

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
5 FOR ENGROSSED  
6 SENATE BILL NO. 587

By: Jech of the Senate

and

Newton of the House

7  
8  
9  
10                                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11                   An Act relating to the Wildlife Conservation  
12                   Commission; amending 29 O.S. 2011, Section 3-103, as  
13                   amended by Section 116, Chapter 304, O.S.L. 2012 (29  
14                   O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 3-103), which relates to the  
15                   functions, powers and duties of the Commission;  
16                   modifying Commission meeting requirements; and  
17                   providing an effective date.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19                   SECTION 1.           AMENDATORY           29 O.S. 2011, Section 3-103, as  
20                   amended by Section 116, Chapter 304, O.S.L. 2012 (29 O.S. Supp.  
21                   2016, Section 3-103), is amended to read as follows:

22                   Section 3-103.   A.   The Wildlife Conservation Commission shall  
23                   constitute an advisory, administrative and policymaking board for  
24                   the protection, restoration, perpetuation, conservation,

1 supervision, maintenance, enhancement, and management of wildlife in  
2 this state as provided in the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Code.

3 B. The Director shall consult with the Commission regarding the  
4 administration of the affairs of the Department of Wildlife  
5 Conservation. The Commission is authorized and empowered to require  
6 from the Director complete reports and information relative to the  
7 affairs of the Department at the time and in the manner the  
8 Commission may deem advisable.

9 C. The Commission shall meet ~~on the first Monday in each month~~  
10 at least nine (9) times per calendar year in regular session, with  
11 no two regular session meetings held within the same month and not  
12 more than two (2) consecutive months between meetings, and in  
13 special sessions as may be called by the Chair or a majority of the  
14 Commission. The Commission may hold any regular or special session  
15 at any location within this state. Should a location be chosen  
16 other than Commission headquarters in Oklahoma City for a regular or  
17 special meeting, notice shall be posted at Commission headquarters  
18 in Oklahoma City and advertised in the local newspaper of the city  
19 in which the meeting is to be held, at least one time during each of  
20 the two (2) weeks prior to the meeting. The advertisements shall  
21 include time, date, and address of location of the meeting.

22 D. In addition to the other powers and duties prescribed by  
23 law, the Commission shall:

24

- 1 1. Institute an affirmative action plan for hiring women and  
2 minorities throughout the agency;
- 3 2. Elect a chair, vice-chair~~7~~ and secretary, who shall perform  
4 the duties required of them by statutes, rules of the Commission~~7~~  
5 and the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma. The chair, vice-  
6 chair~~7~~ and secretary shall receive no extra compensation;
- 7 3. Appoint a Director, and determine the qualifications of the  
8 Director and all assistants and employees. A Commissioner shall not  
9 be eligible for employment in any position within the Department;
- 10 4. Prescribe rules and policies for the transaction of its  
11 business and the control of the Department;
- 12 5. Develop and implement a plan to provide step raises for  
13 Commission employees so that discrepancies of pay levels within a  
14 pay grade are eliminated;
- 15 6. Acquire by purchase, lease, gift, or devise, waters, real  
16 property~~7~~ and personal property incident to the exercise of its  
17 functions and to maintain, operate~~7~~ and dispose of the same;
- 18 7. Acquire real property by condemnation only when the Attorney  
19 General or other counsel deems it an appropriate means of clearing  
20 title from willing or unavailable sellers;
- 21 8. Supervise the establishment, extension, improvement~~7~~ and  
22 operation of the wildlife refuges, propagation areas or stations,  
23 public hunting areas, public fishing areas, game management areas,  
24 and fish hatcheries;

- 1           9. Prescribe the manner of cooperation with the Oklahoma  
2 Tourism and Recreation Department, colleges and universities within  
3 the state, other state agencies, any agency of the federal  
4 government, and any city, town, school district, or any other agency  
5 or organization in study of conservation and propagation of wildlife  
6 and in the establishment, maintenance, and operation of visual  
7 educational facilities, recreational facilities, and hunting and  
8 fishing facilities, in the study and propagation of wildlife;
- 9           10. Supervise the letting of all contracts and purchases for  
10 the Department, with all purchases of personal property to be made  
11 through the Office of Management and Enterprise Services;
- 12           11. Authorize all claims or expenditures prior to incurring  
13 payment except as otherwise provided in this Code;
- 14           12. Prescribe rules on the use of Department-owned vehicles by  
15 the Director, department heads and other essential employees as the  
16 Commission deems necessary in order to perform their duties;
- 17           13. Prescribe rules for the sale of all regular or special  
18 licenses;
- 19           14. Publicize and encourage the conservation and appreciation  
20 of wildlife and all other natural resources;
- 21           15. Regulate the seasons and harvest of wildlife;
- 22           16. Promulgate rules to sell fishing and hunting licenses via  
23 the Internet;
- 24

1 17. Annually report to the Governor and the Legislature on the  
2 complete operation, activities, and plans of the Department,  
3 together with such recommendations for future activities as the  
4 Commission may deem to be in the best interest of the state; and

5 18. Provide the Governor and the Legislature with an annual  
6 inventory of all property and equipment.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

8

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON WILDLIFE, dated 04/12/2017 - DO  
10 PASS, As Amended.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24