

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: MEETING No. 1*

25-28 JANUARY 1994
IQALUIT, NT

Participants:

Ben Kovic	Member and Interim Chairperson
David Aglukark	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
David Iqutsaq	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Malachi Arreak	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Andy Theriault	Member
Christine Tanner	Administrative Expediter (Tanmar Svcs)
Marny Twigge	Recording Secretary (Tanmar Services)
Mary Nashook	Interpreter

Other Attendees:

Also in attendance were members of the public at large, along with various dignitaries and representatives of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND), the GNWT Department of Renewable Resources (DRR), the Department of Environment (DOE), The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), the Keewatin Inuit Association (KIA), Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), and the GNWT Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs (IAA).

Inaugural Ceremony

Swearing-in of Board Members

Swearing-in of the NWMB Board commenced at 9:00 a.m. at Inukshuk High School, with Lazarus Arreak, Director of Communications for NTI, acting as Master of Ceremonies. Following an official welcome and opening remarks by Mr. Arreak, and a kudlik-lighting ceremony by local elder Nakki Ekho, the eight Board Members were officially sworn in by Justice of the Peace Andrew Tagak. Jackie Kooneak was also sworn in at this time as a replacement Board Member for Makivik.

* This document was reconstituted from the original Minutes in the interests of enhancing general coherence and promoting conformity with subsequent Minute formats.

Congratulatory comments were offered by Marius Tungilik on behalf of the GNWT, by Jack Anawak on behalf of DIAND and the Federal Government, and by James Eetoolook on behalf of NTI. All expressed satisfaction regarding the creation of the NWMB and optimism for its deliberations. Members of the public attended the Ceremony and refreshments were served.

Inaugural Meeting

1. Call to Order and Opening Preliminaries

Ben Kovic, the Interim Chairperson, called the first meeting of the NWMB to order at 1:40 p.m. in the Cadet Hall. Joannie Ikkidluak led the opening prayer. A motion was passed to officially open the meeting. **(Resolution 94- 001)** The Board Members introduced themselves to each other, to the members of the public, and to the various representatives in attendance.

2. Agenda

The draft agenda as prepared by DIAND was accepted, with the understanding that it was subject to revision in the course of the meeting. **(Resolution 94- 002)**

3. Presentations by Institutional Representatives

3.A Paul Okalik: NTI and Implementation Panel

Mr. Okalik noted that the Implementation Panel is comprised of three parties: NTI, GNWT and DIAND. In addition to himself, the other NTI members present today are Lois Leslie (NTI), Mark Warren (GNWT), and Terry Henderson (DIAND).

3.B Terry Henderson: Implementation Panel and DIAND

Mr. Henderson noted that the NWMB is one of five institutions of public government that are anticipated under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). It is the first to be duly constituted and incorporated. As the main wildlife management body for the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA), the NWMB will have many responsibilities and will interact with concerned government departments such as DIAND, DFO and CWS.

The role of DIAND pertaining to the NWMB under the NLCA includes:

- Monitoring and coordination on behalf of Canada, primarily through the Implementation Panel, to ensure that all departments meet their obligations.
- Making operational arrangements, such as for the flow of funds to the Board:
 - a) For lump-sum payments specified under the Agreement and/or under the Implementation Contract:
 - \$11 million for government-sponsored wildlife research
 - \$6 million for the harvest study
 - \$500,000 for the bowhead knowledge study
 - b) For payment of interest (yet to be negotiated with the Board) on the wildlife research funds over the period 9 July 1993 (date of ratification of the NLCA) to 26 November 1993 (when the funds were placed in trust).
 - c) For annual implementation funding over the first 10 years of the Agreement:
 - About \$3.1 million available to be drawn in first fiscal year (1993/94).
 - About \$4.5 million available in each successive fiscal year.
 - \$1.4 million available in the last fiscal year (2003/2004).

Mr. Henderson reminded Members that the NWMB Chairperson will be appointed by the Governor-in-Council from nominations to be put forward by the Board. The NWMB is encouraged to nominate several candidates.

3.C Burton Ayles: DFO, Acting Regional Director General

Dr. Ayles noted that the NWMB is a decision-making institution, not merely an advisory body. Its main function will be to ensure the sustainable use of fishery resources, both now and in the future. The Board will need to vigorously defend its independence. Dr. Ayles provided a list of DFO contact people and a calendar of up-coming events pertinent to fisheries administration in the NSA.

3.D Gerald McKeating: DOE, Regional Director

Mr. McKeating gave assurance that the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) looks forward to working closely with the NWMB and is committed to its success. Kevin McCormick will be the CWS representative and he will have full authority to speak for that agency.

3.E Don Vincent: GNWT (Renewable Resources)

Don Vincent stated that his role has been and remains to coordinate the land claim on behalf of DRR, from land selection through to implementation. DRR has a long history of cooperation, especially with the Land Use Planning Commission and in respect to environmental assessment. DRR wishes the NWMB the greatest success and looks forward to working effectively together.

3.F Lois Leslie: NTI Legal Advisor

Ms. Leslie gave assurance that NTI will cooperate with and support the NWMB to the best of its ability. The NTI is setting up a wildlife database and is working with existing Hunters and Trappers Associations (HTAs) to develop their local by-laws. Input and assistance from the NWMB in this exercise would be welcomed.

Wednesday, 26 January 1994

3. Presentations by Institutional Representatives, continued

3.G Louis Pilakapsi: President Keewatin Inuit Association (KIA)

Mr. Pilakapsi acknowledged the responsibility that Inuit have to protect their waters and their lands. The NWMB's bowhead knowledge study and the harvest study are going to be of particular interest and value. Mr. Pilakapsi stressed that the wishes of the elders need to be respected in the matter of harvesting bowhead whales. The elders very much want to see this harvest restored. Every year sees fewer elders still alive who remember the bowhead hunts.

3.H Raymond Ningeocheak: 2nd Vice-President, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Mr. Ningeocheak noted the high costs for equipment and supplies that hunters face today. He advised of the new Hunter Support Program to be set up and administered by NTI. Representatives from the HTAs, the RWOs, and possibly from the GNWT Department of Renewable Resources will assemble at Rankin Inlet in March to further plan this program.

3.I David Alagalak: NTI Advisor, Keewatin

Mr. Alagalak noted that steps are being taken to set up Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs). The HTOs/HTAs are wondering how much funding they will receive from the NWMB. They are drafting by-laws now, and working with

Renewable Resources to register. They aim to finish by mid July. Discussion followed on whether outpost camps would be eligible to become HTOs.

Mr. Alagalak suggested that it would be appropriate to once again harvest bowhead whales since the stock has had time to increase. He requested that the NWMB deal with this matter as a priority.

4. *In-camera* Session

The Board decided to go *in-camera*, in order to consider the introductory presentations and to develop its strategy for the continuation of the meeting. The Chairperson asked Christine Tanner to remain present for the *in-camera* session. **(Resolution 94- 003 and Resolution 94- 004)**

5. Discussion of Presentations by Institutional Representatives

Ben Kovic thanked the presenters and opened the floor for questions and discussion. (Note: Some of the discussion as recorded below actually occurred the day previous.)

Malachi Arreak asked about the duration of the planning period and if there were any funding implications due to the NFA not being ratified on 1 April 1993. Mr. Henderson replied that the planning period had been adjusted to end on 8 July 2003, and that the funding horizons were changed accordingly.

Malachi Arreak asked about the timetable for creation of the other management boards under the NLCA. Mr. Henderson replied that no problems were foreseen that could hold up the creation of the other boards.

Gordon Koshinsky noted the potential difficulties posed by the federal contribution agreements stating that unexpended funds as of April 1 of each year must revert to the Crown. Lois Leslie replied that NTI does not agree that unexpended funds need to be returned but it has not yet been determined how to provide for funding carryovers. NTI is willing to take this matter to arbitration if necessary.

David Aglukark suggested that Terry Henderson's presentation indicated that DIAND is aiming to control the Board. He stressed that the NWMB is now a full-fledged decision-making body that will make its own decisions, and that he hoped a good working relationship would develop between the newly incorporated NWMB and the existing governmental officials. Mr. Henderson agreed with these aspirations.

6. NWMB Implementation Workplan

Mary Crnkovich and Ron Ryan presented the draft NWMB Implementation Workplan that they had prepared at the request of NTI. Three phases were identified:

- Start-up; until end of March 1994
- Orientation; April 1 until end of December 1994
- Ongoing operation; January 1995 and continuing

The objectives of each phase were outlined by the consultants. A committee structure was recommended. It was stressed that the NWMB has the option to accept the total workplan, accept parts of the workplan, or reject the workplan altogether.

Considerable discussion ensued on a number of operational details, including:

- Participation by Makivik substitute members. The consultants explained when and how the Makivik members are expected/required to participate in Board business according to the terms of the NLCA.
- Per diem rates for Board members. The consultants advised that \$200 per day is the standard per diem rate set by the Privy Council for boards of this nature.
- Conflict of interest. The consultants interpreted that participation as a hunter or as a fisher, or serving as an HTA board or staff member, would not constitute a priori conflict of interest vis-à-vis serving on the NWMB.
- Availability of operating funds. The consultants explained that up to \$3,086,600 was available to the NWMB for 1993/94 operations as per the Implementation Contract, but that a contribution agreement needed to be in place to allow any funds to be accessed.

7. Swearing in of Daniel Epoo (Member for Makivik)

Andrew Tagak, Justice of the Peace, swore in Daniel Epoo as the second NWMB replacement member for Makivik.

Thursday, 27 January 1994

8. *In-camera* Session

Members decided to open the day's meeting by going *in-camera* to discuss the NWMB implementation workplan and a budget for the remainder of FY 1993/94. **(Resolution 94- 005 and Resolution 94- 006)**

9. Additional Presentations to the Board

9.A Mary Wilman: Nunavut Implementation Training Committee (NITC)

The NITC was created under authority of Article 37 of the NLCA to enable the support of training of Inuit to ensure their greatest possible involvement in the implementation of the Claim. NITC will establish appropriate standards for training, develop funding, and co-ordinate and evaluate the training program.

The Committee is comprised of seven members from GNWT, Federal Government, BRIA, NTI and the Nunavut Trust. Their \$13 million budget was received on October 6.

The training plan will be based on the findings of the training study, which must be approved by the Implementation Panel. Land management and Board administration are two areas of training needs identified by Regional Inuit Associations.

9.B Tim Surette: Area Manager, DFO

Mr. Surette introduced himself as DFO's direct contact with the NWMB. Two major events in DFO's annual planning cycle and pertinent to NWMB have had recent attention:

- Meeting of the North Atlantic Shrimp Advisory Committee
- Development of the 1994 groundfish management plan.

DFO considers that it would be appropriate for NWMB to participate in all future meetings that deal with management or regulatory matters in the NSA.

Mr. Surette also provided an update on turbot allocations in Davis Strait and Cumberland Sound. He discussed the upcoming meeting of the International Whaling Commission in May, and noted that Canada is not a member of the IWC at this time.

There is a body of opinion that the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission may be a more appropriate forum for Canadian participation.

9.C Joannie Ikkidluak briefed the Board on the work of the Southeast Baffin Beluga Committee (SEBBC). With the Land Claim now settled, this will be the final year of funding from DFO for this Committee. The Committee is rushing to finish its draft management plan by the end of February.

10. Establishment of Committees

The Board decided to establish a Finance and Administration Committee. This Committee was charged to develop an appropriate budget for 1993/94 in an amount not to exceed \$636,495, and to finalize the necessary Contribution Agreement with DIAND. **(Resolution 94- 007)**

The Board also established a Policy and Programs (Operations) Committee. This Committee was charged to develop policies, procedures, and a code of conduct for the Board. **(Resolution 94- 008)**

The Board recognized that it was going to be faced with a substantial volume of staffing and related activity. It was decided to create a Personnel Committee to streamline the administration of personnel issues. It was further decided to charge this Committee to establish a list of candidates for the position of Chairperson for review by the Board at the next meeting. **(Resolution 94- 009)**

There was further discussion about the process for implementing the harvesting rights for bowhead whales as established under the Land Claim. The Board decided to establish a Bowhead Study Committee. **(Resolution 94- 010)**

11. Interim By-laws

The Board decided to adopt the interim by-laws as developed by Organizational Development Consulting Group. **(Resolution 94- 011)**

12. Wildlife Research Trust Fund

Paul Okalik advised that the law firm Nelligan-Power, which is currently holding the Wildlife Research Fund resources in trust for the NWMB, requires direction for re-investment of the money when the present term deposit expires on 31 January. The Board decided to direct that the funds be re-invested in a new term deposit, along with the interest accumulated to date, for a period of sixty days. **(Resolution 94- 012)**

Mr. Okalik also reminded the Board of the need to negotiate the rate of interest to be paid by the Government of Canada for the period between the ratification of the Final Agreement (9 July 1993) and the date when the funds were actually placed in trust (26 November 1993).

Friday, 28 January 1994

13. Correspondence

Christine Tanner brought three items of correspondence to the attention of the Board:

- a) Invitation from Parks Canada to attend the forthcoming Arctic Marine Workshop in Winnipeg.
It was decided that Gordon Koshinsky will attend, since he is already on-site in Winnipeg and can participate at no cost to the Board.
- b) Request from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board for NWMB opinion regarding the Dene request to have the "Beverly" part of their name changed to "Nelya". Baker Lake HTA is opposed to this request.
It was decided to send a reply by letter stating the confidence of the NWMB in the capacity of the B/Q Board to resolve this issue on their own.
- c) Invitation to attend the upcoming (February) meeting of the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission in Norway.
It was decided to acknowledge the invitation and ask to be kept informed.

14. Initiation of Harvest Study

The total funding available for this study for its duration is \$6 million, with \$500,000 tentatively earmarked for the first year. Before a study budget can be established, a design for the study will need to be developed and approved.

It was decided to charge the Operations Committee to draft terms of reference for a contract to lead in development of a study design. It was also agreed that a steering or advisory committee comprised of individuals from a broad cross-section of interested parties would be useful to help guide the study design process.

15. Other Business

The following items were presented for consideration and action:

- Migratory Bird Convention Amendments: This matter was deferred to the February meeting. A CWS representative will provide a briefing.

- Upcoming Fishery Events: This matter was deferred to the February meeting. A DFO representative will provide a briefing, particularly on forthcoming items having international implications.
- Communication with the NWMB and in particular Submissions for Meetings: It was decided that materials will need to be submitted to the Board at least seven days prior to any meeting, with concurrent translations.
- Interim Chairmanship. It was decided to have Ben Kovic retain the position of Interim Chairperson of the NWMB until selection of a permanent Chairperson is completed. **(Resolution 94- 013)**
- Completion of Minutes: The Board directed Tanmar Services Ltd. to complete and translate the minutes of this meeting and to invoice the NWMB accordingly. **(Resolution 94- 014)**

16. Next Meeting

The following were identified as considerations in deciding future meeting venues:

- Coincidence with major natural wildlife events.
- Coincidence with community events.
- Coincidence with other meetings.

It was decided that the next regular Meeting of the NWMB will be conducted in Rankin Inlet, the week of 21 February 1994. **(Resolution 94- 015)**

17. Adjournment

The 1st Meeting of the NWMB was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. **(Resolution 94- 016)**

Minutes Approved by: _____
Interim Chairperson
Date