

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

PRESENT: (Board Members)

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

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

(Directors Staff)

Linda Pollock, Assistant Attorney General
Cindy Freehauf, Secretary

Chairperson Chilton called the meeting to order at **9:00** a.m. This meeting followed an agenda dated October 25, 2021.

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

The Chair welcomed the general public, Board members and staff present.

The Chair introduced members and staff; Susan Chilton from Arivaca, representing Cattlemen or Ranchers; Charles Kelly from Phoenix, representing Mission to Increase, Sustain, and Conserve Wild Turkey, Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bighorn Sheep, Ducks, Quail, and Fish; Edward P. Madden from Flagstaff, representing a Public Member; 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; Linda Pollock, Assistant Attorney General; and Cindy Freehauf, Secretary.

2. Call to the Public

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

Mr. Jim Lawrence from Phoenix, AZ, member of the Arizona Deer Association, spoke in support of Marsha Sue for Game and Fish Commissioner.

The Chair thanked him for his remarks.

Tracy Unmacht from New River, AZ, representing herself, spoke in support of Marsha Sue for Game and Fish Commissioner.

The Chair thanked her for her remarks.

The Chair invited a phone caller to speak next.

Terry Herndon – CEO of Arizona Mule Deer Organization, spoke in support of Robert Rimsza for Game and Fish Commissioner.

The Chair thanked him for his remarks.

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

The Chair asked for any comments from the Board members. With no comments received from Board members, the Chair summarized the process and procedures. At the end of the procedure, each Board member has 20 points to allocate not more than 10 points to any one candidate.

There is no obligation to award all 20 points. Point allocation is at the discretion of each Board member based upon the Board member's review of applicant's qualifications, resume, letters of recommendation, etc.

The Chair called for a motion to readopt the procedures of the past unless any discussion of the procedures was necessary.

Phil moved to adopt the procedures of the past as the Chair has explained.

MOTION: Phil Townsend moved and Pat Madden seconded that THE PROCEDURES AS EXPLAINED BY THE CHAIR, BE ADOPTED.

VOTE: Unanimous

4. Disclosure and Recusals

The Chair asked to proceed with disclosures and recusals from each Board member:

Charles Kelly met Robert Rimsza briefly as he was a winner of a prize that he delivered to Mr. Rimsza's house. He met Marsha Sue at various wildlife fundraisers and wildlife work projects around Arizona. He served with Jim O'Haco on the AZ Livestock Loss board. No further disclosures or recusals.

Pat Madden knows Jim O'Haco, from his time on the Commission, where he met Mr. O'Haco at meetings. No further disclosures or recusals.

Phil Townsend stated he does not know any of the candidates. He has spoken with Mr. O'Haco by phone and did go to college with one of his brothers. No further disclosures or recusals.

Rich Williams does not know any of the candidates personally. No further disclosures or recusals. Sue Chilton knows Mr. O'Haco because her husband and Mr. O'Haco served on a board together. No further disclosures or recusals.

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

Robert Rimsza - Interview began at 9:17 a.m.

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

[Candidate Rimsza responded to all questions]

The Chair recognized a member of the public wishing to comment.

Marvin Zieser – from Phoenix, AZ, representing himself and as a member of Bow Hunting in Arizona, spoke in support of Robert Rimsza for Game and Fish Commissioner.

The Chair thanked him for his remarks.

The meeting recessed at **9:46** a.m.

The meeting reconvened at **10:00** a.m.

Marsha Sue – Interview began at **10:00** a.m.

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

[Candidate Sue responded to all questions]

The Chair recognized a member of the public wishing to comment.

Eddy Corona – from Phoenix, AZ, a member of Outdoor Experience 4 All, spoke in support of Marsha Sue for Game and Fish Commissioner.

The Chair thanked him for his remarks.

The meeting recessed at **10:30** a.m.

The meeting reconvened at **10:45** a.m.

Justine McCune East – Interview began at **10:45** a.m.

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

[Candidate McCune East responded to all questions]

James O'Haco – Interview began at **11:19** a.m.

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

[Candidate O'Haco responded to all questions]

Rich Williams thanked the candidates for interviewing and for their interest in the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.

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

The Chair advised the Board that they could proceed with the 20 point allocation procedure or the Chair would entertain a motion to forego the scoring procedure and send all four names to the Governor. Chairperson Chilton then asked the Board members as to their preference.

Pat Madden made a motion to forego the scoring procedure and send all four names to the Governor for consideration.

The Chair asked for any further comment. Rich Williams said he appreciated all applicants today and as a whole, did not think the Board had seen a better group of qualified candidates. He asked that candidates consider continuing their service and to reapply if not chosen in this session.

The Chair stated this is the first time the Board has ever proceeded to this recommendation.

MOTION: Pat Madden moved and Rich Williams seconded TO SEND ALL FOUR CANDIDATES' NAMES TO THE GOVERNOR FOR CONSIDERATION.

VOTE: Unanimous

7. Future Agenda Items

Chairperson Chilton stated a tentative date needed to be set for the next meeting in January. The Secretary stated she will contact the Board members, in December, to set up a date in January for the next meeting. The Board agreed to this procedure.

MOTION: Phil Townsend moved and Pat Madden seconded to ADJOURN THE MEETING.

VOTE: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.
