

January 21, 2014 Meeting

Members Present:

Frank Neumann George Jacoby Kevin Taylor Joel Doner Robert Caywood Grant Klotz Vince Baldauf  
Jim Stubbs Kevin Sparrowgrove Bruce Morgan Robert Peck Mark Campbell Mike Priebe

Members Excused: Matt Rogero Joel Wagner Zach Stubbs

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Chairman Bruce Morgan at the Loussac Library, a quorum was established of the members present

The agenda for the night's meeting was approved.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved

Department Guests present: Jessie Coltrane and Dave Battle area biologists with the game Department.

We opened the nominations for the election of members on the AC board.

Nominees were:

Phil Calhoun Mark Campbell Joel Doner Mike Priebe Gary Brell  
Bruce Morgan Kevin Sparrowgrove Ehren Strawn Neil Dewitt Robert Wanner

Grant motioned to close the nominations and seconded by Jim Stubbs.

Jim motioned to hold the election with the current nominees.

Public Testimony:

Ed Larrivee II- He spoke about hunting and fishing freedom and the federal govt. control of the lands in the state. We need to tell them no on control of the public lands.

Phil Isley- He spoke about that it is pour oil and our fish in the state and it is for Alaskans. We need to stand up to the federal government. If we apply a tax on oil, then we should on minerals, timber and commercial fisheries resources as well. He said that it is frustrating to drive down to the Kenai Peninsula and the Kenai River and find that the river has been choked off by the commercial fishery.

The department was asked to answer questions.

Frank asked them about that at the joint board meeting there was discussion about the jurisdictions of AC's on proposals. They said that they thought it was decided that the local AC's have jurisdiction on local proposals like the re-authorization of the cow moose hunts. They spoke to us about why the antlerless moose hunts are important. They use it as a tool to keep the population in check in the bowl to maintain a healthy moose population. They want enough moose to hunt and enough to be viewed as well and we need to stay low enough to avoid as many vehicle accidents as possible. The dept. manages somewhere in the middle of a range of 1500 to 1800 moose in the bowl area or unit 14C. The last census was in 2011 and they are analyzing the data from 2013 right now. They can't survey over the whole Anchorage area because of airspace issues. Joel said that we could have more moose outside of unit 14 C and in the bowl area; the AC has been pushing for moose hunts in the bowl area for years. The dept. said that Chugach State Park is the only area allowed for moose hunts right now. Jessie said that they gave out 2 moose permits and participation was spotty. The place available for a cow moose hunt is the problem with the hunt. Phil asked about the Minnesota fencing project being done right now and the dept. didn't have much say over it. Ed Larrivee asked if they manage more for people than for wildlife and they said that they do most of the time. Bruce asked if there was any hotspots and they said that the Seward Hwy and Minnesota Drive. Robert Peck called them on being able to count the population in the bowl area and why they can't count the whole area. They said that the dept. does fly the east side of the bowl but airspace restrictions have hampered them at many times and they have a limited window of time to count so they can get the cow bull ratio. The municipal parks are off limits to hunting by the municipality. Robert Caywood asked what the long term forecast for the moose population in the bowl area is and that the population is down in the Chugiak and Eagle River areas. The dept. said that is because the best areas to hunt are locked up in municipal parks. We now harvest almost 70 bulls each year from the bowl area and the dept. tries to maintain a ratio of 25 bulls for every 100 cows. Neil

Dewitt asked if there were areas along Kinkaid Park, Tudor rd and Minnesota Drive have some sport that hunting could occur and the dept. said no. Kevin Taylor asked that if we took more moose out the areas that we can hunt that more moose would come back in. The dept. said that it is possible but not likely in a short period of time. George asked about closing Kinkaid Park for 2 weeks in the fall and opening it up to a hunt at that time. The dept. said that the municipal parks dept. will not allow it to happen. The dept. noted that road kills are not counted in moose harvest numbers and the DOT keeps the tally with the police and troopers.

Steve Flory stated that the dept. tries to maintain a kill of around 100 moose per year. There could be more opportunity but the dept. always tries to keep it around 100 and they won't let it get higher than that. The Anchorage AC had a proposal to allow more hunts but the dept. shot it down at the Board of Game meeting. There is no area of the state that a resident of Anchorage does not participate in some kind of hunting or fishing. Bruce asked what the number of permits would be needed to kill up to 20 more bulls in the Anchorage bowl area. The dept. said it could be up to a 10 to 1 ratio of hunters and permits because of the effort, logistics and timing of the hunts.

Dave from the dept. asked the AC what we would like the numbers or population of moose to be, and we agreed that probably just more of an opportunity to hunt in the area.

Bruce announced the results of the election from the information provided by Sherry.

New members are:

Mark Campbell   Bruce Morgan   Joel Doner   Phil Calhoun   Ehren Strawn   Kevin Sparrowgrove

The new members were seated at the table.

We took a break and then came back and the AC used the names of the 4 nominees to elect the alternates to the AC. We voted and the results for the new alternates are.

Neil Dewitt   Gary Brell.

The new alternates were seated at the table.

Frank of the game committee wanted to go over the Board of Game 14C antlerless moose re-authorization proposals.

We voted to table those until the next meeting and went over the other proposals from that book that had a split vote on them.

#82- It is a limited access area with a guide using it now for guided hunts and the local AC wants to keep them out of it. There is no problem with using horses on this hunt as it would just limit access to the area if not.

Vote was 4 in support and 11 oppose.

#92- Believe in the party hunt concept for permit hunts

Don't believe a party hunt permit should take up the regular single permits.

Vote was 5 support and 10 oppose.

Joel motioned to have the AC contact the head of the Municipal Parks Dept. about opening up more park areas for moose hunts in the municipality and bowl area. Seconded by Grant. Vote was 15 in support and 0 oppose.

Gary recommended it should go to the mayor and assembly members. Dave from the dept. said that they would get involved as well.

New business:

Bruce asked who the AC would authorize to represent the Anchorage AC at the Board of Game and the Board of Fish meetings coming up.

Frank Neumann will represent the Anchorage AC at the Board of Game interior region meeting.

Jim Stubbs will represent the Anchorage AC at the Board of Fish Upper Cook Inlet meeting

Next full committee meeting will be on January 28 at the fish hatchery.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM