

**SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD MEETING**  
**September 20-22, 2011Minutes**  
**Two Rivers Hotel Boardroom**  
**Tulita, NT**

**In attendance**

Walter Bezha  
Keith Hickling  
Patrick Bobinski  
Laurel McDonald  
Gordon Zealand  
Jeffrey Walker  
Leonard Kenny

**Absent**

Camilla Rabisca

**RRC Members**

JB Gully  
John Blanco  
Roger Boniface  
Harry Harris  
Lawrence Manual  
Benny Doctor  
Ricky Andrew  
Blake Andrew

**Staff**

Lori Ann Lennie  
Andrea Hrynkiw

**Guests**

Chief Frank Andrew  
Peter Menacho - SSI  
Dyanne Doctor

**RRC Members**

Johnny McDonlad  
Norman Hodgson Sr.  
Kathleen McDonald  
Joe Blondin Jr.  
Russell Kenny

1. Opening prayer – John B. Gully
2. RRC Caucus – Wednesday morning in SRRB Board room
3. 9: 30 am Meeting Called to order
4. Swearing in of new board member: Laurel McDonald, done with community RCMP Cpl. Shane Hudley. Both signed a document, welcome to Laurel

**5. Review and of Agenda**

**Motion # SRRB –30-2011**

That the agenda be accepted with changes.

**Moved by: Patrick Bobinski**  
**Seconded by: Jeffrey Walker**  
**Motion Carried**

6. **Conflict of Interest-** all agreed none at this time

**7. Review & Acceptance of Previous Minutes**

- A. Approval of December 14-15 minute

**Motion # SRRB – 31-2011**

That we approve the December 14-15, 2010 minutes.

**Moved by: Leonard Kenny**

**Seconded by: Laurel McDonald**

**Motion Carried**

- B. Review of Action Items from Previous Minutes  
The need to send a letter to SARC- Indicating ?
- C. Business Arising from Previous minutes

**8. Review and Acceptance of Finances - 1:25PM**

- A. Approve financial statements to July 31, 2011
- B. March 31, 2011 Audit Financial statements, conference call with Auditor Charles Jeffrey of Charles Jeffrey Chartered Accountants of Yellowknife, NT.

**Questions:CJ:** Who is responsible for investment of funds RRC Board:

**Walter Bayha:** that is the question we need to get answered amongst ourselves. We did have a person ( Andrew Cunningham) in Norman Wells and he left the organization.

**CJ:** Organization needs to move to have a review of that question. It is the board to decide and give direction where to invest money.

**Qtn:** Leonard Kenny- you say that -32,000.00 is not a big deal, why is that?

**Bad Debts:** SSI owes us money from contribution and we were not paid the full amount.

**CJ:** You need to be chasing the money, even if it is a bad debt, you should still chase it and work at getting some of the bad debt paid down.

The Harvest Study is finished and still remains on the books, and it would be the board's decision to make it go away, by having a resolution or motion passed to close the Harvest Study. That would make the deficit lower. Keep chasing the GNWT to get funds owed to SRRB. The organization needs to actively pursue money owing to the organization. The SRRB is in a deficit from all past years, and not just from this year, things just accumulated to where it is now. The SRRB is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of this years' life, if monies are not returned or actively pursued the end balance will continue to be in a deficit.

- C. Hiring new auditor – Advertise.

**9. Chair person Update-**

A-Chairperson, Walter Bayha, gave a lengthy update on previous agenda items. Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK), it is not the information that goes into a document, it is how it is translatable into the aboriginal language, it is a whole other knowing of information, when it is translated from an aboriginal language to English. That is a challenge.

**10. Staff Updates-**

Andrea Hrynkiw, Norman Wells, Andrea has been working on the SRRB's web page, would like more pictures of everyone, and make the site more interactive, videos. The web page address is ssrb.nt.ca. Would also like to get updated RRC Representatives contact information.

Representatives can call her at (867)-587-3521 if they have any questions. There is a list of research permits listed on the site. Working on Husky and Explor permits. Andrea would like to work more

with RRC's representatives. With environmental assessments, Andrea can help and assist RRC. Multi-year research permits have to be reported back to the RRC's.

## **11:50 Break for Lunch.**

Walter Bezha spoke of the importance Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge, (ATK), documentation challenge, he said. "It is not so much the information but, how it is translated from the English into north slavey and vis versa, that is the challenge". That is another area of knowledge, and the Co-management processes and why and how the SRRB was formed. He spoke of the treaties and the Sahtu Land Claims and encouraged people to read their information and read a book called "As Long As this Land shall last", by Author, and to read all the information that is sent to each of the RRC's.

Review of Action Items from Previous Minutes

### **1. Send a letter to SARC to appoint Paul Motion #22**

2. Keith Hickling to draft letter to "Thank" the people about Caribou, to outfitters and RRC's

Business Arising from Previous minutes

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Keith Hickling  
Patrick Bobinski  
Laurel McDonald  
Leonard Kenny  
Jeffrey Walker  
Gordon Zealand

### **Absent**

Camilla Rabisca

### **RRC Members**

JB Gully  
John Blanco  
Roger Boniface  
Harry Harris  
Lawrence Manual  
Benny Doctor  
Ricky Andrew

### **Staff**

Lori Ann Lennie  
Andrea Hrynkiw  
Glen - PM  
Dora Grandjambe – Translator  
Cheryl Yakeleya – Minutes

### **Guests**

Alasdair Veitch  
Peter Menacho - SSI  
Donna Mulders  
Karen - Salmon  
Gordon Yakeleya – Tulita Fin. Corp

### **RRC Members**

Johnny McDonlad  
Norman Hodgson Sr.  
Kathleen McDonald  
Joe Blondin Jr.  
Russell Kenny  
Blake Andrew

9 AM – In camera, Board Business

The board met on its own starting at 9:15 am. Keith and Jeff had to move the boat as far too much wind.

Prior to the meeting getting started there were numerous discussions about general board administration and issues to be dealt with.

Jeff will draft the letter regarding the interviews of the two candidates. Potentially we would look at doing one interview in Tulita in the morning and a Skype interview in the afternoon. We could do the reference checks prior to the interviews along with criminal record check.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45

1:30PM – Meeting Resume with RRC's

Renewable Resource Councils (RRC) Norman Wells, Fort Good Hope, Deline, Tulita and Colville Lake all gave community reports.

Colville Lake – JB Gully. JB spoke of hunting on the roads in the winter. The winter roads are for transportation not for hunting and there are instances where meat was harvested in the Colville Lake area and sold to non-beneficiaries in Norman Wells. This should be watched closely. We do not approve of such activities in our area. Game officer from Norman Wells reiterated that he was told of an incident where the selling of harvested caribou was sold to a person in Norman Wells and the meat was in bad condition. Elder John Blancho, mentioned in his language that “We practice our culture and use the land a lot and on the land we are taken care of. The land takes care of us. Wherever you have pollution and activity on the land the animals will not go there. He also says that they teach the children how to hunt and prepare the meat, so the children know what to do when they are hunting. We practice this as did our ancestors. This is our way of life and he wants it to stay that way for the future generations.

Fort Good Hope: A lot of members did not go on a hunting trip due to lack of funds. The cost of hunts to the mountains is too high and that is a challenge for the community. Would like to work with youth to learn to prepare and handle wild game, however, lack of funds. We need more money to do spring hunts. The representative also talked of boundary issues with Yukon and the Gwichin. The Chair advised that FGH come up with their own agreements with the other boundary land owners.

Deline talked of boundary issues with the Blue Nose East Caribou herds with the Tli-Cho.

Tulita: Gave copies of updates, most money made from Oil and Gas. Pay monitors with tents, shells, etc.. We sell shells at half price for hunters. A mining company wanted to drill at Caribou flats and the community said no to a permit, due to this being a traditional hunting area for the Tulita people. However, the permit was given to the company and we are looking into how that was done and what we can do.

Norman Wells. We have issues with seismic companies and we feel we are being ignored by the Tulita District Land. Another issue we face is transfer issues. Other community members moving to Norman Wells and having to pay for the cost of gas for hunters that relocated from other areas, we don't think that is right. 3D Seismic activity is causing the decline in caribou in Northern Alberta, can the SRRB look into this. We know that 3D seismic is very loud and that is what could be making the caribou move to other areas.

Discussion amongst representatives, Peter Menacho SSI representative, related that the Sahtu Secretariat Inc. (SSI) can intervene if the issue is not addressed at the Tulita District level.

12:12 Break for Lunch

1PM - Karen Dunmall – Ms. Dunmall is a student with the University of Manitoba and she currently doing her PHD on Salmon and their habitat in the North. Karen studies are funded in part by the Government of Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the University of Manitoba. In her Studies, Karen looks at the habitat of salmon, where they spawn, and what rivers and lakes in the NWT they are found. There are seven species. Ms. Dunmall did a power point presentation of what she is working on. Karen wants to know where and if any salmon are found in the Sahtu. She will give anyone who catches a salmon a \$50 dollar gift certificate if they give her the whole fish or \$25 dollars for the salmon head. The gift certificate is only valid at Northern Stores in communities. Karen studies would be able to determine the sex of the salmon, how old the fish is and where it came from, and whether or not it has spawned in the past, and if the salmon are moving, where to and if they are interacting and breeding with native species of fish in the North. Her contact information PH: 204-983-5287 and her email address is Karen.dunmall@gmail.com.

Donna Moulders is a Biologist and works for Environment Canada in Yellowknife. Her work is specifically with Wildlife Species At Risk. Ms. Moulders did a power point presentation on the caribou herds in the north and where they are and how the patterns have changed in the last few years and she is looking for feedback on what does the SRRB want the Environment Canada to do in regards to Caribou in the north.

Qtn: When was the last count?

Ms. Moulders only works with .... Federal Government is not my responsibility. This information is at the National level and is not specific to certain areas. The Sarah registry was posted in August, 2011. ATK summary – All across the country and posted on September 19, 2011. Ms. Moulders is looking for feedback from the Aboriginal Communities. The deadline for comments on the study is October 25, 2011 from all communities, and 30 days before the comments are posted.

Revised the overall presentation with the North and the details.

Qtn: Laurel-How does the Territorial at risk species act fit with the National Species at Risk Act?

Donna- This is the first time that the act comes into play on INAC managed land. Federal Act- 180 days to start process. Two or more action plans by 2014. INAC has serious responsibilities to deal with (legally).

Qtn: Jeff- His is size of action plan determined?

Donna- First task is recovery strategy- not sure what it really means. Harvesting is a low to medium threat here. It is at risk in other areas. **Note: left off, cannot read writing**

Qtn: Keith- As access changes the opportunities also change and sometimes quite a bit. Use the tools, meaning regulations and land claims.

Qtn: Laurel: Wanted to ensure that the non-residents had to wait two years to be able to hunt in region.

Donna: These questions to be identified in the action plan.

Qtn: Keith How does this legislation work?

Donna: The GNWT is the managing authority. Only plan that non-aboriginals can hunt. **Cannot read writing on page**

We are looking at an action plan for all of Canada.

Gordon Yakeleya, commented on how the numbers of Caribou are affected by natural disasters, such as fires, and the caribou being killed on by wolves. If the wolf population gets to high, more caribou is taken. In the Sahtu, we now have the Musk Oxen, and the elders say that the caribou do not mix well with the Musk Oxen. And so the caribou are moving away from their tradition migration area and away from the musk ox. And there is the human factor, where there is seismic activity such as mining, and oil and gas exploration, the caribou move.

DM: The feedback is for a caribou recovery strategy and will set the direction for a Territorial Strategy.

Gordon Yakeleya, Tulita District Land Corporation: Concerns over employees relocating to Norman Wells, and we have no confidence in the SRRB. We know housing was an issue and we are requesting that staff be located in Tulita. And it would be nice to see our own people run these offices. In our agreement we talked of having our community resources not centralized in Norman Wells. We have the Land Use Plan and Water Board Offices in Fort Good Hope and the Headquarters in Deline and the Sahtu Renewable Resource Board (SRRB) in Tulita. This is in the agreements we made.

Peter Menacho, SSI representative- states that he would not have employees move, it would be like abandoning their post. He would not stand for it. Solution could be to buy old houses from The Housing Corporation and renovate and use for employee housing. If this dispute is not resolved then SSI will step in. Based on protocol and protocol must be honored. Let's work together and look for concrete solutions.

We need clarity on enrollment with the Sahtu Trust. Leave it to communities

- FGH Harry**
- 1) Have the RRC get funds from SSI, having \$79,000.00 to operate our offices is not enough.
  - 2) Fire management Legislation – To let fires in our region burn, does not help the caribou
  - 3) Look at global emissions of pollution
  - 4) Why are we letting the land burn if the animals are at risk?

**Peter Menacho**, SSI- We still rely on government. Everybody benefits on Sahtu Trust just to survive. I was not aware of all your issues. You need to position yourselves to create opportunity. Revenue- build resources from revenue, work together with the scientific community and ENR, etc to benefit each other on how to co-exist. I want to thank you all for the opportunity to be here and hear your concerns.

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Board

Walter Bezha  
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Jeffrey Walker  
Leonard Kenny

Staff

Lori Ann Lennie  
RRC  
Joe Blondin Sr.

Motions

**Motion # SRRB – 32-2011**

That the new signing authorities be named as Walter Bezha, Lori Ann Lennie and Keith Hickling.

**Moved by: Keith Hickling**

**Seconded by: Jeffrey Walker**

**Motion carried**

Gordon to check with Glen on request from Lorna Skinner – Northern Contaminates director for report on mercury in fish.

The board is aware that four cell phones were purchased. The Executive Director and the chair are the only two people that should have the cell phones. Koodo may be a company to consider. The decision was to cancel all cell phones.

**Motion # SRRB – 33-2011**

The board has decided to cancel all existing Cell Phones and try to purchase from Koodoo for a lower rate.

**Moved by: Laurel McDonald**  
**Seconded by: Leonard Kenny**  
**Motion carried**

**Motion #SRRB – 34-2011**

That we disconnect Camilla Rabisca’s internet and keep her fax machine.

**Moved by: Laurel McDonald**  
**Seconded by: Keith Hickling**  
**Motion carried**

**Motion # SRRB – 35-2011**

That we cancel the visa that was in Chris’s name and put on Lori Ann’s name as she is the one who does all the travel, etc....

**Moved by: Jeffrey Walker**  
**Seconded by: Leonard Kenny**  
**Motion Carried**

**Motion # SRRB – 36-2011**

Keith is going to do the letter on the scholarships.

**Moved by: Laurel McDonald**  
**Seconded by: Keith Hickling**  
**Motion Carried**

Sean Maxwell – Application was denied

**Motion # SRRB – 37-2011**

Jenna McDonald gets first installment of \$1,000.00 but has to maintain a 70 percent average.

**Moved by: Keith Hickling**  
**Seconded by: Patrick Bobinski**  
**Motion Carried**

Declared Conflict of Interest: Laurel McDonald

Albert Stuart – denied.

**Motion # SRRB 38-2011**

That Lisa McDonald gets first installment for 2<sup>nd</sup> year of \$2000.00.

**Moved by:** Jeffrey Walker

**Seconded by:** Gordon Zealand

**Motion Carried**

Leonard will have his office computer hooked back up next week.

**Motion # SRRB – 39-2011**

That the SRRB Board has a conference call quarterly to keep up with Board activities.

**Moved by:** Laurel McDonald

**Seconded by:** Jeffrey Walker

**Motion carried**

Keith suggested that we all submit our updated contacts: List was sent around the room to update the contacts for Lori Ann.

Glenn should not be making statements of certain health standards when it could reflect that it is the board. Presentation must come through the board ahead of time.

Discussion amongst the board regarding the safe levels of mercury and how the message gets out to the people.

Should be more emphasis on the new Wildlife Act and potential issues or concerns. Laurel raised the issue of too many “May’s” some of them need to be will or shall.

Need to ensure that the staffs know that they are required to attend all of the meeting.

Walter is drafting a discipline letter

Niki Sharma is the board’s lawyer and SSI. John Donihee is the WMAC lawyer

Brian Crane is the architect of the Sahtu and Gwich’in claim.

Keith - Harvest fund has about 31,000 can we put together a calendar for the coming year. Laurel mentioned that people had requested that.

If we get some money from the Imperial oil fund how should we flow the money. Keith and Jeff will work on the fine and see if it can come to the board.

\$25,000 has been earmarked from contaminates directorate for Canol cleanup.

Leonard has mentioned that there is a difference between the boards in terms of what is being paid to members for honorarium. ED to check the background.

Who was Camilla representing at the Ungulates conference?? She was involved with TK.

Keith was working on acquiring a duplex in Norman Wells. Part of the funding was working on homeless. One would be an office and the other may be some type of accommodation for scientists or students that may benefit the SRRB or the RRC.

The purpose of the building is not to make money but rather service the community. Keith will attend the next RRC meeting in Norman Wells to have them manage the building.

**Motion # SRRB – 40-2011**

**Pay increment** - that Chris's increment be resolved and he be forwarded monies outstanding.

**Moved by:** Leonard Kenny

**Seconded by:** Gordon Zealand

**Motion carried.**

**Motion # SRRB – 41-2011**

To adjourn the SRRB Sept. 20-22, meeting.

**Moved by:** Patrick Bobinski

**Seconded by:** Laurel McDonald

**Motion Carried**