

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Arizona Game and Fish Commission
Appointment Recommendation Board
5000 West Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086

PRESENT: (Board Members)

Richard Williams, Chair
Charles Ireland Kelly
Edward P. Madden
Phillip D. Townsend

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

(Directors Staff)

Linda Pollock, Assistant Attorney General
Cindy Freehauf, Secretary

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at **9:00** a.m. This meeting followed an agenda dated October 28, 2020.

1. Welcome and Introductions from the Arizona Game and Fish Commission Appointment Recommendation Board

The Chair welcomed audience members and staff present.

The Board members introduced themselves; Charles Kelly from Phoenix, representing Mission to Increase, Sustain, and Conserve Wild Turkey, Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bighorn Sheep, Ducks, Quail, and Fish; Phil Townsend from Yuma, representing Sportsmen's Organization confined to a specific area or region; Richard Williams from Scottsdale, representing Wildlife Conservation and Sportsmen Organizations; and Edward P. Madden from Flagstaff, representing a Public Member. Staff introduced themselves; Cindy Freehauf, Secretary; and Linda Pollock, Assistant Attorney General.

2. Call to Public

The Chair invited any public attendees who wanted to be heard to present their Blue Speaker Cards.

Mr. Steve Reiter, from Tucson, AZ, member of the Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited, spoke in support of Clay Hernandez for Game and Fish Commissioner.

The Chair thanked him for his remarks.

The Chair asked if there were any others who would like to speak. No one responded.

3. Discussion and Deliberation of Board Process and Procedures, Including the Process for Evaluating Applicants

The Chair reviewed the Board's interview process and point assignment. There are three candidates to interview. Each candidate will have five minutes to make an introductory statement. Then, each Board member would have the opportunity to ask a question with an optional follow up question. This would be followed by a second round of questions with an optional follow up question. A total of four questions might be asked by each Board member, two primary questions and two follow up questions.

The Chair stated that each Board member would have twenty five points to allocate to the interviewees they felt best qualified for the position of Commissioner, with a maximum of fifteen points to any one individual. Each Board member will then score each candidate. The Chair stated that the point system this year is different from last year as Board member, Sue Chilton is not able to attend the meeting.

4. Interview of Selected Applicants for the Arizona Game and Fish Commission

Daniel J. Caputo – Interview began at **9:10** a.m.

The Chair welcomed Mr. Caputo and asked Mr. Caputo to begin with his opening remarks. Mr. Caputo spoke of his background and qualifications for the position. The Board then proceeded to question the candidate. Mr. Caputo then gave his closing statement

[Candidate Caputo responded to all questions]

Clay Hernandez – Interview began at **9:36** a.m.

The Chair welcomed Mr. Hernandez and asked Mr. Hernandez to begin with his opening remarks. Mr. Hernandez spoke of his background and qualifications for the position. The Board then proceeded to question the candidate. Mr. Hernandez then gave his closing statement.

[Candidate Hernandez responded to all questions]

The meeting recessed at **10:05** a.m.

The meeting reconvened at **10:32** a.m.

Kathi L. Scott – Interview began at **10:32 a.m.**

The Chair welcomed Ms. Scott asked Ms. Scott to begin with her opening remarks. Ms. Scott spoke of her background and qualifications for the position. The Board then proceeded to question the candidate. Ms. Scott then gave her closing statement.

[Candidate Scott responded to all questions]

5. Recommendation of Applicants for the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to be forwarded to the Governor for Consideration

Before the review of the scoring process, Phil Townsend stated the need to reiterate the recusals and disclosures from each Board member.

Charles Kelly knows of Kathi Scott as she interviewed last year with the Board. No further disclosures or recusals.

Edward P. Madden knows members of the Caputo family but does not know Mr. Caputo personally. No further disclosures or recusals.

Phillip Townsend knows of Kathi Scott as she interviewed last year with the Board. No further disclosures or recusals.

Chair Richard Williams knows of Kathi Scott as she interviewed last year with the Board. No further disclosures or recusals.

The Chair reviewed the selection process. Each of the four Board members present will have twenty five points to be distributed among the three interviewees, with no more than fifteen points to any one individual. Points to be awarded would be written and given to the Assistant Attorney General and the secretary to be tallied and confirmed.

The final votes were as follows:

Daniel J. Caputo	47 Points
Clay Hernandez	41 Points
Kathi L. Scott	12 Points

Charles Kelly made a motion to forward all three candidates' names to the Governor for consideration. He stated the Governor's office has expressed interest in having a wide range of applicants with varying backgrounds.

MOTION: Charles Kelly moved and Phil Townsend seconded that MR. CAPUTO, MR. HERNANDEZ AND MS. SCOTT BE SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR FOR CONSIDERATION.

VOTE: Unanimous

6. Future Agenda Items

The Chair asked the Board members if they wanted to set a date for a future meeting now. Phil Townsend stated the Board secretary should poll the Board members for a date and time for the next meeting.

The Chair adjourned this meeting at **11:07** a.m.