# Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 18, 2012 Flint Oak 2639 Quail Rd, Fall River

Approved Subject to 1/10/13 Commission Approval

# I. CALL TO ORDER AT 1:30 p.m. CDT

The October 18, 2012 meeting of the Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission was called to order by Chairman Gerald Lauber at 1:30 p.m. at Flint Oak, Fall River, Kansas. Chairman Lauber and Commissioners Debra Bolton, Don Budd, Randy Doll, Tom Dill, Roger Marshall and Robert Wilson were present.

## II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS, STAFF AND GUESTS

The Commissioners and Department staff introduced themselves (Attendance roster - Exhibit A).

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

Sheila Kemmis – Added Item 4 under Workshop, HIP Stamp cleanup, Mike Miller will present. Changed presenters on General Discussion Item 1 and renamed to Governor's Eco-Tourism Committee Briefing, Robin will present; Rick Martin will present Item 2; under Workshop, Chris Tymeson will present Item 3 on Agritourism.

## IV. APPROVAL OF THE August 23, 2012 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Roger Marshall moved to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Debra Bolton second. Approved. (Minutes – Exhibit B).

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

None

Chairman Lauber - Nice facility appreciate them working with us.

#### VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

#### A. Secretary's Remarks

1. <u>Agency and State Fiscal Status</u> – Robin Jennison, secretary, presented this update to the Commission. – Park region map (Exhibit C) shows reorganization of park regions. We announced this yesterday to Parks, but it has been in planning for two years. Future advantages;

increased regions to 6 instead of 3, and tried to create clusters to coordinate and cooperate with administrative, maintenance, law enforcement and temporary employees. Each year we spend \$1.5 million in temporary salaries. By clustering and having regional managers, we feel we can put together plan and consolidate duties, particularly of maintenance, because budget has not been there. With park pass and purchase of cabins, we will be on sounder financial footing and do a better job of maintaining our parks. I will talk to legislature about more full-time maintenance personnel (instead of temporary employees) and hope regional managers will be able to put together regional staff for maintenance. Hope to be able to better staff our parks and have impact on law enforcement aspect in the future. The other side item is marketing and tourism, a work in progress. We will rename regions to more define the area, could be High Plains, possibly Smokey Hills, Kaw River region and like that; more for marketing and tourism to put a descriptive term on regions. Two other aspects: one is negative, last year presented park pass to become more self-sufficient this year, but lost 10 percent of EDIF budget due to state budget cuts. We feel we can absorb this cut in parks if park pass turns out the way we expect in 2014 budget and not reduce tourism budget at all to meet budget reduction. Should we have a bad year, with mechanism already in place to share staffing, we can better use the resources and better serve our constituents/patrons in a reasonable manner. On positive side, something I would like to do and which in a reality needs to be discussed in Washington DC has to do with Corps need to have areas around our federal reservoirs. The Corps parks are tough competitors for us. They are cheaper and in some places have a better location. I have talked to the Governor and we want to take over some of the Corps parks around the federal reservoirs. I'm confident that we can run those parks cheaper than what we and the Corps do right now and would not have them as a competitor. We have had preliminary discussions with Kansas City Corps folks and congressional delegation, Linda Craghead met with a DC Corps person in Kentucky and found out the feds need to take \$50 million out of their recreational budget, and she approached them about us taking on some of Kansas parks to help them meet that requirement. This would give us the opportunity to take quicker advantage of having smaller park cluster/regions with significant level of management and decide how smaller region reassesses need for employees to help us respond better. We have not had a discussion with Oklahoma Corps, but could pick up three more parks in southeastern Kansas (Marion, Council Grove and Big Hill). Feel this is a better scenario to deal with possible budget issues in Kansas and federally. Commissioner Marshall – Who makes decision on Corps properties? Jennison – Congress or Corps either one could make it, feel budget will help them make that decision. Offered this in mid-1990s and they offered us \$45 million to go with it, but couldn't do it then because of Corps employees in Kansas, but they may not have a choice now. Commissioner Marshall – Think they would give us the land or just want us to run their parks? Jennison – We have lease on land where our parks are now. We don't own it; and we would operate those like we operate our own. Commissioner Wilson – Will there be monetary compensation from them? Jennison – No, because of the budget, but we expect would increase our visitation and income. This is an informational item for the Commission for now. One other item I want to tell you about is the possible resort at Clinton, which has been discussed a number of times before. Spoke to City of Lawrence, Corps and developers who seem to be interested. Talking to developers who got RFP in 1997 to try and build a resort, which fell through then because City of Lawrence didn't want to extend utilities out to the park. They are more open to that now because city has grown to the west. Working with three cabinet agencies on this: KDWPT, Dept of Commerce, Dept of Transportation and Kansas Development Finance Authority might have a role (if we decide to get a bond). Meeting with the developers to see how

the funding scheme worked in the 1997 proposal, as well as look at the proposal. They will meet with the Governor and the secretaries of the agencies to make a proposal. There may need to be legislative adjustments to Kansas Lake Resorts bill. Commissioner Dill – Weren't there other lakes under consideration? Jennison – All lakes were under consideration with the top three being Clinton, Milford and Perry. Plan to stay away from Milford because Acorn Resort has been developed there. It is doing a great job and was able to do something the state could not do. Also, looking at Wilson. Commissioner Budd – Look at other parts of state if this works out? Jennison – Resort is a broad term and with additional assets, Clinton will be considered a resort; at Perry, may not be a resort; or at Wilson. U.S. Hotel and Resorts people told us most people who go to a lake prefer cabin setting and central building. This would go beyond seasonal business because so near Lawrence, it would be year-round business with conference center and hotel. It would be more seasonal at other lakes; we're talking about a hotel and convention center as well as an added attraction at Clinton.

2. 2013 Legislative Update – Chris Tymeson, chief legal counsel, presented this update to the Commission. Primaries in August, November 6 is general election. We'll have no packet formulated by then, but in January we'll have a better idea of what we are going to pursue. Knocked out number of major items this past year, so don't expect as many next session. Boat taxation is up for vote in November election, HCR1057; Kansas has extremely high taxation on boats compared to surrounding states and people register boats out of state. If this passes, we would expect fleet to be newer and increase the number of registered boats in Kansas. Commissioner Dill – Would legislature take action? Tymeson – If passed, legislature doesn't have to, but can bring forward legislation. Chairman Lauber – Most voters are not aware it is going to be on ballot? Does it need majority or two-thirds vote? Tymeson – Last time included aircraft, picked up as a story in Wichita, Topeka and Hutchinson. The department will continue to release articles and it is on the website. Some smaller groups also trying to get the word out. People are starting to pick it up. Commissioner Wilson – States that are surrounding us with no boat tax, how do they compensate or what do they do to bring in funds? Tymeson – Personal property tax, get more federal aid tied to registrations. Don't know how other states are valuing taxes to generate income. Taking boats that would be registered here out of state, losing not only personal property tax, but federal dollars from them not being registered here.

#### **B.** General Discussion

1. Governor's Eco-Tourism Committee Briefing – Robin Jennison, secretary, presented this report to the Commission. Committee was requested by the Governor, and we have held our first meeting. Eco-tourism means different things to different people. Originally it meant not leaving sign you were there, but it is now a more popular term. Sixteen folks on committee who I picked and none are really tourism folks. We wanted no tourism because did not want that level. We hope to give report to Governor in January. Ted Eubanks is facilitating the meetings. Never spend money on tourism, advertised by word of mouth only. I-70 not a pretty drive, but key strategy is new highway strategy and expect staffed visitor centers in Flint Hills and Cheyenne Bottoms/Post Rock area. Will go through assets in Kansas and pick three to four key assets. Report next meeting on what is going on in Flint Hills and other assets identified. Commissioner Doll – How is this different than tourism department? What does eco really mean? Jennison – Started out as being able to go out and leave no footprint, some people think hunting is and some

don't. High impact, low impact and six subsets of eco-tourism. Committee focuses on heritage tourism as well as eco-tourism. Commissioner Bolton – Agritourism part of that too? Jennison – It can be. Opportunities for agriculture can be significant if they embrace eco-tourism.

2. <u>Camping and Utility Fees</u> – Rick Martin, parks regional supervisor, presented this report to the Commission (gave additional handout – Exhibits D, E). Currently, our short-term parking is \$125.00 per month, and this is an effort to respond to the requests for offering competitive short-term RV and boat parking fees in state parks. Surveyed all parks and many areas do not have local businesses offering this service. Some, like Cheney, have plenty and might not be a good location to have this, and Clinton also not feasible. We would like to offer this service at a competitive rate for our customers to mitigate the high cost of fuel used in transporting campers and boats to our recreational areas. Show some figures on what we might bring in. We're working on a draft agreement, and used Kanopolis State Park as an example to show possible income. If we have 50 percent occupancy and are charging \$40 a month, we could generate about \$12,000 a year. Would also need approval from Corps or BOR on their lakes. It would basically be a gravel lot with fence around area. Commissioner Doll – What kind of costs? Martin – Gravel, fencing and lighting, vary at different facilities and may try pilot program at a few parks. We can run through our office or through reservation system and get daily, weekly and monthly reports and don't anticipate need for additional staff. Commissioner Doll – What about law enforcement? Martin – Have same safety as private-owned areas, key or code lock, but open once people get in there. Commissioner Doll – What about liability? Martin- Have not got that far. Commissioner Marshall – What is driving this, need for money or public wanting this? Martin – Both, cost of fuel is a big incentive. Commissioner Marshall – What about private entrepreneurs, they won't like this. Chairman Lauber – Will have some issues, most private entrepreneurs prefer we keep our prices higher. Martin – Don't want to undercut anyone else. Have a regulation which will require Commission approval, 115-2-3, item (h), currently \$125 a month for short term parking, asking for change in pricing; variable pricing. Commissioner Marshall – New area up by Wilson, hate to think we are competing with people who have invested money. Commissioner Bolton – Not undercutting them and we do need to generate revenue. Martin – Hope they will use our facilities more if there equipment is already stored in the park. Friends group operates one at Cedar Bluff. Chairman Lauber – Use on needs basis, really a need in some places, but share his concern about Wilson. Balance need with desire to go there. Martin – Not proposing one at Wilson for that reason. Some remote areas, like Kanopolis have few storage places. Commissioner Budd – Can you give list of current facilities? Martin – None. Linda Lanterman – We have campers who push campers off to the side and don't pay fee and we have to give them a citation. Understand concern for local businesses, but have locations that have a desperate need. If we don't allow it, they will sell campers and we will lose them completely. Don't throw them all out because some places really need them. Want to know who owns the campers and we don't know who they are when they push the camper up against the trees and leave them. Commissioner Budd - Like to see you prioritize areas, cost and local impact (opinion of local business owners). Lanterman – Of course. Other states are doing it, don't plan to put them everywhere. Commissioner Marshall – Agree as long as no competition. Commissioner Dill – Legal still has to go over this so it will not happen overnight. Tymeson – Probably March. Chairman Lauber – Stay out of areas that have private sectors. Commissioner Bolton – In some states can't leave campers for more than 24 hours. Commissioner Doll – Do you have to haul campers off? Lanterman – Sometimes. Martin – Asking if you would consider

and go from there.

- 3. Fall Turkey Jim Pitman, small game biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit F). Last year we sold 12,913 permits and harvested an estimated 3,677 turkeys. Over the last couple of years, the wild turkey population has declined in every region except the southeast due to inadequate weather and/or habitat conditions during the reproductive season. Drier than average conditions in the southeast region over the last couple of years have led to improved productivity and as a result, populations have began to recover from their recent lows. As a result, populations in the eastern half of the state have generally increased over last year. The department is considering a recommendation to overlap the fall turkey season with the extended firearm deer season. We are considering this recommendation to increase consistency in the fall turkey season dates from one year to the next and minimize confusion. Currently, the fall turkey season is closed during the regular firearm deer season and the extended firearm deer season; it is open during the early firearm deer season (DMU 19) and the special extended firearm deer season and has created confusion. We are talking about adding eight days to the beginning of the fall turkey season. Lloyd Fox – Because of calendar, twelve days for next fall. Pearce – Why closed during deer season? Pitman – Didn't want to create competition, or to use a rifle to kill a turkey and also a safety issue. Chairman Lauber – Blaze orange was a controversy, too.
- 4. Deer 25-Series Regulations Lloyd Fox, big game research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit G). The regulation (115-25-9) contains the following items: dates of deer seasons when equipment such as archery, firearms, muzzleloader may be used; provisions when seasons may occur on military subunits within management units; dates for a special firearm deer season and extended archery seasons in urban units; dates of deer seasons for designated persons; dates and units when extended firearm seasons are authorized and the type of permits and changes in the species and antler categories of those permits; and limitations in obtaining multiple permits. We will workshop this in January with the public hearing in March. A new item came up because of legislation, SB 314, directs the department to develop a pre-rut white-tailed deer antlerless-only season. The deer hunting season structure is already considered by many to be too complicated, so an additional season could be met by dissatisfaction from hunters and landowners. Replacement of that season with a pre-rut whitetailed deer antlerless-only season would keep our current season structure similar to what we have had for many years. Key points made for a pre-rut season: the season must be short in duration, during a pleasant time of the year and limited by a special and specific permit. The goal is to motivate deer hunters to use an additional weekend and special tag to take additional deer, as opposed to having hunters simply shift the season dates when they take their antlerless deer. The weekend in Kansas which best fit the goals of a pre-rut deer season appears to be the second Saturday and Sunday in October. Season dates suggested for deer hunting during 2013-14 are as follows: Youth and Disability - September 7-15, 2013; Early Muzzleloader - September 16-29, 2013; Archery - September 16-December 31, 2013; Pre-Rut WAO - October 12-13, 2013; Regular Firearms - December 4-15, 2013; Extended WAO- January 1-12, 2014; Special Extended WAO- January 13-19, 2014; and Extended Archery (DMU 19) - January 13-31, 2014. Consideration will be made on inclusion of DMUs where an extended firearms season will be authorized after additional data becomes available. Effects of factors like mortality due to hemorrhagic disease and fawn recruitment influenced by the drought will be considered. The

proposed dates for the firearm season at the Fort Leavenworth subunit are November 23-24, 2013, November 28-December 1, 2013, December 7-8, 2013, December 14-15, 2013, and December 21-22, 2013. The proposed dates for the firearms season for deer hunting at the Smoky Hill Air National Guard subunit will be the same as the rest of the state. Firearm season dates for deer hunting at Fort Riley will be established in KAR 115-25-9a which will be covered in a workshop at a later date. Application deadlines are now provided in KAR 115-4-11. Consideration will be made on the number of white-tailed deer antlerless-only permits that may be used in each DMU after additional data becomes available. Following same guidelines as last year with no additional units for game tags this year. Commissioner Wilson - One antlerless deer per pre-rut permit? Fox – That hasn't been determined yet. In some units five deer can be taken. We haven't made a decision and have no recommendation at this time. Commissioner Wilson – Over the counter or application? Fox – All antlerless permits are sold online and through vendors with no quota for them. Commissioner Bolton – Could take five, but we don't make them take a doe? We want them to take a doe and not just trophy deer? Fox – Yes, need special permit or use permits you have, like Robert mentioned; if special permit would be antlerless, but if use existing permit can use one they already have purchased. Pearce – What about Unit 19 season? Fox – Nine-day season. Pearce – Statewide for pre-rut season? Fox – Had discussions for statewide two-day season. Nine-day in Unit 19, not well received and had trouble getting hunters out. Archery is dominating that season and only a couple of hundred deer are being taken by firearms hunters in Unit 19. Chairman Lauber – Came about antidotal not scientific, right? Fox – On that particular portion of senate bill they did not designate how many units, crossbow is specifically four units. We felt better off to look at statewide in pilot project. Chairman Lauber – Better to have time period where existing game tags could be used because in some areas don't want additional antlerless does taken? Fox – Touchy subject, not dealing with carrying capacity here at all, dealing with cultural carrying capacity in the Midwest and differences of how people feel the deer herd should be regulated. Have had substantial mortality and possibly reduced productivity as a result of weather conditions and disease factors. Some areas we may not recommend additional harvest pressure, but most of Kansas can still survive additional antlerless harvest. In good shape and close to 50/50 harvest ratio. Commissioner Budd – Regulated by anyone other than ourselves on when seasons open and close? Fox – Public trust resource, department can be called to account for too many or too few and we have our traditions and our system that is different than other states. Commissioner Budd – Set up to maximize harvest? Fox – Maximize opportunity and to be sure we are doing a good job of managing wildlife resource. Commissioner Budd – Youth and disability season is a 9-day season? Fox – Two weekends. Commissioner Budd – Set for maximum season? Fox – Yes, and a great deal to do with Kansas landowners, starts on Wednesday and includes two weekends and is a 12-day season since 1988. Started with 5-day season back in 1965. Commissioner Dill – Set to maximize opportunity? Fox - Made major changes in 2008; prior to that could hunt with archery equipment in firearms permit, so started archery season concurrent with muzzleloader season. Commissioner Doll – Done pre-rut before? What is population? Fox -600,000 to 650,000. Commissioner Doll? How many permits? Fox - 118,000 deer hunters, who buy 186,000 deer permits and last year harvested about 98,000 deer, (40- to 50 percent). Commissioner Doll – Legislative bill a push to harvest more deer? What about Unit 19? Fox – Pre-rut is designated in SB 314 and discussed in many other states, popular notion that can reduce accidents if reduce number of female deer. Commissioner Doll – How many deer taken, educated guess? Fox – No. Chairman Lauber – Follow spirit of request. Commissioner Doll – Seems two-day season is symbolic and won't

reduce the numbers much, why not make it a week? Fox – One of points that keep coming up is to make it short. Used 9-days in Unit 19 which allowed them to procrastinate and two-days makes them get more highly motivated. Had special Unit 12a here and gave them a whole month and couldn't get hunters out. Marvin Whitehead – If hunters don't bring in deer in first four or five days they don't bring them in. Commissioner Marshall – That is K-State/KU game weekend and will discourage hunters? Fox – Hunt in morning, watch game in the afternoon. Commissioner Wilson – Considered reduced price? Fox – No, if you devalue permit, hunters may not feel they are losing anything if they don't use it.

5. Antelope and Elk 25-Series Regulations – Matt Peek, furbearer biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit H). This regulation (KAR 115-25-7) pertains to seasons, bag limits, unit boundaries, permits and tags for pronghorn antelope. No changes are recommended for season structure, unit boundaries, bag limits, or permits. Pronghorn populations within each of the three units are monitored twice annually by aerial survey. Production surveys occur in July and August and are used to determine buck:doe:fawn ratios. Buck ratios serve as a forecast for the harvest seasons, whereas fawn ratios are an indicator of annual productivity, which will have greater impact on harvest levels in future years. Conditions were poor because of the prolonged drought, and his year we found a doe:fawn ratio of 100 does to 19 fawns. We'd like to see 60-80 fawns per 100 does, but this is the lowest we've recorded since 1963. Population surveys occur primarily in January because pronghorn are found in larger herds and therefore are more visible at this time. This survey is a stronger indicator of the population size and, used in conjunction with production survey results, landowner issues, and staff input, is the primary tool used to determine permit allocations for the upcoming season. We propose unlimited archery permits be allocated for both residents and nonresidents. Firearm and muzzleloader permits will remain restricted to residents, with half assigned to landowner/tenants and the remainder awarded to general residents. Firearm and muzzleloader permit allocations will be determined following winter aerial surveys. Chairman Lauber – Does drought affect how they produce milk? Peek – We don't have very good data on that, but it probably has more to do with predation than anything else. Pearce – What did you find in Flint Hills this year? Peek – About 30, production not good there either. Chairman Lauber – What was high there? Peek – About 50 or 54 animals. Don't know why increase that year. Pearce – How many released? Peek – A couple of hundred, total.

Elk: This regulation (115-25-8) pertains to seasons, bag limits, unit boundaries, permits and tags for elk hunting. Had changes every year for years, but we've come up with something we can live with what we have and complaints are minimal. Elk hunting on and around Fort Riley was initiated in 1990, and most of the hunting opportunity in the state occurs on the Fort, about 1,000 applications with about half of these permits are allocated to military personnel. We do have elk on private lands, though unpredictably in most of the state. Elk also occur in the vicinity of Cimarron National Grasslands, but these elk are primarily found in neighboring states. We have three elk hunting units and Unit 1, which is close to elk hunting, includes the Grasslands. This unit hasn't been open to elk hunting since 1995, but herd is only about 50 animals now, and they spend most of their time in Colorado. Unit 2 is on and around Fort Riley and Unit 3 is the rest of the state, except Morton County and will be open to hunting. An unlimited number of hunt-on-your-own-land antlerless only and any elk permits will also be authorized in Units 2 and 3. An unlimited number of general resident and landowner tenant antlerless only and any elk permits

will be authorized in Unit 3. Limited draw permit numbers will be determined closer to the completion of the ongoing season. We recommend elk hunters be required to contact the department when an elk is harvested to submit samples for CWD testing. Elk permits will be available only to Kansas residents, and permit applications will be separated into military and nonmilitary applicants. The bag limit shall be one elk as specified on the permit. Commissioner Budd – How many applicants do you get for Fort Riley? Peek – About 1,000. Commissioner Budd – How many tags? Peek – About 13 any-elk and 15 antlerless. Have bonus points. Commissioner Budd – Are commissioner tags included in this? Peek – No. Chairman Lauber – Are there any elk harvested in Unit 3? Peek – We have one bull harvest and probably four or five elk harvested in Unit 3 last year. And we sold 40-50 permits. Pearce – What have success rates been on Unit 2? Peek – Seven of 13 any elk permits sold last year, including two antlerless elk, and five of 15 antlerless permits, which is down some. Had high success rate in past, but has dropped off. Pearce – Can HOL shoot bull or cow? Peek – If they have any-elk permit and we have had a few bulls killed off of Fort Riley.

6. Lesser Prairie Chicken Federal Listing Briefing – Keith Sexson, assistant secretary, presented this update to the Commission (PowerPoint – Exhibit I and Exhibit J). Give credit to Jim Pitman for all of his work on this. Declines in lesser prairie chicken (LEPC) populations and their range caused the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to list the species as "warranted but precluded from listing" in 1996, but that a review would not take place because there were higher priority species. Recently the priority status for LEPC review went from a level 8 to a level 2 and as such, a preliminary review has been accomplished and a proposed rule for listing was to be announced on September 30, 2012. That proposed rule announcement has been postponed for 60 days and should come out by mid- to late-November. If the decision is made to list the species, the LEPC will be listed federally as threatened or endangered one year after the announced proposed rule. In anticipation that the proposed rule will be to list the species, the five-state LEPC Interstate Working Group (Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas) and its many partners have initiated the development of a range-wide plan directing the conservation and management of the species. If this plan can show with certainty that the number of birds and their habitats can be managed to levels that provide for a viable and stable population throughout the LEPC's range, it could influence the USFWS's final decision. Three categories of impacts that need to be addressed in the plan: conversion of prairie into cropland, oil production and wind energy (direct conversion); and changes in grazing, fire and encroachment of eastern red cedar (indirect conversion); invasive species of grass like brome and exotic species like old world bluestem. Kansas used native grasses for plantings and incorporated native forbs in later plantings in CRP program, and we need to thank those people for that. Purpose of plan is to address listing issue and will be presented to the USFWS by the end of March 2013. The final decision for listing will be announced by the end of November, but the clock started at the end of September and is due by September 30, 2013. Need to protect, enhance and restore habitat; identify research needs; identify management actions to support responsible development; and develop incentives to landowners to improve or restore suitable habitat. Population and habitat goals were set by a science team made up of people from the five states and other professional groups with knowledge related to these goals. Goal is 66,000 birds. Last spring the five states did a helicopter survey designed to give reliable estimate and came up with a range-wide population of about 37,000 birds. Didn't break this out by state, but Kansas has an estimated two-thirds of that number. Broke range into four eco-regions found in the range:

shinnery oak, sand sagebrush, mixed grass and short grass; with a fair amount of these ranges found in Kansas. The focal areas are where conservation efforts will be concentrated and require large blocks of habitat necessary to support these birds. Focal area characteristics: average 50,000 acres in size with 70 percent in good- to high-quality habitat with 25,000 minimum in good- to high-quality habitat and be within 20 miles of each other. Habitat goals: five birds/square mile, or 66,000 birds would be 6.3 million acres in the range, which would include about 126 focal areas with 4.5 million acres in Kansas. Selection of focal areas: existing populations; best habitat; best habitat potential; proximity to wildlife management areas or similar; and avoid high priority development areas where possible. Choosing focal areas should not impact existing development areas. Additional science team tasks were to develop habitat evaluation tool for site level analyses to be consistent in habitat management/planning, foundation for metrics for impact and mitigation. International working group (IWG) developed landscape GIS tool (CHAT) and population monitoring protocol and analyses. Focal area management-stacked incentive programs, coordinated management, to make as inviting as we can for landowners to maximize habitat quality in core areas and minimize development within those areas (oil and gas and wind energy). Habitat: breeding grounds and leks – low vegetation or ridges, focus of monitoring surveys and limiting factor for habitat improvements. Standards for nesting: native grass and shrub cover, native CRP, denser vegetations, herbaceous cover and primary need. Brood cover goes right along with that and is standard for all upland game birds. Providing winter cover, grain field for foraging and nesting, and brood rearing habitat are necessary. And we don't want trees, so control through cutting, burning, etc. Drought has not helped burning conditions. Fences and utility lines are felt to be a factor in mortality, especially near leks and marking fences to minimize collisions. Human structures and activities: avoiding roads, building, oil and gas, transmission lines and wind farms; minimize focal areas; and high priority for research. Wind farms have worked with our agency on placing of these large farms. Habitat fragmentation, link zones to have connectivity of best habitat to enhanced and improved areas. Put together implementation team, held one meeting and had members from partners in target range. Landowner/land management incentive programs are available from multiple agencies (NRCS, FSA, KDWPT, USFWS, TNC and others). Trying to put all of these programs together to identify appropriate initiatives, identify opportunities, and develop "one-stop shopping". Working with industry involved with oil and gas, wind, and transmission on impact avoidance. Get good landowner input into this program to avert listing. Communication has to continue and be a paramount part, developing websites and working with other stakeholder groups. Have three public meetings scheduled for November 13, 14 and 15 in Ness City, Ulysses and Greensburg. Invite anyone who is interested to come so we can explain what is taking place. We won't know final decision of listing until a year from now, but working hard to meet goals to keep from listing. Pearce – You need more burning? Sexson – When enter into red cedar program, burn to keep eastern red cedars out of the grass. Neighbors notice what is happening and it expands in a certain area. Commissioner Doll – Westar Green Team involved in this? Sexson – Yes, on siting of wind farms and siting of transmission lines and how involves LEPC and other species in Flint Hills and Smokey Hills and are a leader in this area. Oil and gas throughout the range are pretty well organized and are on board to develop planning efforts. Will keep you briefed on this.

#### C. Workshop Session

- 1. <u>Falconry Regulations clean up</u> Mike Mitchener, wildlife section chief, presented this update to the Commission. After review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), they found a little glitch in regulations we passed. It dealt with banding of captive bred raptors, USFWS requires band if lost of taken off and we missed that, we said band or microchip and have corrected that. Will go forward with January 1 implementation, but will require clean up vote at January meeting.
- 2. Big Game Permanent Regulations Lloyd Fox, big game research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit L). The following big game permanent regulations have been reviewed and discussed and no further action is anticipated on them this year: KAR 115-4-2 big game; general provisions; KAR 115-4-6 deer; firearm management units; and KAR 115-4-11 big game and wild turkey permit applications. We will have changes in January to KAR 115-4-4 big game; legal equipment and taking methods, which is still in discussion phase. We will discuss KAR 115-4-13 deer permits; descriptions and restrictions today. The department conducted public meetings and opinion surveys last year on various aspects of a combination permit for deer hunters. Creating an optional combination permit that contained two carcass tags, (one carcass tag valid for either sex of deer and one carcass tag restricted to an antlerless-only white-tailed deer) adds additional complexity for deer hunters. An additional option of that type of permit for deer would also fail to increase the harvest of antlerless deer. A conversion of a permit type to a two-tag permit does not increase the level of permit complexity in our permit system that adding an optional combo permit would. A review of hunting practices and harvest information indicated that the conversion of the non-resident white-tailed deer either-sex permit to a combination two-tag permit held the highest potential to accomplish improved deer management. Limiting the combination permit to just nonresidents with a white-tailed deer either-sex permit would increase by approximately 16,000 the number of white-tailed deer antierless-only tags in the hands of nonresidents. It is anticipated that approximately 6,500 more white-tailed antlerless deer would be taken than the current level of 3,000 on the nonresident white-tailed deer antlerless only permits. The majority of that increase in harvest of white-tailed deer would be taken on private properties where the harvest of antlerless deer in recent years had been inadequate. The current price of a nonresident deer permit that allows the hunter to take either sex of white-tailed deer is \$300 and their price for a white-tailed deer antlerless only permit is \$50. It is recommended that the new combination permit should be established at \$315. The additional increase in price for a nonresident deer permit would be the same amount as the current price for a resident to purchase their first whitetailed deer antlerless-only permit. Nonresidents would also be allowed to purchase additional antlerless-only deer permits at the established price of \$50. Additional review is necessary on this regulation. It is recommended that this regulation be brought back to the Commission at the January workshop session and that it be brought to public hearing in March.
- 3. <u>Agritourism Regulations</u> Chris Tymeson, legal counsel, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M). Discussed last time, but when Governor issued ERO in 2011, which merged the Division of Travel and Tourism into our agency. In oversight, agritourism was not technically part of tourism. With agritourism there are a lot of duties and liabilities that come with that. Once the statutes are renumbered and cleaned up, we will be presenting those regulations to you for your review and approval, probably in January or March of next year.

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- 4. <u>HIP Stamp cleanup</u> Mike Miller information publications chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit N). This is a clean-up necessary because of Senate Bill 314, which removed license exemptions on Kansans age 65-74. The federal law requires anyone who hunts migratory birds in Kansas and who is required to have a hunting license to participate. This regulation was written to exempt resident hunters younger than 16 and older than 64. If you need a license you need a HIP stamp.
- VII. RECESS AT 4:37 p.m. (Catered supper in dining hall)
- VIII. RECONVENE AT 7:00 p.m.
- IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS
- XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT
- X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

#### D. Public Hearing

Notice and Submission Forms; Kansas Legislative Research Letter and Attorney General Letter (Exhibit O).

1. <u>KAR 115-1-1. Definitions (artificial lures)</u> – Doug Nygren, fisheries section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit P). The proposed change deals with a new definition of artificial lure to clarify the use of Alabama rigs which can hold five lures, but can only put two lures on it legally.

Commissioner Debra Bolton moved to approve KAR 115-1-1 before the Commission. Commissioner Don Budd seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-1-1 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit Q):

Commissioner BoltonYesCommissioner BuddYesCommissioner DillYesCommissioner DollYesCommissioner MarshallYesCommissioner WilsonYesCommissioner LauberYes

The motion as presented KAR 115-1-1 passed 7-0.

2. KAR 115-18-18. Hand fishing permit; requirements, restrictions, and permit duration.

– Doug Nygren, fisheries section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit R). The proposed amendment would remove the requirement to complete a survey following the hand fishing season. No mandatory report, but still have to buy the permit.

Commissioner Roger Marshall moved to approve KAR 115-18-18 before the Commission. Commissioner Don Budd seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-18-18 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit Q):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Budd</b>	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
<b>Commissioner Doll</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Marshall</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	Yes

## The motion as presented KAR 115-18-18 passed 7-0.

3. <u>KAR 115-25-14</u>. Fishing; creel limit, size limit, possession limit, and open season. – Doug Nygren, fisheries section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit S). The proposed amendments relate to trout waters and updates to the reference document related to length and creel limits for specific bodies of water. Add Cherryvale City Lake Tanko and Stone Lake, Great Bend to trout waters. Glen Elder comments mostly positive; anglers routinely catch 50 crappie, could spread harvest out was comment that came from anglers in the area. Commissioner Marshall – What is crappie size limit? Nygren – None. Looked at placing a length limit, but felt creel limit would be better. Commissioner Dill – Comments I received in favor of reducing. Pearce – Several lakes like this already, has it improved the fisheries there by having reduced creel? Nygren – Others didn't have catch rates high enough to reach limit of 20-a-day. Pearce – How long does year class live? Nygren – Some make it to age seven, but most don't make it past age four.

Commissioner Tom Dill moved to approve KAR 115-25-14 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-25-14 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit Q):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Budd</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Doll</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Marshall</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-25-14 passed 7-0.

4. KAR 115-7-3. Fish; taking and use of baitfish or minnows. – Doug Nygren, fisheries

section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit T). The proposed amendments would allow taking and use of live baitfish within a drainage except from a designated aquatic nuisance species water, allow the taking and use of bluegill and green sunfish to be used as baitfish anywhere in the state except if taken from a designated aquatic nuisance species water, and restrict importation of out-of-state baitfish unless they meet the same criteria as Kansas commercial baitfish sales. The purpose of proposed amendment is to attempt to prevent the further spread of aquatic nuisance species. Commissioner Budd – What made you change the direction on this? Nygren – Fisherman who fish on trot lines, these species are readily identifiable and didn't include any look-alike species. Commissioner Bolton – Most can identify bluegill and green sunfish, lot of confusion on gizzard shad. Commissioner Doll – Give example of how this would occur. Nygren – Collect and take to another lake. Commissioner Bolton – Expect them to know if ANS water or not? Nygren – Yes. Commissioner Bolton – Always posted? Nygren – Yes. Commissioner Doll – Allowing this because readily identifiable? Getting away from what we wanted to accomplish? Nygren – Yes, and can still carry a hitchhiker with fish. Commissioner Budd – Why allowing this? Nygren – A compromise. Have mixed emotions, but have to be realistic and don't want to restrict someone from traditional way of fishing. Can't control movement of fish from private water fish impoundments. Not all are considered private water fish impoundments, only those that are cut off from water source. Chairman Lauber – That made it difficult for enforcement too. Biggest reason fish were there was fear of Asian carp, can't control movement of water, so tried to control movement of water in a boat and chance of misidentification of these two species was just about nil; silver fish misidentification pretty high. Commissioner Bolton – This is a double-edged sword, don't feel we are being a good steward, but will go with the recommendation. Nygren – Problem is private water fish impoundment, can't control anyway. New zebra mussel lakes all the time, and Asian carp have gotten everywhere they can on their own; trying to restrict human movement. Chairman Lauber – On zebra mussels, mystery how villagers are getting moved? Nygren – Turtles may be one way, but don't know for sure. Watching closely at Milford Hatchery Lake. Commissioner Doll – If watering this down so much wonder why doing it at all? Nygren – Gizzard shad confusion with Asian carp is still a big issue and this will still protect that. Only update list once a year. Still can't take fish out of ANS waters. Commissioner Budd – Does this satisfy the guys who signed the petition? Commissioner Wilson – I feel it does. I would be satisfied with green sunfish and bluegill. Commissioner Budd – I like that we are trying to compromise. Chairman Lauber – Most positive is no Asian carp. Nygren – Most of Asian carp are in Kansas and Missouri rivers. Pearce – Put in bluegill, but most are green sunfish. Where do they catch them? Nygren – I know they are catching them at lake in Pratt, most of them come from smaller impoundments. Pearce – If have stream flowing through your pond that is not private impoundment? Nygren – No those are waters of the state.

Commissioner Robert Wilson moved to approve KAR 115-7-3 before the Commission. Commissioner Tom Dill seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-3 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit U):

Commissioner BoltonYesCommissioner BuddYesCommissioner DillYesCommissioner DollYes

Commissioner MarshallYesCommissioner WilsonYesCommissioner LauberYes

#### The motion as presented KAR 115-7-3 passed 7-0.

5. KAR 115-7-10. Fishing; special provisions (fishing tournaments). – Doug Nygren, fisheries section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit V). The proposed amendments would allow transporting live fish from designated waters containing aquatic nuisance species during permitted fishing tournaments for weigh-ins, update the reference document designated aquatic nuisance waters, and require persons fishing with baitfish purchased from a commercial bait dealer to possess the purchase receipt while fishing. Want to trailer fish to weigh-in site as long as they don't use this regulation to transport them. Also, must keep receipt when purchasing from commercial bait dealer. Commissioner Doll – Hold permit? Nygren – Issue card that they are in the tournament. Chairman Lauber – Person who purchased bait has to keep receipt on them while using the bait? Nygren – This is the input we got from you. Commissioner Budd – What is fine? Jones – Misdemeanor C, 30 days in jail, \$500 fine, could be Lacey Act issue and violation of federal law. Tymeson – That is maximum penalty. Commissioner Marshall – Whole purpose is to decrease spread of zebra mussel? Nygren – All invasive species and be free of disease. With receipt we know it would be legal. Zebra mussels can go downstream on their own. Commissioner Marshall – What percentage not infected? Nygren – Over 400 small lakes and I think we have 17 with zebra mussels, but most are bigger reservoirs; so if you talk about surface acres, about 40 percent infected. Commissioner Marshall - Still a lot at stake here. Nygren - Have request to hire people to do boat inspections, but has not been funded. Commissioner Marshall – What are we doing about boats doing this? Nygren – Have great education program. Jason Goeckler was aquatic nuisance species coordinator, but has been promoted. We have educated anglers that they have to pull plug and drain livewells, which is new this year. Receipt is more than just zebra mussels, there are three reportable diseases, and if a commercial bait dealer came in with diseased fish within a week every water body would be contaminated. Chairman Lauber – Asking commercial bait dealer to provide it so asking purchaser to carry it. Don't believe county attorneys are going to be imposing the maximum fines. Early in the game for other ANS issues, more of an aside issue of commercial bait and has merit. Commissioner Budd – What does receipts have to do with contaminated bait you spoke about? Nygren – Feel confident if person is carrying receipt they are certifying that it is safe. Tymeson – Spend lot of time discussing this issue, came down to Kevin's people checking silver fish, boils down to Asian carp issue. Commissioner Budd – Hard to understand. Pearce – How does this affect people who come in from out-of-state? Can they legally bring fish from another state and is it violation of Lacey Act? Nygren – Any bait that comes in has to be certified. Can't seine fish out of pond, if have certification then can bring in; talked with some vendors in Kansas City area about this. Pearce – Have list of certified dealers? Jones – If they say they are certified dealer, we can check. Pearce – Would be Lacey Act violation if no receipt? Jones – Could be. Commissioner Wilson – This also includes some aquatic nuisance vegetation? Nygren – Yes, and inspections is part of this requirement. Commissioner Doll – Had any violations? Nygren – One, had no paperwork, but was from certified source. Jones – Try to work with the people. Chairman Lauber – Law enforcement tries to educate as much as possible, don't just ticket. I think this is what it takes to protect us from these silver fish. Commissioner Marshall – Right

now okay to go to Kansas River and get sunfish and use them? Nygren – No, can only use where taken. Risk of what we don't know. Tymeson – Authority of our agency to transfer water, but we did do is take measure to drain livewells and open drain plugs. We have done what we have authority to. Also there is an amendment for reference document for Chase SFL.

Commissioner Robert Wilson moved to approve KAR 115-7-10 before the Commission. Commissioner Tom Dill seconded.

Commissioner Robert Wilson moved to amend to add Chase SFL. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote to KAR 115-7-10 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit U):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Marshall	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-7-10 passed 7-0.

The roll call vote to pass KAR 115-7-10 as amended was as follows (Exhibit U):

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
No
Yes
Yes

#### The motion as presented KAR 115-7-10 passed 6-1.

6. <u>KAR 115-2-2.</u> Motor vehicle permit fees. – Linda Lanterman, Parks Division assistant director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit W). The Park Pass was introduced into the Kansas Legislature as a way to generate additional revenue for state parks and allow constituents easy access to state parks. When you go to register or re-register your vehicles, it will allow you to purchase a park pass or mini park pass permit. This will add easy pass into regulation and will take away seasonal pricing. This permit will cost \$15.50. The daily vehicle permit will increase to \$5 (\$3.50 plus issuance fee) at the gate and the regular vehicle permit at our park offices will increase to \$25. Seniors permits will stay at a discounted rate as it is today. Effective in January.

Commissioner Roger Marshall moved to approve KAR 115-2-2 before the Commission. Commissioner Robert Wilson seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-2-2 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit X):

Commissioner BoltonYesCommissioner BuddYesCommissioner DillYesCommissioner DollYesCommissioner MarshallYesCommissioner WilsonYesCommissioner LauberYes

## The motion as presented KAR 115-2-2 passed 7-0.

7. <u>KAR 115-8-19. Personal conduct on department lands and waters; provisions, restrictions and penalties (alcohol).</u> – Linda Lanterman, assistant parks division director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit Y). This initiative was looked at as a way to modernize the alcohol laws. This would remove the restriction allowing only cereal malt beverages, but can post where we don't want alcohol. This would allow us to entertain lodges and resorts. Pearce – What is legal now? Tymeson – Basically 3.2 beer.

Commissioner Don Budd moved to approve KAR 115-8-19 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-8-19 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit X):

Commissioner BoltonYesCommissioner BuddYesCommissioner DillYesCommissioner DollYesCommissioner MarshallYesCommissioner WilsonYesCommissioner LauberYes

# The motion as presented KAR 115-8-19 passed 7-0.

8. KAR 115-4-15. Restitution scoring system; white-tailed deer; mule deer; elk; antelope. – Kevin Jones, law enforcement division director, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit Z). This new regulation establishes scoring systems for restitution for unlawful take of big game animals in Kansas. This restitution scoring system results from legislation from the 2012 legislative session and restitution values increase as the size of the antlers or horns of the animals increase. The passage of Senate Bill 314 requires that true restitution value be placed on trophy-class animals taken in violation of the law. Had broad guidelines and some specific values under commercialization of wildlife, but nothing that really specified restitution values. Value will be determined through a formula based on the gross score of the animal's antlers or horns. The new law establishes a minimum score for the restitution value to be considered under the formula. We have opted to use the Boone and Crockett Club scoring methods. There process is copyrighted, but they have given us permission to use their method. The formula varies, depending on the species of animal, but it is basically the gross score of the animal in inches minus a constant value for that species; deer is 100, elk is 200 and

antelope is 40. This number is then squared and then multiplied by \$2 to arrive at the value. There will be some restitution ordered to the department by the court as a result of convictions for unlawfully taken big game animals, but to estimate would be purely speculative at this time. Marvin Whitehead – As an official measurer, haven't decided who will measure law enforcement of certified measurer? Jones – Talked to Ohio who has had this law for a number of years, don't need certified measurer if follow rules can come up with score; if prosecuted can have certified measurer. Whitehead – On baselines, both Boone and Crockett and Pope and Young use a cable instead of a tape measure. Tymeson – Litigation on that issue in Ohio.

Commissioner Roger Marshall moved to approve KAR 115-4-15 before the Commission. Commissioner Tom Dill seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-4-15 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit AA):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
<b>Commissioner Marshall</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

#### The motion as presented KAR 115-4-15 passed 7-0.

9. <u>KAR 115-8-1.</u> Department lands and waters: hunting, furharvesting, and discharge of <u>firearms.</u> – Brad Simpson, public lands section chief, introduced public land managers (Exhibit BB). This is another clean up regulation to cover alcohol you just passed. Reference document is adopted in 8-1. Commissioner Doll – Only change is wording from cereal malt beverage to alcohol? Simpson – Yes.

Commissioner Debra Bolton moved to approve KAR 115-8-1 before the Commission. Commissioner Don Budd seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-8-1 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit CC):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Budd</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Doll</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Marshall</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	Yes

## The motion as presented KAR 115-8-1 passed 7-0.

10. <u>KAR 115-25-6</u>. <u>Turkey</u>; <u>spring season</u>, <u>bag limit</u>, <u>permits</u>, <u>and game tags</u>. – Jim Pitman, small game biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit DD). The proposed changes would change management units from 4 units to 6 units to coincide with

changes previously made in the fall turkey season; would increase the bag limit in Unit 1; and would allow the use of Unit 4 permits in adjoining units.

Commissioner Tom Dill moved to approve KAR 115-25-6 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-25-6 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit EE):

Commissioner BoltonYesCommissioner BuddYesCommissioner DillYesCommissioner DollYesCommissioner MarshallYesCommissioner WilsonYesCommissioner LauberYes

## The motion as presented KAR 115-25-6 passed 7-0.

11. KAR 115-2-1. Amount of fees (resident senior hunting license). – Mike Miller, Information Production Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit FF). Senate Bill 314 during the legislative process staff indicated that a fee of \$40 would be adequate to ensure federal aid. The fee for a half-price annual hunting or fishing license would be \$9 and for a hunt/fish combination half-price is \$18. Commissioner Budd – This is what you gave legislature? Jennison – Can charge up to one-eighth, get 18 years, but Iowa is being challenged on that, but we are going ahead because this would place us an even keel with other states for federal aid. Commissioner Marshall - Biggest one that my constituents want to know. How are we going to use this money? Jennison – to provide opportunity, use significant amount of money for WIHA, access, shooting ranges; PR money is growing, same types of things we have been doing in the past. Most important thing to tell seniors who are paying excess taxes when they purchase equipment right now we cannot show them as a hunter. With this change we can show them as a hunter or angler and get federal dollars. Can show deer hunter or trout stamp buyer, so doesn't encompass everyone, but will encompass quite a few. Puts us on par with other states; one of 14 states that don't have a license for 65 and over. Chairman Lauber – If buy lifetime license today don't have \$40 to spend, have maybe \$4? Jennison – Iowa taken to task on that and opinion of USFWS; what they said before was that if you made a dollar a year that would get us to 18 years of federal funds; not looking at Iowa because of audit. Hope to at least get a minimum of 3-4 years out of them. Commissioner Marshall – What does it amount to a year? Tymeson - \$16 and \$9, total \$25. Commissioner Budd – Robin has taken this to best possible end it could be. Commissioner Marshall – What are we going to do with the money is what people want to know? Chairman Lauber – There are restrictions on what we can spend the federal money on. Jennison – About 65 years ago there were no federal reservoirs, now 24 state parks and wildlife areas and one million acres; didn't have deer, turkey, pheasants, community lakes (200) and had only about 50 state fishing lakes and fish hatcheries. What we are doing in Kansas is significant; we are one of the most conservative agencies in the nation. Hunters and anglers are getting the biggest bang for their buck in this state. Have most diverse opportunity of any state around and management since 1905 has been phenomenal. Miller – When we started doing research, over 65 group is fastest growing group and have always been a user-based

system so this continues that tradition. Pearce – Talked to several license vendors because not getting information from the department. Need to explain this to the public and help them calm down. Miller – Publicized in a number of different ways, at state fair Marc Murrell only got two negative comments on this.

Commissioner Robert Wilson moved to approve KAR 115-2-1 before the Commission. Commissioner Tom Dill seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-2-1 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit GG):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Budd</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Doll</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Marshall</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	Yes

# The motion as presented KAR 115-2-1 passed 7-0.

12. <u>KAR 115-18-22</u>. <u>Senior pass valid for hunting and fishing; requirements, restrictions, and permit duration.</u> – Mike Miller, Information Production Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit HH). Senate Bill 314 was a department-sponsored bill that proposed eliminating the hunting and fishing license exemption for Kansans 65 and older. The bill was amended and passed that allows Kansans 65 and older to purchase a resident combination hunting and fishing pass. The bill also provides residents 65 and older half-price annual fishing, hunting or hunting/fishing combination licenses. This clears up license if valid to come back and buy permits at resident price.

Commissioner Robert Wilson moved to approve KAR 115-18-22 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-18-22 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit GG):

<b>Commissioner Bolton</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Budd</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Dill</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Doll</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Marshall</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Wilson</b>	Yes
<b>Commissioner Lauber</b>	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-18-22 passed 7-0.

#### XII. Old Business

None

# **XIII.** Other Business

# A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

January 10, 2013 - Butler Community College new facility, El Dorado March 21, 2013 - Topeka (History Center) April 25, 2013 - Wichita - (GPNC) June 27, 2013 - (Garden City)

Invitation to come to Manhattan.

# XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

(Exhibits and/or Transcript available upon request)