



Citizens Against Equine Slaughter
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President: Dr. Lester Friedlander, D.V.M.

Branches: Oregon Wild Horse & Burro Association &
Public Lands Truth Campaign

citizensagainstequineslaughter.org

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Dear Board of Trustees, President Cockett, and Dr. Messmer:

We request that you open the 3-day meeting for the purpose of discussing wild horse and burro. The University operates by use of public funds, therefore must conform to UT Code, Title 52, Chapter 4, Open & Public Meetings Act.

The 'conference' falls under the definition of a workshop held for the purpose of discussing matters over which the public body of the meeting does have jurisdiction and advisory power. This public body with attendees having administrative, advisory, executive and legislative power, over the publicly owned resources being discussed, and the majority are vested with the authority to make decision regarding the public's business.

The University is a publicly funded institution therefore any meeting including a workshop cannot be closed when it is supported in whole or in part by tax revenue. The purpose of the meeting does not fall under category allowable for executive session, not by this UT Code or the Federal Sunshine Laws.

It is an egregious error to hold this meeting in a closed or executive forum, and our personal feeling is that the majority if not ALL of the attendees are actively working against the reservation of our wild horses, and lean heavily in favor of other uses of these public lands. We sincerely hope that hosting this conference of special interest groups, who seek to perform euthanasia or slaughter of American wild horses & burros, is merely an oversight or momentary lack of good judgement. The story of over-population has been created on a foundation of lies. We are attaching our press release on the US Code Title 18 Violations of Representatives Stewart and Amodei proving that the myth of overpopulation is a lie, that the myth of tens of thousands of starving horses is a myth, and that a very simple, fiscally responsible solution is and has been available for over 30 years but BLM never used a HARD LOOK to allocate the proper funds to the solution which is PZP, or birth control vaccines. The herds have been reduced so severely that 80 % of the HMA's fall under genetic viability. The agencies deny all the science proving that our wild horses are native. And give EVERY other 'multiple use' item preference over wild horses.

We contend that the 'scientists' speaking are most likely those that have been used before, ones that in some way have a financial tie to these same adversaries of wild horses. This collusion must stop, these closed-door meetings must stop, and real science must be used, not the twisted science that studies one species impact on a land where several species exist.

The University, as an institute for education must do better than this, and must not become complacent to break the law and contribute to the corruption and collusion involved in the public lands issues, and the fate of our historic and iconic wild horses and burros.

Respectfully,
Val Cecama-Hogsett
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