



City of Garden Ridge

"A way of life, not just a place to live"

MINUTES WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018, 6:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia
Vice-Chair David Krawczynski
Commissioner Troy Bippert
Commissioner Dawn Hatch
Commissioner Ken Kneupper
Commissioner Paul Sullivan

Commissioners Absent:

Commissioner Jeremiah McKinney (Voluntary Announced Absence)
Councilmember Robb Erickson, Ex officio member

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, Interim City Secretary
Holly McKay, Patrol Officer

Other Appointed or Elected Officials in Attendance:

Mayor Pro-Tem John McCaw
Dr. Jim Miller, Chair, Planning and Zoning Commission
David Ringle, Planning and Zoning Commissioner
Jesse Valdez, Water Commissioner

1. Call to Order

With a quorum of the Wildlife Management Advisory Commission members present, the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge Wildlife Management Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Segovia at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2018, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Roll Call

See above.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Segovia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Chair Statement

Chair Segovia reviewed what the Commission has accomplished and the Commission's continued goals. She stated some of the goals include preventing significant increase in deer, preventing conflicts between deer and people, and creating a comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan to address all wildlife in Garden Ridge. She concluded by stating each Commissioner is serving on the Wildlife Management Advisory Commission because they care about all wildlife in Garden Ridge.

5. Citizen Comment Period – limited to 30 minutes total

Daniel Post, 22016 Deer Canyon Drive, spoke regarding the RMH Ranch Services, LLC contract with the City.

6. Business Items

The Commission may discuss, consider and/or take possible action on the following items:

a) Education/Training Session – Wildlife Collisions by Commissioner Bippert (limited to 20 minutes total).

Vice-Chair Krawczynski went over the presentation “Wildlife Collisions Report 2018” prepared by Commissioner Bippert (see attached).

b) Approvals/Recommendations

i. Minutes for November 19, 2018, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Kneupper, seconded by Vice-Chair Krawczynski, to approve the minutes for November 19, 2018, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting. The Commission voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Discussions/Reports

i. Wildlife and wildlife incidents within the City of Garden Ridge.

1. Police Department

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from the Police Department. The Commission discussed the sick fox referenced in the November report, and Commissioner Hatch spoke regarding Wildlife Rehab Centers.

2. Animal Services

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from Animal Services, and discussed the deer released from a fence referenced in the report.

ii. Development of comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan for Garden Ridge.

Chair Segovia discussed the importance of developing a comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan for Garden Ridge that includes all wildlife. She stated Commissioner McKinney will provide an outline at the Commission’s next meeting, adding that he has a wealth of knowledge in this area. Chair Segovia requested that each Commissioner come up with topics to be added to this plan. The Commission discussed talking with residents about their concerns regarding wildlife in Garden Ridge in order to create an effective Wildlife Management Plan. Chair Segovia spoke regarding the Commission working with the Mayor on the Mayors’ Monarch Pledge Action Items, adding this is an example of positive things that can be done together in the City.

iii. Feral cat issues within the City (Sullivan).

Commissioner Sullivan stated he will be obtaining documentation from Eric Lowman, Animal Services, regarding feral cats for the Commission to discuss at the January meeting.

d) Updates/Recommendations

i. Deer Management (Segovia).

1. Texas Parks and Wildlife permits. (TTT/TTP)

Chair Segovia stated RMH Ranch Services, LLC will act as the City’s agent to file these permits through Texas Parks and Wildlife. Nancy Cain, City Administrator, stated she should have more information about the status of permits filed at the next Commission meeting.

2. Status update on RMH Ranch Services, LLC contract with the City.

Nancy Cain, City Administrator, stated the contract was reviewed by legal counsel and approved by City Council. She stated she is currently awaiting the signed contract from Ryan Murphy with RMH Ranch Services, LLC.

ii. Commissioner's Projects

1. Update on research performed on non-drug birth control studies (Segovia).

Chair Segovia stated research grants cannot be applied for until a Wildlife Management Plan is developed.

2. Health of wildlife in Garden Ridge.

Chair Segovia stated someone asked for monthly updates on different things, so she sent in a Grapevine article for January regarding Nandina's red berries. Chair Segovia asked if any Commissioners had anything to add regarding the health of wildlife in Garden Ridge. The Commissioners did not have anything to add at this time.

3. Future education/training sessions and Grapevine articles.

The Commission discussed future education/training sessions and set the following schedule:

- January – Vice-Chair Krawczynski
- February – Commissioner Kneupper
- March – Chair Segovia
- April – Commissioner Sullivan
- May – Commissioner Hatch
- June – Commissioner Bippert
- July – Commissioner McKinney

iii. City Council Update/Report

1. December 5, 2018, City Council Regular Meeting.

Chair Segovia stated City Council discussed the RMH Ranch Services, LLC contract in open session, adding the status update provided by Nancy Cain, City Administrator, already covered this topic. Chair Segovia reported she followed up with Mayor Thompson to make sure he had information regarding streater reflective systems for his meeting with TxDOT.

e) Future Agenda Items.

i. Commissioner input.

None at this time.

ii. Announcement of next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting (Monday, January 28, 2019, at 6 p.m. at City Hall).

Chair Segovia announced the next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, January 28, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

7. Citizen Comment Period - limited to 20 minutes total

Jesse Valdez, 9035 Cinnabar Court, stated the Commission is welcome to contact him or his wife, who is a master gardener and master naturalist.

Martha Stipp, 21007 Cedar Branch, spoke regarding vehicle/deer collision statistics, reducing the speed limit at night, and reflector systems.

David Ringle, 9234 Blazing Star Trail, spoke regarding the lighting section in Ordinance 162.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Monday, December 17, 2018, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m. by Chair Segovia.



Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia, Chair

ATTEST:



Marisa Spencer
Interim City Secretary

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SIGN IN TO SPEAK AT THE DECEMBER 17, 2018
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

Rules for Citizens' Participation:

The City Council welcomes citizen participation and comments at all City Council Meetings. The City Council offers citizens the opportunity to address them by signing up to speak prior to the meeting. If you speak, you follow these guidelines:

- a) Respect and courtesy:
 - i. Direct your comments to the entire City Council, not to an individual member, nor to the audience.
 - ii. Show the City Council the same respect that you would like to be shown.
 - iii. End your speaking at the time allotted below.
- b) Speaking:
 - i. First citizen comment period
 - 1. You are required to sign up to speak.
 - 2. You are limited to one 3 minute period.
 - ii. Business item period
 - 1. You are required to sign up to speak.
 - 2. You are limited to one 3 minute period.
 - iii. Second citizen comment period
 - 1. You are not required to sign up.
 - 2. You are limited to one 2 minute period.
 - iv. State your name and address before your comments begin.
 - v. You are only allowed to speak once per topic, unless also speaking during a posted Public Hearing.

*NOTE: The Texas Open Meetings Act permits a member of the public or a member of the governmental body to raise a subject that has not been included in the notice for the meeting. However, any discussion of the subject **must be limited** to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting and any response to a question posed to the City Council is limited to either a statement of specific factual information or a recitation of existing policy. TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.042*

1.	NAME	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
	Daniel Foot	2201 E Deer Canyon Dr.	Deer Contract
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10.			

Wildlife Vehicle Collisions



Troy Bippert

December 10, 2018

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Chapter 1

Collisions

Wildlife is something to take seriously while driving because vehicles across the United States hit an estimated 1 million to 2 million animals every year. It works out to a collision happening roughly every 26 seconds. The wildlife-related accidents that occur each year result in an average of 200 human fatalities, 26,000 injuries and \$1-4 billion in costs. Texans encounter a 1 in 269 chance of hitting a doe or buck in the next 12 months. That's a 7 percent increase over last year, according to data compiled by State Farm. Other new data from the insurer reveal that nearly half of all deer-related crashes in Texas occur October to December.



Deer Collision

Chapter 2

Costs

According to the State Farm study, the amount to fix your car from a deer strike has increased by about \$200, with a national average insurance claim of \$4,179. The national claim cost per claim average from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 was \$4,179 - up from \$3,995 (2015-16). Many wildlife vehicle collisions go unreported because the damage is either not enough to bother reporting, or because the owner of the vehicle has no collision coverage to place a claim against.



Hog Collision

Chapter 3

Tips for Avoidance

Here are a few things you can do to decrease your odds of hitting wildlife while driving and for safety purposes during this time of the year:

- Use extra caution and slow down in known deer zones.
- Dusk to dawn are high-risk times; use high beams when appropriate.
- Scan the road and avoid swerving when you see a deer.
- Always wear your seatbelt.
- Do not rely on devices such as deer whistles, deer fences and reflectors to deter deer.

If you hit an animal, here are a few after-crash tips:

- Move your vehicle to a safe place: Pull to the side of the road and turn on your hazard lights.
- Call police: If a deer is blocking traffic, it could be creating a threat for other drivers.
- Document: Take photographs of the road, your surroundings and damage.
- Avoid the animal: A frightened, wounded deer could use its legs and hooves to harm you.
- Contact your insurance company: Quickly file your insurance claim.
- Don't assume your vehicle is safe to drive: Look for leaking fluid, loose parts, tire damage, broken lights and other hazards.



Deer Collision

Chapter 4

References

- <https://www.quora.com/Does-hitting-a-deer-cause-damage-to-your-car>
- TxDOT Crashes by Unit Contributing Factor
- Texas drivers face increased likelihood of deer collisions
- Insurance Center.com Wildlife and Car Insurance
- Reducing the High Cost of Wildlife Vehicle Collisions
- Deer Drive Damage Costs Up

Wildlife Management Advisory Commission
12/17/18 Regular Meeting
2nd Citizen Comments

NAME	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
1. JESSE VALDEZ	9035 CINNABAR CT	MONARCH'S - GARDENING
2. Martha Stipp	21007 Cedar Branch	↓ speed limit at night/ reflectors
3. David C. Ringle	9234 Blazing Star Trl.	Ordinance 162-#5
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