MINUTES OF THE HOLLYWOOD PARK DEER COMMITTEE MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2018

The Hollywood Park Deer Committee met in a regular session on October 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Notice was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Laws. Committee Chair LuAnn Montgomery called the meeting to order. Committee Members present were LuAnn Montgomery, Michael Crevoisier, Nancy Swan, Ricky Smith, Reid Loehman, Doug Brown, Tonya Cummings, Barbara Schmitz, Carol Ingham and Debbie Trueman. Also present: City Secretary Janice Alamia, and attorney Artin DerOhanian.

<u>APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING.</u> Carol Ingham made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2018 meeting and Doug Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIALS OF DEER COMMITTEE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2018. The year-end financials were presented and discussed. Annual Deer Manager Salary budget was \$8,000.00, with a current payment of \$1,000.00, for a balance of \$500.00. YTD payroll taxes amounted to \$699.75. Annual Deer Management Supplies budget was \$5,500.00, with a balance of \$313.63. Deer Committee Attorney Fees through September 30, 2018 amounted to \$3,037.51.

APPROVE WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORTS. There were no Wildlife Incident Reports, but Randy Tomasini reported on a dead buck on El Cerrito near Hill Country Village.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION. None.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Review, discuss and take possible action on H.P. Deer Management expenditures and issues related thereto. Carol Ingham moved to accept the expenditures as discussed above, Tonya Cummings seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Carol Ingham reported that she had ordered six Bucks in Rut signs, which were \$21.00 each. The City Treasurer reported that those would be applied to the 2018-2019 budget year.
- 2. Review and discuss results of 2018 Fall Deer Survey. Nancy Swan reported that a total of 120 deer were counted, with 31 bucks, 64 does and 25 fawns. 71% (85 deer) were in the uncurbed area and 29% (35 deer) were in the curbed section. This is the lowest number counted in the Fall survey since 2007 when there were 105 deer counted. Last six Fall counts were as follows:

2018 - 120 deer

2017 - 135 deer

2016 - 152 deer

2015 - 184 deer

 $2014 - 236 \, \text{deer}$

2013 - 199 deer

Chair Montgomery noted that a resident teacher recruited 11 or 12 students who participated in the deer count for school credit, and their help was much appreciated. Montgomery suggested that the maps be modified to indicate a "you are here" marking for those that don't know their way around HP. It was also suggested that next time, the students ride with a resident who is familiar with the area and routes. Montgomery suggested that instead of having a group wait at City Hall for counters returning with maps, they could have a drop box for maps. This would allow for another car load of counters. The committee also discussed moving the Fall survey to 6:45 p.m. so the count would be underway by 7:00 p.m. and could finish up before dark.

- 3. Review and discuss status of CWD samples and issues related thereto. As of the date of the meeting, 4 of 15 CWD samples had been collected.
- 4. Review, discuss and take possible action on 2018-19 trapping season, deer predator control, and issues related thereto. Deer Manager Randy Tomasini reported that no ranches have been approved to take HP deer. He suggested that a total of 15 deer be removed through TTP (trap, transport, process). Debbie Trueman and Nancy Swan disagreed and were not in favor of removing any deer based on the low number in the Fall deer count. Carol Ingham and Doug Brown inquired about CWD requirements and Tomasini confirmed that HP is not obligated to perform CDW testing if no deer are removed. Tomasini cited Texas Parks &Wildlife stats on whitetail reproduction rates and population predictions. Nancy Swan took issue with the stats, pointing out that they are based on rural, not urban settings, and do not correlate to past HP deer populations rates. The Committee will discuss this matter further at the November meeting and will decide at that time on its course of action.
- 5. Review, discuss and take possible action on purchase and placement of yellow caution signs (bucks in rut). Carol Ingham reported that she purchased and has received six *Bucks in Rut* signs for a total of 12. Fawn signs will be taken down immediately and Buck signs will go up on November 1, 2018.

CONSIDERATION OF DATE AND AGENDA FOR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING.

The next Deer Committee meeting was set for Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. The following items were set for that agenda:

- 1. Review, discuss, and take possible action on H.P. Deer Management expenditures and issues related thereto.
- 2. Review and discuss status of CWD samples and issues related thereto.
- 3. Review, discuss, and take possible action on 2018-19 deer trapping season, deer predator control, and issues related thereto.

- 4. Review, discuss and take possible action on placement of *Bucks in Rut* warning signs, and purchase of additional *Watch for Fawn* signs.
- 5. Review, discuss and take possible action on status of current deer population within Hollywood Park; determination of whether to remove deer, and if so, how many deer to be removed; and if deer are to be removed, determination of the method of removal (TTP and/or TTT).

ATTEST:

Secretary, Debbie Trueman

Attorney