



**NOTICE OF AGENDA  
GRANITE SHOALS WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026 AT 6:00 PM**

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City of Granite Shoals City Hall, 2221 N. Phillips Rd., Granite Shoals, TX 78654  
Phone (830) 598-2424 Fax (830) 598-6538 • [www.graniteshoals.org](http://www.graniteshoals.org)

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**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order/ Roll Call/ Welcome**

Recognize the resignation of Brad Hammel.

**2. Citizen Comments**

**3. Consent Agenda**

3.a. Discuss and consider approval of meeting minutes from December 1, 2025.

**4. Discussion Items**

4.a. Discuss all harvesting metrics as of year-end 2025 and remaining goals to close out the fiscal 2025-2026 season. (Only 38 actual harvest days remain.)

4.b. Update on the success of the whole-deer donation process to date and discuss any issues or needed enhancements.

4.c. Discuss status of the earn-a-buck program including total tags earned and remaining as well as consider if any changes are needed to further incentivize donations.

4.d. Discuss status of the Trap Transport Permit (TTP) process and whether or not it has the potential to impact the remainder of the fiscal 2025-2026 harvest season.

4.e. Discuss end of season harvester appreciation event or activity and timing.

**5. Action Items**

5.a. Plan for potential switch to afternoon harvesting or alternating morning versus afternoon harvesting by week (including harvester communications) to boost harvest totals.

5.b. Plan staffing for scheduled shoot test on January 10th.

5.c. Designate two-member team to organize harvester appreciation event or activity.

5.d. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action regarding potential Wildlife Committee leadership changes for 2026.

**6. Future Agenda Items**

**7. Adjournment**

**CERTIFICATION**

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing agenda has been posted on both the indoor bulletin board and outdoor notice board of Granite Shoals City Hall on or before the 29th day of December, 2025. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 8 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary at (830) 598-2424 for further information.

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Dawn Wright, City Secretary



**This Notice and Meeting Agenda, and the Agenda Packet, are posted online at [www.graniteshoals.org](http://www.graniteshoals.org)**



**NOTICE OF AGENDA  
GRANITE SHOALS WILDLIFE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025 AT 6:00 PM**

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City of Granite Shoals City Hall, 2221 N. Phillips Rd., Granite Shoals, TX 78654  
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**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order/ Roll Call/ Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

**2. Citizen Comments**

Dee Warren — Concerns about the humane treatment of the deer, equity in harvesting locations, and criteria for harvesting bucks.

**3. Consent Agenda**

3.a. Discuss and consider approval of meeting minutes from November 3, 2025.

Moved by Matthew Campbell; seconded by Jeff Herzog to approve meeting minutes from November 3, 2025.

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

Voting For: Brad Hammel, Keith Rogers, Jeff Herzog, Matthew Campbell

**4. Discussion Items**

4.a. Discuss trapping initiative and status.

Summary of Proposed Program:

- Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) for TTP permit (process: 30–45 days).
- Mutual Operations Agreement (MOA) being developed between the City and Highland Lakes ARC (Area Resource Council).

Trapping Procedure:

- Deer trapped, dispatched, field dressed.
- ARC responsible for processing and protein distribution to those in need.
- Highland Lakes ARC interested in purchasing/providing trap for City use.

#### Site Visits and Comparisons:

- Committee members observed successful operations in Horseshoe Bay; modern traps considered humane and effective (vs. noisy, stressful netting methods).
- Traps cost about \$10,000 each.

#### Seasonality:

- General trapping season currently ends March 31, but Granite Shoals may seek year-round permission due to high deer population.

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- Committee empowered Chief and City to apply for TTP permits and proceed with negotiations and necessary documentation.
  - No formal vote required at this stage; only affirmation of support.
  - City Council approval will eventually be needed for the agreement with ARC.

#### 4.b. Discuss “whole deer” sign up and claim process.

- An online form on the City website generates a resident list; pick-up is coordinated by the committee.
- 44 residents are currently on the waiting list for whole deer.
- Verification via driver’s license and water bill are required for the claim.
- Suggestion to split deer: half for processing, half distributed whole.
- Processing supported through Hunters for the Hungry program and Central Texas Food Bank.

#### 4.c. Discuss YTD statistics for deer taken, donations, and total deer needed to be taken to achieve the target goal of 270.

- Goals: 270 does and 45 bucks for the season.
  - Total deer harvested: 138
  - Does taken: 123
  - Bucks taken: 14
- Donated: Approximately 80–90, split between processing and whole deer.
- Active participation: 28 different harvesters, some inactive.
- Concern: 53 harvest days remain; pace must increase to meet target.

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- Need for additional harvest locations.

- Possible schedule modifications.
- Consideration of implementing or expanding trapping as necessary.

## 5. Action Items

- 5.a. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action to establish guidelines for harvester membership revocation.

### Debate on Policy for Lost Deer:

- No unanimous support for “two lost deer and out” rule; viewed as unfair due to variability in hunting conditions.
- Current practice: Case-by-case review; only state/city ordinance violations result in automatic revocation.

### Success Rate:

- 98% shot retrieval rate since stricter qualification/background checks implemented (significantly better than national bowhunting average).
- Emphasis on hunter caution and not pursuing wounded deer too quickly.
- No action was taken.

- 5.b. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action regarding any harvesters under consideration for revocation.

- One harvester on hold after two lost deer.
- No State or City law/policy violations were identified.

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Moved by Brad Hammel; seconded by Matthew Campbell to not revoke membership of a harvester that was being considered for revocation. Member will be counselled on shooting techniques and harvesting practices and will be monitored for any further issues.

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

Voting For: Brad Hammel, Keith Rogers, Jeff Herzog, Matthew Campbell

- 5.c. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action to analyze buck tag inventory and consider modification of *earn a buck program* parameters.

### Current Parameters:

- Harvesters receive a buck tag after donating five does.

- Tags given only after qualification; tracked individually.
- 31 buck tags currently remain.
- Tags may be reserved for “bully bucks” impeding doe harvests.

Marked Deer Language:

- Language in *Earn-A-Buck* program prohibited taking “marked/pet” deer; the committee disagreed, as there are no legal pet deer.
- Will revisit this language next meeting.
- No action was taken.

5.d. Discuss and analyze actual harvest days remaining (53) versus the target goal of 270 and consider modification of harvest days remaining and/ or need for trapping.

- Discussion to add two afternoon sessions per week (3pm–5:30pm).
- The deer avoid morning sessions; afternoon sessions see higher activity.
- Must align with school bus schedules; chosen locations to avoid routes.
- Consideration for a pilot trial for December with selected experienced hunters.

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Moved by Keith Rogers; seconded by Brad Hammel to allow afternoon (3:00 PM to 5:00 PM) harvesting at specific harvest sites that are not located on or around bus routes.

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

Voting For: Brad Hammel, Keith Rogers, Jeff Herzog, Matthew Campbell

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Moved by Jeff Herzog; seconded by Matthew Campbell to move forward with a Whitetail Deer Trapping program.

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

Voting For: Brad Hammel, Keith Rogers, Jeff Herzog, Matthew Campbell

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- Granite Shoals will now apply for a trapping permit with TPWD and investigate an agreement with Highland Lakes ARK for program details.

5.e. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action regarding operational issues that may require committee approval.

Cooler Status:

- Functioning adequately (41°F; set at 40°F; maintained by local AC technician).

- Maintain regular checks; gather cost estimates for repair/replacement.

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Procedures for Giving Out Whole Deer:

- Until the next shipment of processed meat arrives, priority is given to distributing whole deer to keep the cooler empty.
- No action was taken.

## **6. Future Agenda Items**

- Review of Trapping MOA and Permit Status (next meeting)
- Update on Earn-A-Buck Program language (coordination with Mark Henshaw regarding the “pet deer” clause)
- Ongoing review of harvest targets/progress
- Report on processed meat distribution and demand
- Status of cooler and any major repairs/replacements
- Insurance policy outcome for landowners and harvesters
- Evaluation of December afternoon harvest pilot
- Review of distribution process for whole deer and processed meat
- Policy review if any violations or major incidents occur before the next meeting

## **7. Adjournment**

With no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51PM.

## **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the above minutes are true and correct from the Wildlife Advisory Committee meeting of December 1, 2025.

Mark Henshaw, Chair \_\_\_\_\_