

**Sahtu Renewable Resources Board  
Board Conference Call  
21 September 2001**

**Present on Call:**

Winter Lennie	Chairperson
Russ Hall	Member
Paul Latour	Member
Lucy Jackson	Alternate Member
Leonard Kenny	Alternate Member
Keith Hickling	Alternate Member
Leroy Andre	Guest

Jody Snortland      Executive Director

**1. Call to Order**

- Meeting convened at 10:10 a.m.

**2. Review/Acceptance of the Agenda**

- Additional business:
  - RWED Minister's Letter
  - Mentor/Supervisor for Biologist
  - Activity Update from Chair & Executive Director

**SRRB Motion#09-21-01-01**

- To accept the agenda with the additions above

**Moved by: Lucy Jackson**

**Seconded by: Russ Hall**

**Motion carried unanimously**

**3. New Business**

**a) Position Statements Re: Wildlife Management Boards (WMB) Co-Chair Meeting Agenda Items**

**i. Bill C-5: Species at Risk Act**

- Bill C-5 (previously known as Bill C-33) was put before Parliament in February 2001; has gone through 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading as well as the standing committee; Federal Environment Minister hoped to have the Bill go through 3<sup>rd</sup> reading by November 2001; however, continue to have problems with the listing process (too political) and habitat protection (too limited)
- Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and NWT Wildlife Management Advisory Council (WMAC-NWT) made submissions to the standing committee regarding the Bill

**ii. Wildlife Act (Federal & Territorial)**

- To date, WMB have not been formally included in consultation process
- Discussion paper released "*Drafting a New Wildlife Act: Conservation for Today and Tomorrow*"; good base for public information;

representatives from both WAAG and RWED will soon be visiting each community in the NWT for further consultations

- SRRB's executive committee to meet with Doug Stewart in October 2001 regarding issues in relation to the new NWT Wildlife Act

**iii. DIAND Funding Agreement – The Next 10 Years**

- Due to federal and territorial cutbacks, additional staff should be hired
  - Fisheries/forestry biologist
  - Conservation education officer
- Wildlife Studies Fund – was it a one time only payment or can it be re-negotiated for the new ten-year period?
- Concerns about the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board
  - Who will implement the recommendations?
  - Will the board continue independently or be moved to Sahtu Land & Water Board or SRRB offices; SSI should be investigating this concern; SRRB to write a letter to raise the issue with SSI

**iv. Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Steering Committee**

- SSI and Gwich'in Tribal Council were not participating in the process; SRRB has attended one workshop; have not provided further support as unsure of SSI's current position
- Determine other WMB's positions

**v. Wildlife Research Permits**

- SRRB's recommendation to the Minister of RWED; WMB to make strong response to Joe Handley's letter
- GRRB have same concerns
  - Insufficient review time
  - Receiving permits that have nothing to do with region

**vi. Proposed Hydro-Dam Development**

- Discuss with WMB, World Wildlife Fund, Ducks Unlimited, Ecology North, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, and others the idea of devising a unified response to hydro development (be pro-active)
- Group would include all those affected (including non-settled areas); demand GNWT provide all available information; propose alternative developments that would be less impacting, e.g., in-stream turbines
- With GIS, modeling can be done to determine impacts of development
  - Loss of recreational potential
  - Loss of wildlife habitat (particularly island moose habitat)
  - Loss of fish habitat

**vii. Traditional/Community Knowledge**

- Currently, SRRB requires TEK in research applications, local people are hired, GIS collection, and community consultations (includes beneficiaries being present at board meetings); to be used at every opportunity

- GRRB also does not have a formal policy; however have taken a proactive role in collecting TEK; have published two books about wildlife and TEK
- Concerns raised about why SRRB is not collecting TEK similar to GRRB; SRRB felt that perhaps SSI should take the lead in devising a plan to deal with the collection and storage of TEK; each Sahtu co-management board would provide info relating to their mandate

**viii. Harvest Studies**

- SRRB hopes to continue the harvest study; information gathered is too important to completely quit; to decide whether it will be continued at present level or to be scaled back
- GRRB continued harvest study for two years
- To ask WMB what they plan to do with their studies

**b) Position Statement Re: Mackenzie Valley Pipeline**

- No applications have been filed to date
- Additional resources will be required in anticipation of the increased workload (request from DIAND in next ten-year period)
  - Staffing
  - Training & monitoring programs
  - Office space
  - Community information distribution
- To remain politically impartial as WMB; SRRB will be major player in the review of Environmental Impact Assessments; concerns about wildlife and wildlife habitat will have to be addressed to our satisfaction

**c) Conflict of Interest**

- All board members and alternates received a letter from the Office of the Ethics Counselor re: conflict of Interest Guidelines; suggestion to get legal opinion regarding guidelines (plain English)
- Public perception is very important; although activity may be business/economic development based, may be seen as political by the public; involvement of media to confirm SRRB position?
- MVEIRB had legal opinion done regarding conflict of interest; Winter to get copy

**4. Additional Business**

**a) Minister of RWED's letter**

- Members feel that the Minister did not deal with recommendations; rather just 'tossed the ball back'
- Executive committee to meet with Doug Stewart on Oct. 11; be firm about SRRB position

**b) Mentor/Supervisor for Biologist**

- To provide direction and guidance; to be 100% satisfied that biologist is on the right track
- Paul or Norm to take active role; more frequent calls; to be discussed with biologist

- c) **Activity Update from Executive Director & Chair**
  - To be sent in next information package

**5. Adjournment**

**SRRB Motion #09-21-01-02**

- To adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

**Moved by: Paul Latour**  
**Seconded by: Keith Hickling**  
**Motion carried unanimously**

Minutes approved:

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Chairperson

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Date