

MINUTES

SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD MEETING

NORMAN WELLS, N.W.T.

8 – 9 November, 1999

Present:

Winter Lennie (Chair)	Keith Hickling (alternate)	Norman Simmons
Paul Latour	Lucy Jackson	(Exec. Dir.)
Rus Hall	Ruby McDonald	

Absent:

Danny Gaudet

- I. Call to order: 1:20 pm by Chairman Lennie.
- II. Guests: 8-9 Nov. – Alasdair Veitch and Richard Popko, RWED; 9 Nov. - Karin Denkova, Premium Services; Lana Robinson, RWED.
- III. Review and approval of agenda: R. McDonald moved and L. Jackson seconded a motion that the agenda be approved. Approved unanimously.
- IV. Review and approval of minutes of 3 – 6 July, 1999 meeting: Delayed.
- V. Business arising from 3 – 6 July, 1999, meeting:
 - A. An index will be included in the revised Operating Procedures Manual to be prepared by M. Bell.
 - B. A lawyer, bookkeeper and TAL investor will be invited to a future Board meeting rather than complicate an already complex meeting. R. Hall commented that we need to know where we have been financially, where are we now, and where should we be going.

ACTION: Write a letter to TAL, asking for a summary of our financial situation.

ACTION: Invite TAL to our next meeting as it will be a budget meeting.

- C. Correspondence and agency updates are included in the agenda and will be included in the future.

D. The Land Corporation, under the supervision of Robert Chalifoux, is rectifying deficiencies in the manufactured homes leased by the SRRB at Land Corporation expense.

ACTION: Find out what the Land Corporation is doing about heating the sheds containing the water tanks.

E. The Board will pay for material and labour to construct the garage warehouse and will then sell lease it and lease it back.

ACTION: W. Lennie will produce the drawings for the building and then negotiate a construction agreement.

F. The filing system is now alpha-numeric.

G. No action had been taken by ex-Executive Director Jim Moore to advertise a student program and have students work with Alasdair Veitch.

ACTION: The Board will consider building a summer student program into the next Budget.

ACTION: The Executive Director will, upon Board approval, advertise a summer student program and have the students work with Alasdair Veitch and/or the SRRB Biologist.

H. Restrictions have been lifted on Special Harvesting Areas, with RWED agreement, until outfitter and sport hunting issues are resolved.

ACTION: Letter to be written from the Board.

VI. Review of items from the minutes of the 17 September and 21 October, 1999, Executive Committee meetings.

A. W. Lennie discussed a settlement offer by J. Kushney. His personal belongings have been shipped to his home. Our lawyer responded to Kushney's offer, saying that it is unacceptable.

B. The new contract Biologist is Ben Olsen; the new contract Harvest Surveys Coordinator is Jody Snortland. They will arrive on duty on 10 November. A. Veitch asked if we had considered hiring a fisheries person. Board members said that this type of specialist would be hired on contract.

ACTION: Advertise for the permanent positions once the new position descriptions have been approved by the Board.

C. The Board should form a committee to review the Wildlife Act. Moved by L.

Jackson, seconded by W. Lennie that the committee be comprised of R. McDonald, P. Latour, and R. Hall. Unanimously approved. R. McDonald recommended that an RRC member be included in the review exercise.

ACTION: Put the review of the Wildlife Act on the agenda of the next Board/RRC workshop in the spring of 2000. The committee will flag important issues and make a report to the workshop.

- D. The Board will proceed with action on the garage/warehouse proposal. (See V. E. above.)
- E. The Ford Explorer is now at Norman Wells Transportation. It has a depreciated value of about \$1,400. It will cost about \$3,000 to put in a new transmission.

Moved by R. Hall, seconded by P. Latour that the Board sell the Explorer as is, putting in a reserve bid for the Blue Book value less cost of repair. Unanimously approved.

ACTION: Advertise for the sale of the Ford Explorer as noted above.

- F. The Executive Director position has been re-advertised on the internet and in northern newspapers and on northern radio. Closing date is 12 November.
- G. The Executive Director did contact universities for likely Biologist and Harvest Studies Coordinator candidates. One such contact resulted in the hiring of Ms. Snortland.
- H. The audit report has been sent to Ottawa. The Board discussed auditor Lorraine Tremblay's report and recommendations, as well as the variance report.
- I. The Executive Director mailed the agenda for the strategic planning exercise to Board members and to all RRC's.
- J. The issue of the Chairman being elected MLA on 6 December was discussed. Resolution was deferred until after the election.
- K. N. Simmons' contract was extended until 8 December.
- L. W. Lennie received advice on how to proceed on the J. Kushney issue. We have rejected his offer of compensation and await his response.
- M. The strategic planning workshops were open to the public. R. Hall recommended that our Board meetings also be open to the public.

VII. Report from RWED (Attached)

- A. Concern was expressed about the low woodland caribou calving success this year and about excessive hunting pressure on the Moose Horn River herd. R. McDonald stated that we must require that traditional knowledge be sought in the management of wildlife.
- B. Wildlife Act. K. Hickling stated that RWED has already discussed changes to Act with the RRC's. They are now planning community consultation. W. Lennie reviewed committee plans to review the Act, culminating in an SRRB/RRC workshop in the spring. The Act will be reviewed first, and then the regulations. The committee will present its findings to the Board. R. McDonald will be the contact person for RWED.

R. McDonald and W. Lennie commented on the length of time it has taken to change regulations needed to protect private land from hunter trespass, etc.

ACTION: K. Hickling will check into the reasons for the delay.

K. Hickling later reported that there had been a muskox quota increase and the establishment of a new muskox management zone approved by the RWED Minister at the request of the SRRB. During a meeting between K. Hickling and the Deline RRC, he was told that they did not approve of the changes. K. Hickling then put the changes on hold. The old regulations are still in effect. (See attached correspondence.)

Members discussed the proposed closure of an area from the Mackenzie River east through Deline and between the Keith and Smith Arms of Great Bear Lake. RWED did not want to change the quota until the management area issue was resolved. RWED also proposed a new management area at the NE end of Great Bear Lake as part of the package. It was not just a Deline issue, and all but Deline have approved the proposed package. The proposals themselves initially came from the five RRC's.

Members recommended that Deline be approached again to see if they have continued concerns.

ACTION: W. Lennie will work with RWED to set up a meeting with the Deline RRC.

Consultation will be taking place with the RRC's on NWT Species at Risk Legislation. RWED will work with our Wildlife Act Committee.

A. Veitch said that in the legislation will be clauses that will keep domestic animals out of wild sheep habitat.

- C. There will be an outfitter licensed in Deline for muskoxen, caribou,

wolves, and wolverine hunting. License conditions will be reviewed by the SRRB.

- D. Lana Robinson reported on the GIS project (attached). R. Hall asked about the capacity for future expansion. L. Robinson said that she has performed a computer upgrade recently and that she has Tanya to help her, so they do have the capacity to expand. She is working with other settlement areas, but in some cases different software is being used, so that a seamless information base will be harder to assemble. Critical wildlife habitat data is not being collected by field workers.

ACTION: Instruct field workers to collect critical wildlife habitat information.

W. Lennie suggested that the GIS Steering Committee should be encouraged to integrate data layers so that issues such as pipeline construction can be addressed in a coordinated manner.

ACTION: A letter is to be written to the GIS Steering Committee regarding such integration.

VIII. Report from the CWS (Attached)

ACTION: The Board to write the CWS expressing concern about the U.S. proposal to capture peregrine falcons. They should hold off until the RRC's have been consulted.

W. Lennie suggested that we should take the initiative and consult with the RRC's.

ACTION: P. Latour will prepare an information package on the peregrine capture in English for the RRC's.

ACTION: The Board must get word out to the RRC's that lead shot is now illegal.

W. Lennie suggested that we educate the RRC's about the lead shot issue.

ACTION: P. Latour will look into the availability of a video and other information to help educate the RRC's about lead shot.

A summary of the CWS contaminants report is available. The complete report can be found on the internet.

IX. Fisheries and Oceans report (not available)

X. Correspondence.

- A. A formal complaint from the Tulita RRC was received by the Board. The Executive Director has worked with the RRC and the local RWED officer to resolve the issue. A single contact person for the outfitters who ship out meat has worked in the past in Tulita, and Norman Wells.

ACTION: W. Lennie will arrange a meeting with the Outfitters Association to discuss spoiled meat allegedly arriving in Tulita.

- B. The Tulita RRC wrote the Board asking for assistance in moving from its present building. The asbestos insulation is not safe.

ACTION: The Executive Director will approach the Land Corporation in Tulita about such aid.

- C. The Executive Director and the Wildlife Technician were invited to attend a trapper training workshop in Ft. Good Hope on 28 October. N. Simmons and Rosa Etchinelle attended and presented reports on Board activities.

XI. Executive Director's report.

A. Staffing

1. Executive Director: The Personnel Committee will review applications in Norman Wells on 23 November.
2. Office Manager: Applications will be reviewed in Norman Wells on 23 November.
3. Biologist: Ben Olsen has been hired on contract for four months, starting 10 November.
4. Harvest Surveys Coordinator: Jody Snortland was hired on contract for four months starting 10 November.
5. Computer programmer: Calvin Pitett was hired on four-month contract on 27 September. He will take up the work started by Ed McLean in designing a user-friendly data base for harvest surveys.
6. Job descriptions will all be reviewed and possibly re-written to reflect the results of the strategic planning sessions.

- B. Interim equipment storage: the motor toboggans, sleds, and canoes are stored in the RWED enclosure near the Tulita airport. Harvest Surveys supplies and empty computer boxes, etc. are now stored in one of the Board's empty

manufactured homes, saving \$50/month. When the last home is occupied, alternate storage space will be found.

- C. The Board is now supporting the RRC's, at their request, in the review of land and water use permits. The Land and Water Board is pleased with this policy and looks forward to closer coordination with the SRRB.
- D. The staff are now working closely with the Land and Water Board.
- E. The staff have been working closely with the Land Use Planning Board, helping their staff by sharing field workers and making our data base compatible with collection of land use planning data. RRC workshops are on the agenda of their 10 November meeting.
- F. Deline suggested a regional approach to renewable resource management. The Board is set up to encourage this by holding regional RRC meetings to discuss common research and management issues. The strategic planning exercise with representatives from each community participating in all workshops has been a good start.
- G. Staff training. Discussions are underway with Aurora College about long-term education plans for technical staff. The Harvest Surveys Trainee went to a land claims workshop on 20-21 October.
- H. The Harvest Surveys section is producing an experimental year 2000 harvest survey wall calendar based on the ones used successfully in Nunavut. It will replace the notebook now being used.

XII. Upcoming meetings and conferences.

- A. Sustainable Development Strategies Workshop, 18 – 19 November, 1999, Yellowknife. The Board will have A. Veitch attend the workshop on their behalf and report back to them.
- B. Geoscience Forum, 24 – 26 November, Yellowknife. No one plans to attend the Forum.

XIII. Additional business

- A. Variance reports (K. Denkova). There was a discussion of the need to pay down the deficit. Selling equipment, investing our money, and use of the scholarship fund were suggestions for generating income to be used to pay down the deficit.

Moved by P. Latour, seconded by K. Hickling, that we use revenue to pay down our deficit. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Deadline for research proposals was set at 31 January, 2000, by the Board.

ACTION: Biologist to advertise for proposals. Applications to be summarized by the the Biologist and presented to the Board. The approval of the appropriate RRC's will be needed before the proposals can be accepted.

XIV. Next meeting.

A. Board decided not to hold a Board meeting before the March Board/RRC meeting.

B. The week of 13 March was selected for the next meeting. It will be held Kelly Lake. The RRC's will be invited to send representatives.

XV. Approval of 3 – 6 July, 1999, minutes was moved by R. McDonald and seconded by R. Hall. Carried.

XVI. Adjournment moved at 4:30 pm by R. McDonald and seconded by R. Hall. Carried.