



## Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board

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### GRRB TELECONFERENCE MINUTES March 29, 2017 2:00 PM MST (NT) / 1:00 PM PST (YT)

#### Attendance

- GRRB office: Amy Amos (Staff), Sarah Lord (Staff)
- On call: Eugene Pascal (Chair), Burt Hunt (Member), Doug Doan (Member), Ron Allen (Alternate Member)
- Regrets: Jozef Carnogursky (Member), Sarah Jerome (Alternate Member)

#### 1. Call to order

Eugene Pascal called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM. Conflict of interest will be declared as it arises.

#### 2. Agenda

**Motion # GRRB 2017-11**

Moved by: Burt Hunt

All in favour.

**To approve the March 29, 2017 teleconference agenda**

Seconded by: Doug Doan

Motion carried.

#### 3. Minutes

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

#### Action

Amy to review the actions and motions to add in any gaps from her notes.

#### 4. Wildlife Studies Fund (WSF)

##### a. Staff proposals

*<GRRB Staff member Kristen Callaghan entered the meeting.>*

Kristen fielded questions from Board members on her proposal. She clarified that the GIS software is comparable to other software used in the north; she sought advice from ENR's GIS specialist. Training is individualized, but more than one participant could likely sit in.

The Board is in support of the GIS training. There are three different scenarios in the budget.

*<Kristen Callaghan and Sarah Lord left the meeting.>*

**Motion # GRRB 2017-12**

Moved by: Ron Allen

All in favour.

**To go in camera at 2:39 PM**

Seconded by: Burt Hunt

Motion carried.

**Motion # GRRB 2017-13**

Moved by: Burt Hunt  
All in favour.

**To come out of camera at 2:45 PM.**

Seconded by: Doug Doan  
Motion carried.

**Motion # GRRB 2017-14**

Moved by: Burt Hunt  
All in favour.

**To accept two proposals to update the WSF allocation table for 2017-18.**

Seconded by: Ron Allen  
Motion carried.

**Motion # GRRB 2017-15**

Moved by: Burt Hunt  
All in favour.

**To approve a withdrawal of \$80,000 from the GRRB's WSF account.**

Seconded by: Doug Doan  
Motion carried.

**5. ACCWM****a) Action Plans**

There is already support, but since the meeting is this week (deadline was March 31), the final recommended versions were sent again.

The Board consented to support the action plans, with no further comments.

**Action(s):**

Amy Amos to send a letter to the GRRB to advise the ACCWM of the boards support.

**b) Total Allowable Harvest for Bluenose West & letter**

The WMAC (NWT) has sent a letter to the Minister asking to increase the Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) which will equal 4% of the last population estimate using the Rivest method. However, the Minister replied indicating they are not prepared to increase any TAH at the moment given the downward trend of the herds population.

It was noted that in the past, Nihtat members harvested more than what is currently the Gwich'in share. This is documented in the original Gwich'in Harvest Study.

**Action(s):**

Amy Amos to talk to the NRRC.

*GRRB Staff member Sarah Lord re-entered the meeting.*

**6. Fisheries Items****a. Update on RRWG (Sarah Lord and Eugene Pascal)**

The TAH is 600 (3%). GRRB was okay with up to 800.

- 225 Monitors (75 x 3)
- 375 Community (125 x 3)

16,000 is estimate (double the last estimate).

It was noted that the mixed stock genetic data was not ready for the March 2017 meeting and it includes valuable information about the mixed stock fishery that helps the group make decision. We understand the reason the information was not ready is do to capacity and vacant positions.

**Decision:** The Board supports the voluntary RRWG TAH (voluntary) of 600 fish.

**Action(s):**

Amy Amos to draft a letter to DFO on mixed stock. The letter needs to emphasis how important the information is for the March meeting each year.

**b. C&P Work Plan**

This item is for information. DFO is asking the GRRB. GRRB will send their 2017-18 priorities/asks to the RRCs and request a document (work plan) in return. GRRB to follow up after 2017-18 to see what was done.

**Action(s):**

Amy to request from DFO a work plan based on the priorities they received from us and others. This should be prior to the field season. Then after the field season request a progress report.

**c. FJMC Correspondence**

The GRRB was not engaged in the development or approval of the community fishing plan for the Inuvik to Tuk Highway.

There is also a letter that DFO shared with the GRRB from the FJMC to DFO asking for an increase to sport fishing license fees, to be applied to the Inuvik region which includes the GSA. There was no contact from the FJMC prior to this letter. DFO is asking for the GRRB's review and support before implementing any actions. The Board suggests that the GRRB acknowledge that DFO acknowledges the proper process.

For both matters, the GRRB does not disagree with the content, but disagrees with the approach and the process for the shared Settlement Area. The best way to deal with these items is for the GRRB to meet with DFO and FJMC.

**Action(s):**

Eugene Pascal to try to meet with the Chair of the FJMC (Amy to help coordinate the meeting)  
Amy Amos to reply to DFO and ask for an opportunity to talk.

**7. Species at Risk**

*<GRRB Staff member Kaytlin Cooper entered the meeting. Sarah Lord left the meeting.>*

The Board reviewed the letter Kaytlin drafted based on discussion at the February 2017 meeting.

**Discussion**

The Board discussed their previous concerns with the need for a better mechanism for enforcement and how regulations would compliment these documents. The Board agreed there are still some uncertainties but given Environment Canada's replies at the Feb meeting to the Board's concerns

they were not sure how to address their concerns with these documents other than just noting the concerns.

**Decision:** The Board approved the letter to be sent, as written which includes their concerns noted in the discussion above.

## 8. Administration

### a) Wildlife Biologist

Cleaned up the job description.

<b>Motion # GRRB 2017-16</b>	<b>To approve the updated job description for the GRRB Wildlife Biologist.</b>
Moved by: Burt Hunt	Seconded by: Doug Doan
All in favour.	Motion carried.

### b) Conference of Management Authorities, May 2-4, 2017

The GRRB has funds to send three participants. Eugene and Ron are available. Amy is interested in attending. Jozef may be interested. Kaytlin will attend with AANDC funds.

### c) Auditor for 2017-18

Amy expressed no concerns with using the same auditor.

<b>Motion # GRRB 2017-17</b>	<b>To approve Paul Teoh as auditor for 2016-17.</b>
Moved by: Doug Doan	Seconded by: Burt Hunt
All in favour.	Motion carried.

## 9. Other Business

- a) Eugene provided an update on the passing of Neil Firth, who was the coordinator for the Nihtat RRC for many years. His funeral is March 31<sup>st</sup>. The GRRB office will closed that afternoon in his honor. Amy will be doing a reading at the service.
- b) Ron updated the Board on the staff exercise underway for the Wildlife Biologist position
- c) Ron updated the Board on his attendance, as well as Amy Amos and new Biologist Sarah Lord, for the Administrative Law training in Yellowknife. It was a useful process and he will post materials on the shared folder for the board's interest.

## 10. Adjournment

<b>Motion # GRRB 2017-18</b>	<b>To adjourn the meeting at 3:44 PM.</b>
Moved by: Burt Hunt	Seconded by: Doug Doan
All in favour.	Motion carried.