has its way. This would be a huge
378 loss of income to the program. The Board must plan accordingly.
- 379 • Mr. Rohrer would like to know the number of guides for 2016 & 2017. How many \$300 fees
380 have been received? He would also like a more detailed look at the indirect information.

- Mr. Rohrer also wanted to remind the Board that the unique verification code should be confidential.
- We need a liaison to work with ADF&G and DNR

Chairmen Tiffany allowed Ms. Chambers to address the issue of information that was requested. All of the fiscal information is already available on the website.

Subcommittee Meetings/Recommendations from the Board

<u>Subcommittee</u>	<u>Board Member Chair</u>
Exam rewrite	Jason Bunch
Transporter	Michelle Heun
Survivorship	Robert Beans
Assistant Guide Qualification	Adam Trombley

Board Chair, Henry Tiffany requested that all subcommittees meet after the Board adjourns for the day. Each subcommittee will be required to offer a report to the Board at 8:10 am on Wednesday the 22nd.

The Board recessed at 5:26 pm

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**BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD
Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, March 22nd, 2018**

By the authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.86.030, and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Big Game Commercial Services Board was held in Anchorage Alaska on Tuesday, March 20th & Wednesday, March 21st 2018.

The Chair brought the meeting to order at 8:09 am

Board Members Present in Anchorage, constituting a Quorum:

Cash Joyce, Licensed Transporter-joined the meeting at 8:15 am
Thomas Sullivan-Public Member
Henry Tiffany-Licenses Registered Guide-Board Chair
Adam Trombley-Public Member-Board vice Chair
Larry Van Daele-Board of Game Representative
Michelle Heun-Licensed Transporter
Jason Bunch-Licensed Registered Guide

Absent:

Nicholas Jackson
Robert Beans

Staff Members present:

Sara Chambers-Deputy Director
Lee Strout-Investigator
Dawn K Hannasch-Occupational Licensing Examiner

Members of the public present:

Dick Rohrer- Master Guide Outfitter
Mark Richards-Resident Hunters Alaska
Casey Peterson
Wayne Kubat-Master Guide Outfitter
Loren Karro- Registered Guide Outfitter
Jeff Burwell-Master Guide Outfitter
Dan Montgomery-Master Guide Outfitter
Tom Atkins- Registered Guide Outfitter
Mel Gillis- Registered Guide Outfitter
Lance Kronberger- Registered Guide Outfitter
Aaron Bloomquist- Registered Guide Outfitter
Sam Rohrer-Master Guide Outfitter
Gary Wall- Registered Guide Outfitter
Ben Holbrook-Registered Guide Outfitter
Cabot Pitts-Registered Guide Outfitter
Cliff Larsen-DNR
Ben Hagadorn-DNR
John Forbes-DNR
Tony Kanangou-ADF&G

Review/Approve the Agenda

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Daele with unanimous consent, it was resolved to amend the agenda to allow Division Deputy Director Sara Chambers to address the Board regarding house bill 267.

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Larry Van Daele with unanimous consent, it was resolved to amend the agenda to allow the Board to revisit the discussion on pending regulation changes.

House Bill Review

Board Chair, Henry Tiffany invited Ms. Chambers to address the Board regarding house bill 267. It is the opinion of the Division that this bill will pass during session. The bill sponsor has made every effort to update the wording of HB267 to reflect the consequences of disclosing the confidential information that is provided on hunt and transport records. Ms. Chambers informed the Board that the Division is working to create a report that can be provided to the municipalities for a fee.

Mr. Tiffany encouraged the public to read through the Boards position statements on all house bills that may affect the guide & transport industry. All are available on the board's website.

Subcommittee Reports

Hearing nothing further on purposed regulations, Mr. Tiffany invited the Chair persons from each subcommittee to give a report of their meetings.

Exam Re-Write-Chairmen Jason Bunch:

Jason Bunch

Loren Karro

Dan Montgomery

Mr. Bunch thanked Ms. Loren Karro for the many hours that she has given to rewriting the registered guide exam. Mr. Bunch informed the Board that there is a rewritten exam that will be ready for the Board to review in July. The plan is for the December candidates to use the new exam. Ms. Karro stated that she would like to see 3 different exams so that the same exam is only used every 3rd time. The committee has asked the Board to update the information on the website so that the study material reflects the new examination.

Transport Sub-Committee-Co Chairs Michelle Heun & Cash Joyce

Dick Rohrer, Public

Cash Joyce, Board member

Mike Flores, Public

Mark Richards, Public

Wayne Kubat, Public

Michelle Heun, Board member

A review of the previous Transporter Subcommittee meeting minutes from December 4-5, 2017, started a discussion of the status of the regulation proposal 75.400 (p. 20). Michelle said she would follow-up with a call to Dawn and inquire status since the chart indicated it would be March or July. Each participant had a perspective on the Transporter position. Mike commented there were 30 more transporter licenses issued. However, it is clear Transporter licenses are not going away, so the subcommittee talked about how to bring this forward for the benefit of industry. Michelle brought up an idea mentioned by Chairperson Tiffany ("Class T"). (Subcommittee needs more information on this idea.) Public education was also briefly discussed. Suggestion was made to work on an education point page for the state web page. Public members recalled the state had posted one some time ago. The board had sent a letter out to all air taxis and transporters to inform them of transporter regulations.

OLE Dawn Hannasch requested that the Board look at the information provided by Lt. Frenzel regarding transport activity report issues. Board Chair Tiffany stated that the Transport Sub Committee will take up these and any other issues.

Assistant Guide Qualification-Chairmen Adam Trombley

This group did not meet

Survivorship-Chairmen Thomas Sullivan

This group did not meet

Exam Review/Re-Write

In accordance with the provision of Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c), I Adam Trombley move to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing (4) matter involving consideration of government records that by law are not subject to public disclosure. Sub-committee members, Board and Legislative Audit staff to remain in the room. The motion was seconded by Larry Van Daele with unanimous consent.

Entered into executive session at 8:57 am, to review the exam rewrite suggestions prepared by the exam re-write sub-committee.

Exited executive session at 9:43 am

Pending Regulation Review

Mr. Tiffany directed the Boards attention back to pending regulations changes. Board Member Cash Joyce requested that the Board consider adding the phrase “in the field” to 12 AAC 75.920(e). Mr. Tiffany explained the intent of the regulation is to allow a Registered Guide to do the same job as a Class-A Guide.

In a motion duly made by Adam Trombley and seconded by Jason Bunch with a roll call vote, it was resolved to add the phrase “in the field” after the word “state” to purposed regulation 12 AAC 75.920(e).

Michelle Heun - No
Adam Trombley - No
Jason Bunch - No
Thomas Sullivan - No
Larry Van Daele - No
Cash Joyce - No
Henry Tiffany – No

In a motion duly made by Adam Trombley and seconded by Jason Bunch with a roll call vote, it was resolved to have Board staff update the examination study material on the Boards website.

Michelle Heun - Yes
Adam Trombley - Yes
Jason Bunch - Yes
Thomas Sullivan - Yes
Larry Van Daele - Yes
Cash Joyce - Yes
Henry Tiffany – Yes

New Business

Guide Conflicts in Game Management Unit 9-Larry Van Daele

During the Board of Game meeting in Dillingham, the Board spoke at length about the biological concerns regarding the brown bear population. The Board of Game acted to reduce the season back to 2 weeks every other year. During this discussion it also came to light that there is a great concern over the conflicts between guides & residents during the season. After researching the matter, there is no evidence of first hand complaints to Wildlife Troopers or to the King Salmon Borough. The Big Game

Commercial Services Board takes these issues very seriously and will continue to check in with Troopers and the Boards Investigator, Lee Strout to see if these complaints are being reported to authorities.

It was suggested by board member Jason Bunch that it might be in the best interest of the public and Guides to require the guide use area registration for unit 9 be 2 years. However, the Board will not decide on this issue at this time. The board wants to gather more information so that they can make a more informed decision. They will also see if the Guide Concession Program becomes a reality, as that may take care of the issues all together.

Chairmen Tiffany encouraged all guides and the public to “see something-say something. “If there is an issue please report it to the Wildlife Troopers and the Boards Investigator Lee Strout.

Mr. Van Daele updated the Board and the public on upcoming meeting dates and proposal deadlines.

Lunch recess 11:23 am – 1:07 pm

State & Federal Agency Reports

Boards and Commissions-Shirley Marquardt & Shalome Cederberg

Ms. Marquardt & Ms. Cederberg explained to the Board the process in reviewing board member candidate’s application and the vetting process that is completed before a member is appointed to the Board.

Alaska Wildlife Troopers-Lieutenant Aaron Frenzel

Lt. Frenzel informed the Board that at this time, the department has 88 funded position but is short staffed by 9. There are 3 individuals that are in the process of becoming Troopers, it can take about 2 years to complete the process. By the end of next year, 25% of the AWT staff will be eligible to retire. There is a great need for recruits. Board member Larry Van Daele asked Lt. Frenzel to explain how he and the other wild life troopers work in collaboration with the Boards investigator Lee Strout. Lt. Frenzel explained how they share information and how their cases can overlap. Lt. Frenzel expressed gratitude to Mr. Strout for all of his diligent work. Board member Adam Trombley inquired if the AWT’s in Alaska have specific training in interpreting statutes and regulations. Lt. Frenzel explained that the training is for all troopers not just AWT. They receive an 8 hour class on wildlife enforcement, otherwise all training is the same. After the AWT graduates, they spend time with a Sr. AWT to gain experience and knowledge in the field. Board member Thomas Sullivan inquired about the department’s game plan in recruiting more Troopers. Lt. Frenzel stated that they are working on improving the pay, retirement and benefits for these positions in hopes of attracting new candidates. Board member Jason Bunch requested information from Lt. Frenzel regarding the trends that the AWT’s are seeing that the Board should be concerned about. Lt. Frenzel doesn’t see one particular issue that is of great concern or a trend in violations.

Department of Fish and Game-Tony Kavalok-Assistant Director Department of Fish and Game

The Department of Wildlife Conservation is working with Legislators to work out their funding for the next fiscal year. Although license fees increased, many took advantage of being able to purchase their license before the increase. The department saw a spike in 2016 and a dip in 2017. Mr. Kavalok also reported to the Board about the sheep disease work group. The Division is taking every step possible to deal with the microbial bacteria (MOBI) that has been found in the wind pipe of sheep and goats in Alaska. The department has also been testing for other disease, but have found that the wildlife in Alaska are basically disease free.

The sheep hunters guide came out last year and has been very well received by the public and hunters. Judging of moose antlers is now a mandatory course along the Kenai Peninsula and it has also been well received. Currently staff is working on a moose hunters guide. A moose population assessment will begin in the next few months.

Board member Van Daele complimented Mr. Kavalok on his ability to work with the public and residents on the MOBI issue. He asked Mr. Kavalok what the public can do. The department will look at having guides help with gathering samples in the field. Mr. Kavalok expressed that the Division would be willing to work with Board staff on an on-line solution.

Chair Tiffany expressed interest in the moose and sheep courses for licensees that violate Statutes and Regulations in Alaska, as a part of their probation requirements. This could also be considered continuing education courses. Mr. Kavalok agreed that these would be very helpful. Due to turnover in their department, the idea hasn't gained much traction. The department is very eager to develop this training.

Department of Natural Resources-South-Central Regional Land Office-Cliff Larsen

Mr. Larsen informed the Board that his department is not fully staffed. Authorizations are required for commercial recreation on state land. Mr. Larsen stated that their department's goal is compliance. DNR cannot authorize activities after the fact. Mr. Larsen provided the Board and staff the critical information that was needed so staff can continue to process GUA registrations.

Division Director Sara Chambers joined the discussion at the Chairs invitation. Ms. Chambers affirmed that the Divisions position on the GUA registration information need was well stated by OLE Dawn Hannasch. Our job is made much more difficult when board members are unavailable due to their work in the field, when we are "flat out" told "no" by another department when requesting vital information and increasing pressure from the Legislators to get this program out of department. The pressure on the board's staff of one with occasional help here and there is also mounting with the increase of expectations from the board, licensees, and the public. She also mentioned that the investigative unit and the Division share DNR's goal of compliance and not punishment. Ms. Chambers also expressed an interest in CBPL meeting regularly with DNR and F&G to create a more cohesive team. "We want to work with these other departments to try and find a way to comply with the very rigorous regulations that we are bound to abide by. That process may not always turn out to be an easy process for the licensee. If the regulations are too onerous for the licensee to be able to complete, it may be time for the Board to consider a regulations change."

New Business

Land use permits-short term/long term

OLE Dawn Hannasch requested clarification from the Board on the following issues regarding land use authorization and GUA registration:

1. If the specific GMU/GUA is not listed on the permit-authorization.

The sworn statement along with whatever permit/registration that they submit will cover this requirement. The permit/registration does not have to list the specific GMU/GUA.

2. The regulation says in 12 AAC 75.230(a)(4) that to use the prior year's authorization for the current year, the permit/authorization must still be valid.

If the permit/authorization is expired at the time of registration, the applicant must show proof for the current year.

3. As required in 12 AAC 75.230(a)(3) how should they list the specific location of their camp?
It should be listed as a general area ie: "Dead Man's Bay."

Chair Tiffany informed the Board that he would entertain a regulations update to 12 AAC 75.230 at the July meeting.

Suggestions to the Division-website

Board member Thomas Sullivan stated that he would send his suggestions directly to staff. Staff can then bring them to the Board if need be.

Board Statute Changes-wish list

Mr. Sullivan suggested a subcommittee be established to review and suggest statutes and regulations changes to the Board. He recommended to the Board that the Chair for the subcommittee be a public member of the Board as to help write them with public understanding in mind.

Ms. Chambers was given the floor from the Chair and stated that the statues are faulty and need to be cleaned up in order for the regulations to have a good foundation. Other programs have been very successful with getting bills passed changing statutes that were narrow and faulty. She encouraged the Board to consider a large statute change that will assist with clarifying and updating the regulations as they go.

Chair Tiffany encouraged the Board to "ask" for change from the legislators. He urged Mr. Sullivan to look at the statutes and the regulation in the sub-committee and see what items are most pressing.

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Cash Joyce with a roll call vote, it was resolved to create a new sub-committee for statute and regulation clean up. The Board appointed Thomas Sullivan as the subcommittee chair.

Michelle Heun - Yes

Adam Trombley - Yes

Jason Bunch - Yes

Thomas Sullivan - Yes

Larry Van Daele - Yes

Cash Joyce - Yes

Henry Tiffany – Yes

Administrative Business

Hearing nothing further, Chair Tiffany moved the Boards attention to the 2019 calendar. The following dates were decided for meetings and exams for 2019:

In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Michelle Heun, with a roll call vote, it was resolved to schedule the following dates for March of 2019

Michelle Heun - Yes

713 **Adam Trombley - Yes**

714 **Jason Bunch - Yes**

715 **Thomas Sullivan - Yes**

716 **Cash Joyce - Yes**

717 **Henry Tiffany – Yes**

718

719 **Meeting: March 19th & 20th 2019 in Anchorage**

720 **Exams: March 20th & 21st 2019 in Anchorage**

721

722 **In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Michelle Heun, with a roll call vote, it was**
723 **resolved to schedule the following dates for December of 2019**

724

725 **Michelle Heun - Yes**

726 **Adam Trombley - Yes**

727 **Jason Bunch - Yes**

728 **Thomas Sullivan - Yes**

729 **Cash Joyce - Yes**

730 **Henry Tiffany – Yes**

731

732 **Meeting: December 3rd & 4th 2019 in Anchorage**

733 **Exams: December 4th & 5th 2019 in Anchorage**

734

735 **In a motion duly made by Jason Bunch and seconded by Thomas Sullivan, with a roll call vote, it was**
736 **resolved to schedule a teleconference on Thursday, July 26th 2018, starting 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.**

737

738 **Michelle Heun - Yes**

739 **Adam Trombley - Yes**

740 **Jason Bunch - Yes**

741 **Thomas Sullivan - Yes**

742 **Larry Van Daele - Yes**

743 **Cash Joyce - Yes**

744 **Henry Tiffany – Yes**

745

746 **Chair Tiffany reminded the public that the board will continue to meet in Anchorage until the program is**
747 **fiscally solvent.**

748

749 **Chair Tiffany signed all approved meeting minutes.**

750

751 **Chair Tiffany and the Board called past board member Kelly Vrem to offer their gratitude for his past**
752 **service to the industry and to the Board. Mr. Tiffany also signed a certificate of appreciation for Mr.**
753 **Vrem along with Director McCullough.**

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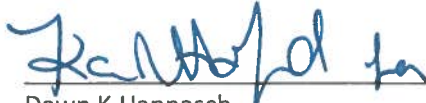
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Alaska Big Game Commercial Services Board
March 20th & 21st 2018

Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn K Hannasch

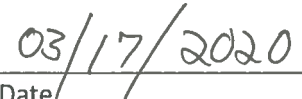
Occupational Licensing Examiner



Henry Tiffany
Board Chair



Date



Date