

# Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes

---

December 6, 2013 – 9:00am-12:00pm

Minutes by Catarina Owen

## 1. List of Attendees

Michael Neyelle	Board Member, interim Chair
Keith Hickling	Board Member
Jeff Walker	Board Member
Paul Latour	Board Member
Deborah Simmons	Executive Director
Catarina Owen	Environmental Assessment Researcher
Pat Bobinski	Special Advisor
Joe Hanlon	Program Coordinator

## 2. Regrets

Leonard Kenny	Special Advisor
Lori Ann Lennie	Office Manager
Gordon Zealand	Special Advisor
Laurel McDonald	Board Member
George Barnaby	Special Advisor
Camilla Rabisca	Special Advisor
Lorraine Doctor	Special Advisor
Laurel McDonald	Board Member
Reanna Campbell	Health and Climate Change Project Coordinator

## 3. Agenda

1. Opening Prayer – Keith Hickling
2. Approve minutes of previous Board meetings
3. Executive Committee report
4. Updates
5. Environmental Research and Monitoring leadership meeting and Health and Climate Change elder-youth exchange (Tulít'a November 5-7), Environmental Research Results workshop (Délᑎᕐ November 27-28), NWT Board Forum
6. Letter to ENR
7. Environmental assessments
8. SRRB projects and proposals

9. February RRC Gathering, Joint meeting and Board meeting agenda
10. Other business
11. Next meeting-January Teleconference

## **1. Opening Prayer**

*Keith Hickling*

## **2. Approve minutes from previous Board Meetings**

Minutes will be approved by email

## **3. Executive Committee report (Species At Risk Conference of Management Authorities questionnaire, finances/mid-term audit, staff)**

*Paul Dixon, Mike Neyelle, Keith Hickling and Deb Simmons*

Species at Risk files are huge addition to work load, with many reports to review. SRRB requested funding to be involved with files.

Rusty Blackbird Management Plan- content of the letter is appropriate, a few formatting changes are needed.

Finance/ mid-term audits-Board not doing as many mini audits as before but currently undergoing one.

Two contracts were finalized, Lori Ann received her bonus and the executive committee is finalizing the implementation of Deb's contract.

Executive Committee will take the lead on the revision of the operation manual. Personnel sections will be reviewed, suggestions/inputs are welcomed. Executive Committee will provide recommendations to the board in January.

## **4. Updates**

Joe- In the new year will be travelling to communities and engaging with RRCs. Joe will be able to travel with the ENR team

Stephanie Behrens, Norman Wells ENR- was in Tulit'a for week helping with the harvest study data check

## **5. Environmental Research and Monitoring leadership meeting and Health and Climate Change elder-youth exchange (Tulít'a November 5-7), Environmental Research Results workshop (Dél̄ine November 27-28), NWT Board Forum**

Environmental Research and Monitoring Leadership meeting- meeting was well represented by different communities, 5 people from different communities representing RRCs. A working group was formed- Julian Kanigan, Sandra Marken, Mike Neyelle and Todd Paget

Andrew Applejohn, Genevieve Carr, Sandra Marken and Deb Simmons- formed a support committee with the purpose of seeking funds for working group and also to provide other support when needed.

Health and Climate Change Workshop- Youth and Elder worked together and were able to share messages.

Environmental Research Results Workshop (Cindy Gilday)- Northern Contaminant Program (NCP) is expanding their research area to look at the Sahtú as well due to the increase of mercury in the region. Gaps were identified- (GNWT Health)- next step is to investigate how risk is going to be accessed and communicated properly.

Proposal to NCP will be submitted (Due mid Jan). Sheila Montgomery is a mercury expert and will work with the board developing a project proposal to NCP. Cindy Gilday is seeking funding to hire a regional coordinator for the region. Deb will follow up with Cindy and work out details and see what is reasonable.

NWT Board Forum- Mike Neyelle was happy to see all the boards' chairs getting together. Mike and Joe Hanlon visited a fracking operation outside Red Deer.

## **6. Letter to ENR**

The SRRB is submitting a letter to ENR with the purpose of strengthening our work relationship.

The Board has noted that there is some room for strengthening implementation of our research responsibilities under the claim in relation to ENR and ERM Working Group processes.

The ENR "Caribou Blueprint" is a document that is now guiding funding decisions and in the board's view does not adequately account for research priorities and needs as identified by the RRCs and Board in the Sahtú Region. It is our view that collaboration is required at the inception of priority setting and proposal development in order to be meaningful.

Jeff is concerned that the board would be backing out of something that the board had already previously agreed to.

Deb will look at the management plan and will carefully evaluate it to maintain a positive relationship with both RRCs and ENR

Board members will review letter and send comments to Deb. Letter will be sent on Dec 12, 2013.

## **7. Environmental Assessments**

Catarina Owen

Groundwater water Briefing note- Developed by Tee and Shauna. Board members will review briefing note and send comments by email and note will be revised according to comments prior to sharing it with the SLWB.

Public Hearing Course in Yellowknife- Jan 29-30. Mike Neyelle and Catarina will attend training session.

Imperial Oil and the SLWB are having a water license application technical session in Norman Wells Jan 16-17.

Mackenzie Valley Highway EA- Review board has submitted draft Terms of Reference for Review. Communities scoping sessions held and highest priorities issues identified were: community wellness, local economic considerations and caribou, moose and harvesting.

Fiber Optic Line- Community consultation under way. Linear Disturbance from Dehcho to Inuvik area. Fiber Optic line will not always be parallel to the Enbridge pipeline and there is a possibility it could impact caribou.

## **8. SRRB Projects and Proposals**

Deferred to the next meeting

## **9. February RRC Gathering, Joint meeting and Board meeting agenda**

February meeting agenda will be sent by email.

Francois Rossouw (ITI) has been invited to talk about traditional economy.

## **10. Other business**

Keith Hickling

Parks Canada should involve SRRB with any wildlife management plans. A letter will be written to Parks Canada that the SRRB is the main instrument of wildlife in the Sahtú and should therefore be involved.

## **11. Next Meeting- January Teleconference**

January 8, 2014- 9 am-12 pm

***Adjourned at approximately 11:37 am.***

