

## Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board

P.O. Box 2240, Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0  
Phone: (867) 777-6600 Fax: (867) 777-6601  
<http://www.grrb.nt.ca>

### **GRRB TELECONFERENCE MINUTES** **July 8, 2015 10:00 AM MST (NT) / 9:00 AM PST (YT)**

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#### **Attendance**

- GRRB office: Jozef Carnogursky (Alternate Member), Amy Amos (Staff), Kaytlin Cooper (Staff), Cheryl Greenland (Staff), Jozef Semmler (Staff)
- On call: Eugene Pascal (Chair), Doug Doan (Member), Burt Hunt (Member), Ron Allen (Alternate Member), Bobbie Jo Greenland Morgan (Member), Cindy Allen (Alternate Member), Charlie Snowshoe (Alternate Member), Marsha Branigan (WMAC (NT)), Paul Teoh (Independent Auditor)

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#### **1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Eugene Pascal at 10:07 AM. Declaration of conflict can be declared as it arises.

#### **2. Agenda**

<b>Motion # GRRB 2015-28</b>	<b>To approve the July 8, 2015 teleconference agenda</b>
Moved by: Burt Hunt	Seconded by: Cindy Allen
All in favour.	Motion carried.

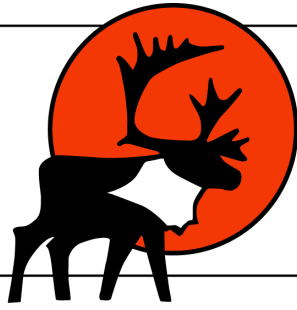
#### **3. Minutes**

The draft minutes were provided for the February 2015 face-to-face meeting. It was decided to table a decision on them until a future meeting. In the interim, comments can be sent to Amy.

#### **4. Financial Statements (GO)**

Paul Teoh presented the GRRB's financial statements for general operating (GO) for fiscal year 2014-2015. In his presentation he highlighted the following items:

- Statement of Financial Position (Page 3) – liabilities are higher than assets. This is because the Board has not received a lot of its contributions from its funders. Paul recommended the Board be more on top of its accounts receivable.
- Note 3 (page 10) - deferred contributions that were not fully used in 2014-2015 and will be deferred, and available, in the new fiscal year 2015-2016.
- Note 5 (page 10) – GO is negative. This is due to the nature of the Board. If it projects a surplus it needs to spend it and if it projects a deficit it needs to absorb it. In the beginning of the Board there were some deficits it had to absorb. The Board survives because its wildlife studies fund (WSF) supports any deficits.
- Schedule 1, Schedule of General Operating Fund (page 13) – Surplus for 2014-2015 is \$4,054. The Supplemental SARA is the money the GRRB received from AANDC for the SARA Biologist and associated consultation costs. Any surplus in the GO or Supplemental SARA needs to be spent by March 31, 2016.



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- Schedule 2, Schedule of Training Fund (page 14) – This is the fund that is used as directed by the Board.
- Schedule 3, Schedule of WSF (page 15) – This is all projects combined. The individual project details are in schedule 4.
- Schedule 4, Schedule of Revenue and Expenditure, WSF (pages 16-18) – These are all the projects that the Board received outside funding for. The total deficit is \$4,138. This list of projects shows the Board is doing a lot of work.
- Statement of Operation (page 4) – When you compile all funds the Board has a million dollar operation. Paul noted that is a big operation.

### **Discussion:**

Bobbie Jo Greenland Morgan asked for clarification on what is bad debt that is noted on page 4. Paul researched this inquiry and explained it was from an old contribution agreement that the GRRB did not collect the full funds. ENR confirmed they will not pay it so it has to be marked off as bad debt. Paul reiterated the importance of following up on accounts receivable to ensure you always receive all the money owed.

Bobbie Jo Greenland Morgan asked for clarification on the scholarships on page 4 and why it is blank for 2015 and \$9,085 in 2014. She recalls the Board making decisions that do not coincide with this recording. Amy Amos pulled up the Board decisions. In 2013-2014, the Board approved one scholarship for \$1,000. In 2014-2015, there were no scholarship approvals. In 2015-2016, the Board approved three scholarships for \$1,000 each. Paul researched and then clarified that this is a coding error and that he will fix this and send a new draft.

Burt Hunt noted there were some changes from 2014 to 2015 on page 4. Professional fees and rent went up. Paul responded that this includes all projects so it could be project related to.

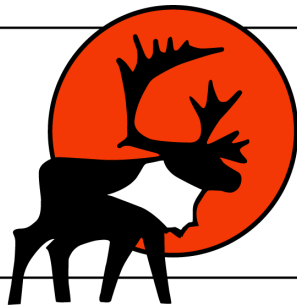
### **Action(s):**

- Paul Teoh will amend the current financial statement to fix the coding error for scholarships. He will resend it to Amy Amos. Amy Amos will share with the Board.

## **5. Financial Statements (WSF)**

Paul Teoh presented the GRRB's financial statements for their wildlife studies fund (WSF) for fiscal year 2014-2015. In his presentation he highlighted the following items:

- Recommended the Board ensure they receive updates from their investment manager at least once per year.
- Page 2 - Gained \$40,000
- Note 3 (page 8) – In 1995, the Board received one-time funding then some more one year later, totalling \$2 million dollars. The Board cannot touch the seed money but it can spend the interest.



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- Page 3 – \$8 million dollars in interest and dividends. Last year sold some stocks and made some money. The unrealized gain is a book value but has not been sold yet. The Board paid RBC investment managers \$21,000 to manage their investments. There is an accumulating surplus.

### **Discussion:**

Burt Hunt asked for clarification on how to calculate the percent of return. He wanted to know if it was \$171,000 over \$2 million. Paul confirmed that is correct. He noted it changes every year and admitted he's not sure if that is a good return. Last year the percent of return was 8.6% and this year it was 6.1%.

### **Motion # GRRB 2015-29**

Moved by: Doug Doan  
All in favour.

**To approve the financial statements of the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, subject to the changes noted, for fiscal year 2014-2015.**

Seconded by: Burt Hunt  
Motion carried.

### **Motion # GRRB 2015-30**

Moved by: Bobbie Jo Greenland Morgan  
All in favour.

**To approve the financial statements for the GRRB's wildlife studies fund for fiscal year 2014-2015**

Seconded by: Cindy Allen  
Motion carried.

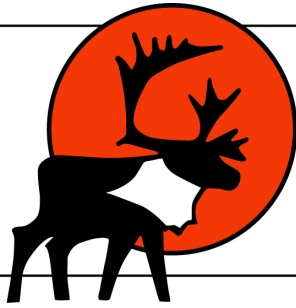
## **6. Investment Policy**

Amy Amos met with the investment advisors in Edmonton on May 20, 2015 while enroute to Newfoundland for a leadership conference. The purpose of the meeting was to formally meet, face-to-face, and chat generally about the GRRB's wildlife studies fund account. During this meeting they committed to providing examples of other companies using socially responsible investments. This was sent on May 26, 2015 and is in the Board binder for this meeting.

**Decision:** There was interest in creating a subcommittee. Burt Hunt, Cindy Allen and Bobbie Jo Greenland Morgan all expressed interest in participating on such subcommittee. Amy would coordinate and the goal will be for them to review the investment policy and come up with next steps for the socially responsible investment policy. The funding for this will come from general operating under the board executive representation line item, which has funds available for board work such as this.

### **Action(s):**

- Amy Amos to form the subcommittee and coordinate its meetings.
- Subcommittee to report back to full Board with recommendations on any updates



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### 7. Advisory Committee for the Cooperation for Wildlife Management (ACCWM)

Ron Allen gave an update on the ACCWM call that was held on June 2, 2015. The next call will be on July 10, 2015. There were some letters circulated that suggested some concerns with how the current allocations are being managed for the Bluenose-west caribou herd. There were also concerns expressed that the data being used for the current allocations is based on old data. The actions plans for the “Taking care of caribou, management plan for the bluenose-west, bluenose east and cape bathurst herds” are all due at the end of this year. The ACCWM is requesting all member boards to respond to (1) draft terms of reference for the working group, (2) bluenose-east harvest allocation procedure, (3) if they are okay with waiting until the fall to set a herd status and (4) what is their availability for an immediate call.

#### **Discussion:**

The Board discussed the requested information. They support the draft terms of reference and Eugene is available for a call on July 10, 2015. The questions about bluenose-east and herd status were not decided on due to the complications arising from recent correspondence between the member boards. The result of those complications will lead to a decision on these items.

#### **Action(s):**

- Amy Amos to respond to ACCWM indicating their response to the questions asked to each member board.

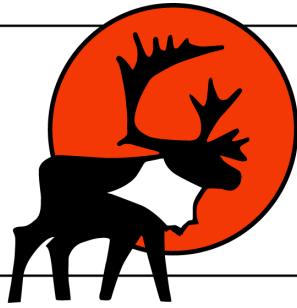
### 8. WMAC (NWT) Letters

Amy Amos explained the documents that are included in the meeting binder. There was some correspondence from WMAC (NT) to the GRRB but also to the Minister, ACCWM and the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board (SRRB). The WMAC (NT) has concerns with how the tag allocation system is being managed, particularly in the Sahtu region. They are asking the GRRB to respond to how they use their bluenose-west caribou tags, for bluenose-west harvest data, and for a special joint meeting with the SRRB. Marsha Branigan, member on WMAC (NT), helped explain the current situation as well. First, she clarified that there is an interest to increase the total allowable harvest (TAH) for all users based on the 2012 results. She noted that the TAH has not been relooked at since it was set in 2006. WMAC (NT) is requesting this be considered. Second, the WMAC (NT) is requesting the GRRB, SRRB and ENR what they have done to implement the allocation actions that were set back in 2006. There is knowledge that tags are not being used in the Sahtu and this is not being enforced.

#### **Discussion:**

The Board discussed the letters. They were all in support of a face-to-face meeting if funds could be found and if all three boards were available. A good agenda will need to be developed collaboratively and consideration should be given to hiring a facilitator.

Cindy Allen asked if the GRRB has the data being requested (harvest data) and if there is current population data for the bluenose-west herd. Amy Amos responded. The GRRB has harvest data for



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bluenose-west. Kristen noted some glitches in the database but it can still be provided. We just require the WMAC (NT) to fill out the data request forms then we can process that request. Janet Boxwell would be responsible for this and she is currently on leave until July 22, 2015. In regards to population data, surveys are being done now. Kristen is helping ENR with these surveys. The data then needs to be analysed and should be available this fall.

### Action(s):

- Amy Amos to establish a budget for a special meeting. Send request for funding to ENR. If granted funds, work with the SRRB and WMAC (NT) to facilitate a special meeting.
- Amy Amos to respond to WMAC (NT) request for GRRB's harvest data for bluenose-west caribou, by advising them of our process to access harvest data (E.g. data request forms)
- Amy Amos to respond to WMAC (NT) request for how the GRRB implemented its allocation decision in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

*[The Board took a break for lunch at 12:00 PM. Reconvened at 1:07 PM]*

Attendance after break: Eugene Pascal, Burt Hunt, Doug Doan, Ron Allen, Bobbie Jo Greenland Morgan, Cindy Allen, Jozef Carnogursky, Charlie Snowshoe, Amy Amos, Kaytlin Cooper, Cheryl Greenland.

## 9. GRRB Fall Meeting

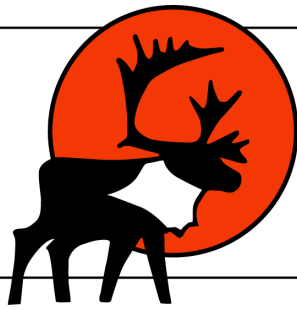
**9.1.1 Board Meeting Date:** The Board discussed the best timing for their fall Board meeting. They were provided with a calendar that highlighted meetings and staff annual times.

**Decision:** Week of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Fort McPherson for a two day meeting. Burt Hunt indicated he is unavailable for this meeting but his alternate, Ron Allen, is available.

### Action(s):

- Amy Amos to communicate dates for the GRRB's fall board meeting and begin the planning and coordination process.

**9.1.2 Alternates Discussion:** The Board discussed how alternates should be engaged and participate in meetings. Since the GTC nominated members do not have assigned alternates the Board discussed how to identify who would attend meetings so meeting attendance will be distributed fairly. They also discussed if it was appropriate for alternates to provide written updates or comments if they were not attending a meeting. There were concerns about budgets if all members were in attendance at a meeting plus the Board accepted written comments, which would require payment for alternate time as well. **Decision:** (1) Alternates participation at meetings will be based on a rotational schedule so each has a fair opportunity to attend meeting. The Executive Director will house this rotational schedule and use it when coordinating meeting attendance. (2) Alternates will be kept up to date but should not provide written updates or be involved in the meetings unless there is a budget line that allows them to participate or they receive specific board approval. (3) It was noted



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that more members may attend some meetings if they need to give an update but if the full member is in attendance the alternate can participate in discussion but shall not vote on any motions.

### **Action(s):**

- Amy Amos to create and keep a rotational schedule to know which alternates attended meetings, and to know which one should attend the next meeting. This is for the GTC nominated members.

### **10. GRRB Portfolios**

The Board discussed the need for assigning portfolios to specific members. If this happened, staff would engaged specific members for specific files. Then they would report back to the fuller board at meetings. There is not a big budget for this so it would need to just be ad hoc with phone calls or emails if staff had questions. The way it currently works is the Executive Director includes all members in all correspondence, even when it's just a quick question. **Decision:** Keep with the current practice of involving all members. No portfolios needed.

### **11. TRRC letter**

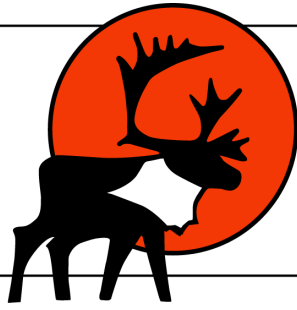
The Board reviewed the letter received from the Tetlit RRC regarding their recommendations to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB) for porcupine caribou. They want (1) Monitors located on the Northwest Territories (NWT) and Yukon sides of the Dempster Highway, (2) signs to be put up for people to report poachers, and (3) hunters to obtain permission from the closest towns/cities before entering onto any traditional lands in the NWT and Yukon. PCMB replied suggesting they work with the GRRB and Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC). **Decision:** This is more an ENR and GTC item. The GRRB can assist with education and communication.

### **Action(s):**

- Amy Amos to respond to let TRRC, ENR and GTC know we can assist with education and communication.

### **12. Information**

**12.1.1 Executive Director Update:** Amy Amos gave an Executive Director's update, the written update is in the binder. Cindy Allen asked about when the Grizzly Bear Management Agreement will be worked on. Amy responded acknowledging this is an outstanding item. The current focus for wildlife right now is the bluenose herds plan and the draft dall's sheep plan. Cindy also asked if there is any funding for members or staff to attend the Yukon North Slope meeting. Amy responded that there is currently no funding for this. Ron Allen indicated that he has been working with Amy, staff and partners to do a performance evaluation for Amy, based on recommendations from the February 2015 board meeting. He is seeking board feedback on recent correspondence to them.



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**12.1.2 Grizzly bear update:** Amy Amos updated the Board on recent correspondence from the local ENR office on defence against life and property kills. Update is in the binder.

**12.1.3 Species at Risk Update:** Amy Amos began by letting the Board know she is still trying to secure permanent funding for the SAR biologist position. She then handed the floor to Kaytlin Cooper who went through the species at risk assessment schedule, management groupings for barrenground caribou and gave an update on the status of the boreal caribou recovery strategy consultations.

SAR Assessment Schedule: She had some concerns initially about the schedule and why there were variations from the data presented for certain species. Kaytlin and Amy spoke with the NWT SAR Secretariat for clarification on these items and understand that the bees were pushed to a later date due to a CMA decision to try to group similar assessments and the collared pika and shorter-eared owl were pushed to a later date because of data deficiency and a CMA decision to assess lesser known species together. Overall, she is happy with the proposed schedule.

Management groupings for barrenground caribou: She also presented about the proposed management groupings for the barrenground caribou. The CMA is asking management authorities to let them know if there is a desire to separate the porcupine caribou (PC) from this assessment. The Board discussed the possibilities of keeping the herd assessments together or separating PC out. **Decision:** The Board decided they would prefer to assess the porcupine caribou separately from the other barrenground caribou herds. They felt this would be helpful for management purposes, especially since the PC herd is doing well (currently in the green zone).

Boreal caribou recovery strategy update: She has met with two of the RRCs. She is happy with the report so far. Deadline for comments is July 15, 2015. She will send the CMA what we have received so far.

### 13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 PM (no motion was taken at this time)