



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board

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GRRB TELECONFERENCE MINUTES May 17, 2016 2:00 PM MST (NT) / 1:00 PM PST (YT)

Attendance

- GRRB office: Amy Amos (Staff), Cheryl Greenland (Staff), Sarah Jerome (Alternate Member)
- On call: Eugene Pascal (Chair), Doug Doan (Member), Burt Hunt (Member), Ron Allen (Alternate Member), Charlie Snowshoe (Alternate Member), Cindy Allen (Alternate Member)

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Eugene Pascal at 2:06 PM.

2. Agenda

Motion # GRRB 2016-21	To approve the May 17, 2016 teleconference agenda
Moved by: Charlie Snowshoe	Seconded by: Burt Hunt
All in favour.	Motion carried.

3. Minutes

Approval of minutes was deferred to the next face-to-face meeting.

4. Caribou

a. Bluenose East (BNE) Action Plan

Amy Amos summarized a letter from the GTC on a proposed action plan for the BNE caribou herd. GRRB staff will meet with the GTC on June 13 to discuss the letter. Amy asked the Board to provide feedback.

Discussion:

Board members raised the following concerns with the proposal:

- Will ENR do enforcement? How will compliance be ensured?
- Will there be real limits set?
- 100% bull harvest is not realistic for community buy-in. How would it be implemented?
- Harvest data is needed before herd management can occur.
- Decline of animal herds in other areas.
- Buy-in required from management authorities, user groups, community.
- Reliance on caribou as a food source; closing the harvest completely would be difficult.

Results of the hearings will provide the WRRB and SRRB perspective.

b. Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM) Meeting Direction

Eugene Pascal summarized the letter from the Ministry in response to the GRRB letters. There were no comments on the meeting agenda. Eugene will attend the meeting on behalf of the GRRB; Cindy Allen (Alternate Member) has also expressed interest.

Discussion:

The Board felt it would be beneficial to speak with the Inuvialuit prior to attending the meeting.

Kristen Callaghan (GRRB Staff) entered the meeting.

5. Wildlife Act regulation related

a. Moose Regulations

ENR requested feedback from the GRRB on a letter from the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (WMAAC NWT) outlining mandatory harvest and proof-of-sex reporting for moose taken in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). Kristen Callaghan provided a Summary of Recommendations to the Board, summarizing the topic and the advice from GRRB staff.

Discussion:

Kristen clarified the Board’s questions around the intent of the proposal. The Board felt that it would not be difficult to ask for this type of reporting, and that location of the moose should also be reported.

Kristen also helped clarify why the GRRB is being asked for input on an ISR issue; there is no boundary between the ISR and GSA for moose hunters – they can choose either zone.

Concerns were expressed over how this would benefit moose management, the lack of harvest data information, and whether/why there is a need for this new reporting. As it relates to the land claim, the Board would like to bring this to the attention of the RRCs or the Gwich’in Assembly.

There was further discussion on whether this topic needed to go to the Assembly.

Action(s):

- Amy Amos to draft a letter of conditional support to ENR using Kristen’s Summary of Recommendations, excluding item #4 (there are two zones).

b. Special Harvest Area Regulations

In the Land Claim Agreements, there are areas identified for Gwich’in harvest only. The new regulations from ENR are still in draft form. Amy Amos summarized the staff comments for the Board.

Discussion:

The Board would like clarification on whether the regulations apply to Gwich’in participants only. They would also like to add provisions to the regulations to enable the Board to revise them as necessary.

Action(s):

- Eugene Pascal to determine if the regulations are intended to restrict Gwich'in harvest.
 - If so, reply Yes with the addition of two points the staff brought up
 - If not, need to re-engage and perhaps seek legal advice.

Kristen Callaghan left the meeting.

Eugene Pascal left the meeting, appointed Ron Allen to Chair.

Motion # GRRB 2016-22

Moved by: Sarah Jerome

All in favour.

To appoint Ron Allen as meeting Chair

Seconded by: Doug Doan

Motion carried.

c. Administrative Updates

WA regulation changes admin updates.

Decision: Proceed, supportive of changes.

d. Defining Commercial Use

Decision: ENR to request the start. If no request, stay put.

6. Grizzly Bear Management

This agenda item was postponed to a later date.

7. Committee Updates

a. Request for Proposal (RFP) Committee (office lease update)

Amy provided an update on the background to this agenda item. Cindy Allen presented the following options:

- Stay in current location with Nih'tat Gwich'in Council (NGC) as landlord
- Ask for incentives to stay
- Request repairs

Discussion:

The Board discussed the presented options and concerns about the parking spot location.

Motion # GRRB 2016-23

Moved by: Doug Doan

All in favour.

To approve entering into a three-year lease with the NGC for the Alex Moses Greenland building at the rate provided in a letter dated May 3, 2016.

Seconded by: Charlie Snowshoe

Motion carried.

b. Finance Committee

Amy provided a summary. Everything is on target, including the Wildlife Studies Fund. Projects have started.

c. Policy Committee

The Committee is formed of Ron Allen, Doug Doan and Amy Amos. A section-by-section approach has been identified, whereby the OPM is split into two sections: a Policy Manual and an Admin Handbook. The Board questioned the need for the split.

Further updates will be provided at the next face-to-face meeting.

8. Updates

a. File Sharing

Amy presented the option of testing out a new file sharing system using ShareSync. The Board is supportive of a test run.

Decision: Proceed.

b. Newsletter

Amy summarized the Spring 2016 issue of the GRRB newsletter. Sarah Jerome would like to mention it on the radio.

Action(s):

- Amy Amos to look into better ways to distribute the newsletter; send copies directly to Board members.

c. Upcoming Dates

The Board meeting will happen this fall. At the February Board Meeting the members decided it will either be September 28-29th or October 5-6th. There will also be a teleconference in July or August.

Action(s):

- Amy Amos to seek fall meeting date confirmation via email.

9. Adjournment

Motion # GRRB 2016-24	To adjourn the meeting at 5:05 PM
Moved by: Charlie Snowshoe	
All in favour.	Motion carried.