

**Sahtu Renewable Resource Board Meeting  
23-24 September 2003  
Norman Wells, NT**

**September 23, 2003**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Walter Bayha  
Fred Taptuna  
Leonard Kenny  
Norman Simmons  
Ronald Pierrot  
Keith Hickling

**STAFF**

Jody Snortland  
Lori Ann Lennie  
Janet Bayha  
Glen Guthrie

**GUESTS**

Richard Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC  
Alexis Blancho – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC  
Paul Modeste – Deline RRC  
Andrew John Kenny – Deline RRC  
Roger Boniface – Fort Good Hope RRC  
Harry Harris – Fort Good Hope RRC  
John Hodgson – Norman Wells RRC  
Wilfred Lennie Sr. – Tulita RRC  
Boniface Ayah – Tulita RRC

Alasdair Veitch – RWED-Sahtu  
Richard Popko – RWED-Sahtu  
Warren Parsons – DFO  
Raymond Taniton – SLUPB  
Lee Smith – Public  
Donna Schear – Mackenzie Gas Project  
Margaret McDonald – Mackenzie Gas Project  
Alphonsine McNeely - Translator  
Ken Caine – Deline Knowledge Centre

**Meeting convened @ 9:25 a.m.**

**1. Opening Prayer**

- Opening prayer by Richard Kochon

**2. Call to Order/Introductions**

- Walter Bayha called the meeting to order @ 9:25 a.m.
- Round table introductions

**3. Review/Acceptance of Agenda**

- Agenda additions:
  - Agency Updates: DFO – Warren Parsons & RWED – Alasdair Veitch/Richard Popko
  - Traditional Environmental Knowledge Policy

**SRRB Motion #09-23-03-01**

- To accept the agenda with above additions

**Moved by: Leonard Kenny  
Seconded by: Keith Hickling  
Carried Unanimously**

**RRC Meeting convened @ 9:40a.m.**

- Janet Bayha, Facilitator
- Minutes – Section 11: RRC Concerns

**4. Review/Acceptance of Financial Statements**

- Income Statement & Balance Sheet, as of 18 September 2003, tabled

**ACTION (ED):** To provide individual fund balances to members for board meetings

**SRRB Motion #09-23-03-02**

- To accept the financial statements as presented

**Moved by: Norman Simmons**

**Seconded by: Keith Hickling**

**Carried Unanimously**

**5. Review/Acceptance of Previous Minutes**

- 14-15 July 2003 meeting minutes tabled

**SRRB Motion #09-23-03-03**

- To accept the 14-15 July 2003 minutes as presented

**Moved by: Leonard Kenny**

**Seconded by: Fred Taptuna**

**Carried Unanimously**

**6. Business Arising from Minutes**

**a) Recommendation for ATV Use**

- Update by Keith Hickling
- Research completed to date on environmental effects (erosion) of ATV usage, access issues and integrating recommendations into various legislations (Wildlife Act, Territorial Parks Act, etc.) – have found the issue to be more involved than originally thought
- Additional concerns raised about increased ATV usage along the North Shore of Great Bear Lake

**ACTION (Keith Hickling & ED):** To prepare list of recommended options for the February 2004 meeting

**b) Great Bear Lake Working Group Update**

- Great Bear Lake Working Group (GBLWG) Update: June to September 2003 tabled
- Keith Hickling tasked with enforcement & compliance portion of Management Plan
- Co-management boards provide in-kind support to GBLWG and fund own travel to & from meetings

- Raymond Taniton, GBLWG Coordinator – funding provided through various Federal Departments

## **7. Scholarship Applications**

### **a) Holly Barnaby**

- Renewable resource related field; does not meet 70% average
- Noted that marks are not everything; must also look at student effort and other circumstances
- Ronald Pierrot listed as reference
- Defer decision until Ronald Pierrot arrives

### **b) Jennifer Duncan**

- Plans to study environmental law in final semester of law school – fits renewable resource related field; good marks; excellent work history and volunteer effort; exceptional application submitted
- Requests \$5000 in one payment (increase in tuition from \$1599.50 to \$5511.47)
- Members agree that as much support as possible should be given to Sahtu students who have invested so much effort into their studies and plan to return to the North

### **SRRB Motion #09-23-03-04**

- To award graduate year scholarship (\$5000) to Jennifer Duncan in one installment

**Moved by: Norman Simmons**

**Seconded by: Leonard Kenny**

**Carried Unanimously**

**ACTION (ED):** To include Board Member's comments in response letter

### **c) Marina Hansen-Lennie**

- Renewable resource related field; good reference from J. Taylor
- No transcripts provided with application

### **SRRB Motion #09-23-03-05**

- To award 2<sup>nd</sup> year scholarship (\$2500) to Marina Hansen-Lennie upon receipt of first year transcripts and evidence of adequate performance

**Moved by: Keith Hickling**

**Seconded by: Leonard Kenny**

**Carried Unanimously**

**RRC members rejoin meeting @ 11:00 a.m.**

## **8. Business Arising from Minutes cont.**

### **c) Deline Knowledge Centre – Ken Caine**

- PowerPoint Presentation & Information Paper tabled

- “All knowledge is good knowledge”
- First research of this kind in the NWT; funding for this project is by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- Possibility to have the concept of the Knowledge Centre expand into the other Sahtu communities

## 9. Species at Risk Information Session Report

- Species at Risk Information Session Report & NWT Species at Risk Chart tabled
- All of Canada’s species (mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish, mollusks, butterflies/moths, plants, lichens & mosses) are assessed
- National Aboriginal Council on Species at Risk has been established to advise and make recommendations to Federal & Provincial/Territorial Ministers
- Species at Risk prohibitions (fines and jail time) are only for threatened or endangered species

## 10. Agency Updates

### a) RWED – Alasdair Veitch

- Mammals PowerPoint Presentation tabled
- Calving grounds of the Bluenose-east caribou herd are currently NOT protected
- Harvest of barren-ground caribou are within sustainable limits (about 4000 caribou harvested out of 200,000)
- In the Sahtu, no drugs are used when collaring caribou (net gunning only); blood samples are taken from caribou during collaring
- To date, no West Nile Virus found in the NWT

### b) DFO – Warren Parsons

- Responsible for enforcement in the NWT (just moved North)
- What are the fishery enforcement concerns in your area?  
Warren Parsons, Area Chief Conservation & Protection  
Department of Fisheries & Oceans  
Yellowknife, NT  
(867) 669-4921  
[parsonsw@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:parsonsw@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

## 11. RRC Concerns

- Janet Bayha and RRCs presented concerns discussed in morning RRC Meeting (minutes follow)

## Renewable Resources Councils Meeting – 23 September 2003

### Convened @ 9:40 a.m.

Colville Lake	- Richard Kochon
	- Alexis Blanco
Deline	- Andrew John Kenny
	- Paul Modeste
Fort Good Hope	- Rodger Boniface – Absent
	- Harry Harris – Absent

Norman Wells - John Hodgson – Absent (no translator)  
Tulita - Boniface Ayah  
- Wilfred Lennie Sr.

### Concerns/Issues

1. Gun Licenses/Registry – Richard Kochon

Harvesters have difficult time filling out their forms; therefore, affecting their harvesting activities. Sometimes it takes 1-2 years before they receive their license. Some of them send their forms out but are sent back asking for the right size pictures to be included. They get the run around to receive their license. RRCs want to know if the SRRB can help write a support/recommendation letter. People are concerned that their right to hunt is being taken away.

SRRB response: The land claim gives its people exclusive rights to hunt, fish, trap and gather in the Sahtu Settlement Region. The Board can send names of people available to come into the community to help fill out applications.

2. Education and Training – Andrew John Kenny

We should work together so that we are strong. Everyone has to know whatever is happening with our land claim so that we make the right choices for the future. If we work together as a region with our young people to get their education and training in the wildlife field it would benefit our communities. Right now it is hard for our young people because of lifestyles changes. They need more education and training to get ahead. Is there education and training in environment/wildlife field in place?

SRRB response: The SRRB and RWED have summer student positions. Community members are encouraged to participate in research projects in and around their area. Scholarships are made available to students pursuing education in renewable resource-related fields. There are a lot of opportunities for training and education in these areas but the young people have to be interested as well as have community and parental support.

3. Training and Counseling in our communities – Alphonsine McNeely

Additional comments #2

We should try to heal ourselves and then help the young people in the communities. The reason they do not want to do anything is because they are not healed inside. We should get the youth and women involved in things happening today. Women have lots of knowledge and are powerful when it comes down to dealing with their children. We should train counselors to help heal our children within our communities.

4. New traps – Boniface Ayha

I am having trouble using the new traps (conibears). You always have to make sure you have someone with you when you go out on land because it is dangerous when you don't know how to use it. What can SRRB do to help us in this area?

SRRB response: Alasdair Veitch – RWED Officers and/or Communications Officer can help educate trappers about safe use of these traps..

5. Funding allocations/Implementation funding distributions – Wilfred Lennie Sr.  
At our last SRRB meeting, the RRCs were told to leave when it came to deciding on allocating funds to research projects. RRCs should be involved in when the SRRB makes decisions on funding allocations.

SRRB response: We understand this was a hot issue at the last meeting. Research applications are sent out to RRCs for review and input before the SRRB meetings. RRCs are given time to provide input during the meeting. The land claim gives only Board Members voting power (equal voting by Dene and government representatives). This is the only way for the SRRB to remain independent and fair.

The same amount of monies is given to each of the five communities even though some communities have more members.

SRRB response: The Sahtu Implementation Committee decided how ALL monies would be distributed, including how the RRCs monies would be divided for the first 10-year period. This is an issue that SSI would have to address.

6. Harvest Study – Richard Kochon  
People in Colville Lake are not comfortable reporting their hunts because they still think they are going to be prosecuted. They think we will be giving out their names of their hunts when officers ask for it.

Harvest Study Coordinator response: The harvest Study protects the identity of the harvesters by using numbers; only I know who is who. All records are locked up at the office. Any information collected will never be used to prosecute a harvester; rather, it is to protect your traditional harvesting. I know we have not visited the communities for a while but once the data is completed in the database, we will be touring the communities to update and refresh on the Harvest Study.

7. Harvest Study – Wilfred Lennie Sr.  
Harvest study records and RWED records should be combined. We want to be able to compare harvester's numbers of other harvesters and in our area.

Harvest Study Coordinator response: This is a study of the Sahtu beneficiaries and harvesters that reside in the five Sahtu communities.

SRRB response: SRRB and RWED will provide harvest data summary of all subsistence harvest and non-residents harvest.

Minutes taken by  
Janet Bayha  
Harvest Study Coordinator

Meeting recessed @ 5:05 p.m.

September 24, 2003

**ATTENDANCE:**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Walter Bayha  
Fred Taptuna  
Leonard Kenny  
Norman Simmons  
Ronald Pierrot  
Keith Hickling

**STAFF**

Jody Snortland  
Lori Ann Lennie  
Janet Bayha  
Glen Guthrie

**GUESTS**

Richard Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC  
Alexis Blancho – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC  
Paul Modeste – Deline RRC  
Andrew John Kenny – Deline RRC  
Roger Boniface – Fort Good Hope RRC  
Harry Harris – Fort Good Hope RRC  
John Hodgson – Norman Wells RRC  
Wilfred Lennie Sr. – Tulita RRC  
Boniface Ayah – Tulita RRC  
Patrick Cleary – Sahtu Secretariat Inc.  
Larry Hutchinson – Sahtu Secretariat Inc.  
Edwin Erutse – Sahtu Secretariat Inc.  
Brian Davidson – Sahtu Secretariat Inc.

Alasdair Veitch – RWED-Sahtu  
Richard Popko – RWED-Sahtu  
Warren Parsons – DFO  
Raymond Taniton – SLUPB  
Alphonsine McNeely - Translator  
Robert Kelly – FGH Land Corporation  
Frank T'seleie –FGH Land Corporation  
John Tutcho – Deline Land Corporation  
Frank Andrew – Tulita Dene Band

**Meeting convened @ 9:25 a.m.**

**Opening Prayer – Boniface Ayah**

**12. Scholarship Application cont.**

**a) Holly Barnaby**

- Deferred decision until Ronald Pierrot present
- Described as a good student, reliable person; Members agree that as much support should be given to students who have invested so much effort into their studies

**SRRB Motion #09-24-03-06**

- To award 2<sup>nd</sup> year scholarship (\$2500) to Holly Barnaby

**Moved by: Leonard Kenny**

**Seconded by: Keith Hickling**

**Carried Unanimously**

**13. RWED Update cont. – Richard Popko**

- Birds PowerPoint Presentation tabled
- Harvesters are the ‘eyes and ears’ on the land

- Currently, working to get a baseline of wildlife health in the Sahtu, including birds; harvesters are encouraged to bring abnormal samples into RWED, which are then sent to a veterinary school in Saskatoon
- 99% of waterfowl banded at Willow Lake are shot down south in the United States; the banding project is a long-term project that can show what is happening across the continent, e.g., marshes destroyed in Louisiana can affect the number of birds found at Willow Lake
- The use of steel shot has shown a significant decrease in lead poisoning
- Biologists and veterinarians are studying parasites (worms) and diseases to better understand how they affect wildlife; climate changes are good for parasites (warmer temperatures lead to more parasites)

**ACTION (ED):** To send out copies of ‘A Field Guide to Common Diseases & Parasites in the NWT and Nunavut’ for both wildlife and fish

#### **14. 2000-2001 Harvest Study Data Report & Funding Proposal**

- 2000-2001 Data Report and 2003/2004 & 2004/2005 Funding Proposal tabled
- Due to an error made while preparing the participation rate for the 1998-1999 Data Report, a revised Response Rate has been calculated and made available to insert into the report
- Data collected from harvesters will be used: 1) to determine the Sahtu **Basic Needs Level** of Dene and Metis so that their harvesting traditions on the Land can be protected, 2) to ensure effective management of fish and wildlife in the Sahtu, 3) to assess the potential impact of new or existing developments (e.g. oil, mining, tourism) on harvesting, and 4) can be used to determine damage or loss to harvesting caused by development or disaster (compensation)
- Demonstration given to show how the Basic Needs Level will be calculated
- Funding proposal submitted to DIAND to continue the Sahtu Settlement Harvest Study until 2005

**ACTION (ED & RWED):** To summarize and combine subsistence, resident & non-resident harvests into one report for Sahtu organizations

#### **15. Projected Implementation Needs**

- Deadline for submission: September 25, 2003
- Additions to cover letter & budget should include:
  - Environmental Assessment Biologist (\$65 k)– this position would be funded by the SRRB but would be stationed in Norman Wells with RWED; added to deal with increasing development in the Sahtu (oil/gas, pipeline, hydro, etc)
  - Salaries should show an incremental raise of 3% per year
  - Professional Development & Training should be 5% of total Salaries instead of 2%
  - Board Training (\$8 k)
  - Increased travel costs because of isolation of region (no roads & dependence on air travel) and 9-11 tragedy
  - Ensure that monies are available for Communication Officer’s programs



- Board focus on conservation education and how to cope with impending development

**SRRB Motion #09-24-03-07**

- To accept the projected funding cover letter & budget with above amendments

**Moved by: Norman Simmons**

**Seconded by: Ronald Pierrot**

**Carried Unanimously**

**16. RWED update cont. – Alasdair Veitch**

- Moose PowerPoint Presentation tabled
- SRRB funded Fort Good Hope Moose Survey (\$20 k) – based on Yukon example, the March 2004 survey will be fixed-wing only along with a community-based monitoring system
  - Pilot project in NWT; community-based monitoring system will be designed and implemented with community RRC
  - 15 to 20 active harvesters will make moose observations (location, group size, age & sex) from August to October; observations are kept confidential, summary made public, and RRC holds original data
- Training to be coordinated by RRC, Communication Officer and RWED
- RWED not requesting funds from industry because they want to ensure that research remains independent from outside influences
- Suggestion that Board have an annual day where researchers and RRCs can give presentations; does not interfere with regular Board business; can not be interrupted or preempted (a lot of work goes into producing presentations)

**ACTION (SRRB):** To host an annual Research/Information Day (prior to board meeting), where researchers and RRCs can present and discuss research projects in the Sahtu

**17. New Business**

**a) SRRB Newsletter**

- Newsletter Outline tabled
- ‘Information sharing & broadening minds’
- Suggestions to include:
  - Art exchange with Aboriginal students in other provinces and countries
  - Fur information – auction house dates, prices, seasonal averages, etc.
- School visits will include interactive activities, short lectures, and school news section in newsletter

**b) Plainspeak – Chapters 13 & 14 of SDMCLCA**

- Information Summary/Proposal tabled
- Document will be a tool used to better understand the land claim agreement and to establish trust & communication with communities
- Printing can include both languages (North Slavey & English)
- Plainspeak has never missed a deadline or gone over budget
- Request maximum \$10 k to proceed with this project

### **SRRB Motion #09-24-03-08**

- To proceed with development & production of Plainspeak document, to a maximum of \$10,000

**Moved by: Fred Taptuna**

**Seconded by: Norman Simmons**

Abstention: Ronald Pierrot

**Carried**

#### **c) Cumulative Impacts Monitoring Program Report – Pat Cleary, SSI**

- Power Point Presentation tabled
- Commissioner of the Environment & Sustainable Development approached to be the independent auditor – UNAVAILABLE
- Auditor General of Canada suggested that timelines to complete the environmental audit need to be revised
- Interest for Sahtu & Tlicho regions to work together to raise concerns about Part 6 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (environmental audit)
- How will the SRRB and other organizations be involved in an environmental audit?; Terms of Reference for an environmental audit have already been completed by Government with little input from the Sahtu
- Suggestion to SSI to produce a short, plain-language summary about the environmental audit for all Sahtu organizations, i.e., what is an environmental audit, how is the Sahtu to be involved, what are the timeline implications, etc.

**ACTION (SSI):** To provide a short, plain-language summary about the environmental audit for all Sahtu organizations

#### **d) Public Hearing Guidelines/ Traditional Knowledge Policy**

- Memo – 23 Sept 03, Definition & Meaning of Traditional Knowledge tabled
- Review and update current TK policy
- Review existing public hearing guidelines from other co-management boards & develop guidelines specific to the SRRB

#### **e) Land Use Permit/Water Licence Application Checklist**

- SRRB Response to SLWB – 18 Sept03 tabled
- Chairman to review current process for reviewing and commenting on Sahtu Land and Water Board applications
- Plans to have all Board Members comment on applications and to combine SRRB & RWED comments

### **18. Board Member's Comments**

- Norman Simmons
  - Propose a major shift of Board's focus to traditional knowledge and conservation education
  - Urgent need to systematically research and collect TK as losing elders
- RRCs would be willing to be involved with TK research & collection

- Ronald Pierrot
  - Videotape community hunts, elders telling stories, etc. to be shown to school children, as well as shown on television

**SRRB Motion #09-24-03-09**

- To direct a committee, consisting of Walter Bayha, Keith Hickling, Norman Simmons, Ronald Pierrot & Glen Guthrie, to develop a formal proposal for funded traditional knowledge research in the Sahtu Settlement Area

**Moved by: Norman Simmons**

**Seconded by: Fred Taptuna**

**Carried Unanimously**

**19. Next Board Meeting**

- February 2004 (3 days)
- Deline, NT

**20. Adjournment**

**SRRB Motion #09-24-03-10**

- To adjourn meeting at 5:00 p.m.

**Moved by: Keith Hickling**