

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: MEETING No. 31

IQALUIT, 15-18 JANUARY 2002

Members and Staff Participating

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Kevin McCormick	Member
Moses Koonoo	Member
Nick Amautinuvar	Member
Harry Flaherty	Member
David Alagalak	Member
Meeka Mike	Member (Tuesday, a.m. only)
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Michelle Wheatley	Director of Wildlife Management
Gordon Tomlinson	Director of Finance and Administration
Heather Priest	Harvest Study Coordinator
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Counsel
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter
Mary Nashook	Interpreter

Not Available

Okalik Eegeesiak	Member
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Other Participants at Various Times

Burt Hunt	DFO Area Manager, Iqaluit
Winston Fillatre	DFO Enforcement, Iqaluit
Brian Wong	DFO, Ottawa
Karen Ditz	DFO Fisheries Mgmt Biologist, Iqaluit
Bert Dean	NTI Director of Wildlife, Rankin Inlet
Glen Williams	NTI Wildlife Advisor, Iqaluit
Stephen Atkinson	DSD Director of Wildlife, Iqaluit
Cathy Towtongie	NTI President
David Ell	Amarok HTO / Quliruaq Inc.
David Alexander	Amarok HTO / Quliruaq Inc.
Ken Brown	Amarok HTO / Quliruaq Inc.

Tuesday, 15 January 2002

1. Call to Order and Opening Preliminaries

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, called the 31st Regular Meeting of the NWMB to order at 9:20 a.m. He welcomed all the participants and asked Moses Koonoo to lead an opening prayer.

New and re-appointed members were sworn in by Andrew Tagak, Justice of the Peace for Iqaluit, as follows:

- Nick Amautinuar, appointed by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association;
- Harry Flaherty, appointed by NTI;
- Meeka Mike, appointed by Canada as per nomination by DIAND; and
- Kevin McCormick, appointed by Canada as per nomination by DOE.

The Board spent the rest of the morning and the first part of the afternoon in workshop mode to review Board policies and activities and to bring new members up to date.

The meeting resumed in regular mode at 3:00 p.m. The Chairperson welcomed the new and returning members.

2. Agenda for Regular Meeting No. 31

The Board decided (**Resolution 2002- 001**) to accept the agenda for the Meeting as presented, with the following additions:

- Move appointment of committees to item 10 I;
- Add offshore fisheries as item 8F;
- Schedule an *in-camera* session for Thursday evening.

3. Minutes: Review and Approval

The Board adopted (**Resolution 2002- 002**) the minutes for Regular Meeting 30, conducted at Ikaluktutiak on 18 – 20 September 2001, with minor corrections.

4. Financial and Administrative Business

4.A Variance Report as at 31 December 2001

The Director of Finance and Administration referred members to the Variance Report in the meeting binder. The total revised budget for 2001/02 is \$5,059,566. Actual expenses to 31 December 2001 are \$3,824,433. The total projected variance to 31 March 2002 is \$69,177. There was general discussion on some of the line items and explanation of the reasons for the most significant variances. Members accepted (**Resolution 2002- 003**) the variance report as presented.

4.B Interim Activity Report for the Period April – October, 2001

The Director of Finance and Administration referred members to the yellow-bound document that was submitted at the end of October as part of the reporting requirement for DIAND. It was prepared in conjunction with the Legal Advisor, the

Director of Wildlife Management, and the Executive Director. The document updates progress on activities identified for the year, and details any budget variances to 31 October 2001. The Board accepted the Interim Activity Report (**Resolution 2002- 004**) as presented.

4.C Initial Draft Budget for 2002/03

The Board reviewed an initial draft budget for 2002/03 prepared by the Director of Finance and Administration. There was general discussion about the items to be included. Members were reminded that adding dollars to one line item would mean removing dollars from another. It was agreed that the Budget would be reworked and discussed further at a Conference Call in February.

Wednesday, 16 January 2002

The Chairperson reconvened the Meeting at 09:05 a.m. David Alagalak was requested to lead an opening prayer.

The Chairperson presented plaques recognizing contributions of members in past service to the Board:

- Meeka Mike: 1997 – 2001;
- Kevin McCormick: 1993 – 2001.

5. Chairperson, Senior Staff, Advisors' and Members' Reports

5.A Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson referred members to his report in the binder. Future plans include meeting with the new NTI President in coming weeks.

5.B Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director referred members to his report in the binder.

5.C Wildlife Management Director's Report

The Director of Wildlife Management referred members to her report in the binder.

5.D Finance and Administration Director's Report

The Executive Director referred members to the report of the Director of Finance and Administration, contained in the binder.

5.E Legal Advisor's Report

The Legal Advisor referred members to his report in the binder.

5.F Members' Reports and Concerns

The Chairperson encouraged the members to provide reports on any functions that they attend or in which they participate on behalf of the NWMB.

Member, Meeka Mike requested an update on what was happening with the Nunavut / Nunavik overlap committee.

Member, Harry Flaherty noted that he was glad to be part of the Board again. He expressed an interest in progress toward new Polar Bear MOUs, as well as an interest in seeing the Board increase its work on conservation education and training younger hunters. He also expressed concerns about injuries to char that are being observed near Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq.

Member, Kevin McCormick had no issues to raise at this time.

Member, David Alagalak expressed concern about the Foxe Basin Polar Bear Management zone and the difficulties of sharing the population with Northern Quebec. He also expressed concern about snow goose sport hunting in other regions, and how more benefits could be made to accrue to Nunavut.

Member, Moses Koonoo requested an update on the report of the 3-year community-based management trial, and expressed interest in seeing progress on helping harvesters understand the program. He also expressed interest in seeing more bowhead research in the North Baffin area.

Member, Nick Amautinuak noted that several of his concerns were already included in the agenda for the meeting. He expressed concerns about the management of the narwhal harvest between Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak and Kugaaruk, and about muskox in the vicinity of Gjoa Haven.

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their comments. He advised that NWMB staff and/or the departments would be trying to respond to specific questions raised, either in the course of the meeting or afterwards.

6. Completion of Assignments and Implementation of Resolutions

The Executive Director referred members to the task list in the binder. There was some discussion to clarify what was required in some of the tasks, and to revise the list. Outstanding issues will be included on the task list from the present meeting.

7. Environment Canada (CWS): Issues and Decisions

7.A Treatment of COSEWIC Designations

There was a general discussion on the progress towards the new *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). It is heading towards third reading in the House. A National Aboriginal Committee on Species at Risk has been suggested. A meeting with co-management boards was to be held this week in Edmonton. As NWMB could not attend, another meeting will be set up in order to discuss the implementation of SARA and the COSEWIC / RENEW process under the co-management regime. Board members indicated to the Director of Wildlife Management that a summary of the COSEWIC status reports would be acceptable for the review and approval process from the perspective of the NWMB.

Thursday, 17 January 2002

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. David Alagalak was again requested to lead the opening prayer

8. Fisheries and Oceans (DFO): Issues and Decisions

8.A Nunavut Fisheries Regulations

Winston Fillatre introduced Brian Wong, DFO Senior Northern Advisor for Nunavut, based in Ottawa.

The Board was updated on progress in developing the new Nunavut Fishery Regulations. DFO has been working with NWMB, DSD and NTI and progress is being made towards a first draft. DFO presented a 10-minute video that has been made to explain the process to harvesters across Nunavut.

Brian Wong explained to the Board that the new regulations will take into account the NLCA and the creation of Nunavut, and will replace the NWT Fishery Regulations and Atlantic Fishery Regulations as these currently pertain to Nunavut. He noted that the new Fishery Regulations will also apply to marine mammals. The new regulations will also recognize provisions in the NLCA that allow beneficiaries to harvest up to their full economic needs.

8.B Community Based Narwhal Management System: Update

Community-based management for narwhal was implemented in 1999 in several Nunavut communities on a three-year trial basis. The intention was to review the system after the three-year trial and decide whether it should continue or whether modifications should be made. The third year of the trial period has now been completed, and it is time to undertake this review.

The trial period has been a learning situation for all co-management partners and a review of the problems and solutions is needed. DFO recommended that a working group be established to conduct the review. Their recommendation was that there be representation from DFO, NWMB, NTI and the three RWOs. There was general agreement that such a working group should be formed and that this group could make management recommendations for the coming harvest year as well as for the longer term. It is anticipated that the group would meet soon to discuss time lines and scope of the review. If the three RWO Chairmen are in Iqaluit for the PBTC meeting in early February, this may be a good time.

8.C Future Bowhead Hunt: Decision

Authorized bowhead hunts have now been conducted three times in Nunavut, twice from the Foxe Basin / Northern Hudson Bay stock (1996, Repulse Bay and 2000, Coral Harbour) and once from the Baffin Bay stock (1998, Pangnirtung). The present understanding is that there are two populations of these whales inhabiting Nunavut waters. Current knowledge indicates that the Baffin Bay stock can support one bowhead harvest approximately every 13 years, while the Foxe Basin/ Northern

Hudson Bay stock can likely support one bowhead harvest ever 2 to 3 years. As the last harvest from this stock was in 2000, a harvest in either 2002 or 2003 would be sustainable. It was noted that six months to a year is required to plan for such a hunt, and therefore an early decision is needed if a hunt is to take place in 2002. There was discussion on whether the NWMB should decide the community to organize the hunt, or whether this should be left to the relevant RWO(s). It was decided that in keeping with the NLCA, this should be left to the RWOs. It was also noted that the NWMB has already established non-quota limitations for bowhead whale hunting, requiring the use of a bomb-projectile weapon, and prohibiting the use of rifles. These rules would also apply to the next hunt. The matter of setting a TAH was deferred to the *in-camera* session scheduled for later in the meeting.

8.D WWF Bowhead Conservation Plan: Approval

In 1999, the NWMB agreed to work with the World Wildlife Fund and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to develop a Conservation Strategy (Plan) for Bowhead Whales in the Eastern Arctic. The NWMB did participate in the development of this Strategy, and the final version has now been received for NWMB approval. The Strategy has the support of the World Wildlife Fund as well as of DFO's Prairie and Northern Region. It is based on a 100-year time frame, consistent with the lifespan and reproductive rate of bowhead whales. The Strategy addresses both the Foxe Basin / Northern Hudson Bay population and the Baffin Bay / Davis Strait population. The overall goal is *"To promote population recovery and maintain self-sustaining and healthy bowhead whale populations in Nunavut"*.

The Board discussed the document in some detail. While recognizing that more work was still needed to develop a formal recovery plan (as required by the new SARA legislation), the Board approved (**Resolution 2002- 005**) the Conservation Strategy as submitted.

8.E Walrus Sport Hunts in 2002: Decision

While a new walrus management plan is being developed by the Walrus Working Group, there must be some control and regulation of walrus sport hunts in Nunavut in the interim. Accordingly, the NWMB has requested all HTOs and other interested organizations to apply to the NWMB for allocation of sport hunts. Applications for 2002 were received from six groups. The Director of Wildlife Management summarised her review of the applications and her recommendations. The Board approved (**Resolution 2002-006**) sport hunts for the following communities:

- Aiviq HTO, Cape Dorset: 5 hunts
- Igloodik HTO: 12 hunts
- Aiviit HTO, Coral Harbour: 10 hunts
- Arviq HTO, Repulse Bay: 5 hunts
- Hall Beach HTO: 10 hunts

Conditions on total harvest, assignment, reporting of struck and lost animals and adherence to the hunt plan apply.

In order to consider the request from Willie Keatainak of Salluit to conduct walrus sport hunts in the Area of Equal Use and Occupancy in 2002, a conference call was

conducted with Johnny Peters and Pauloosie Novalinga replacing Harry Flaherty and David Alagalak. The Board approved **(Resolution 2002- 007)** the requested 8 walrus sport hunts with the same conditions that apply to the Nunavut hunts.

8.F Offshore Fisheries

In March 2000, the NWMB undertook to encourage the Nunavut groups active in the offshore fisheries adjacent to Baffin Island to work together to harvest the new Nunavut allocation in NAFO Division 0A. The Board was updated that while the harvest had been late starting, it was very successful, with approximately 2600 MT harvested this past fall. DFO's 2001 research results from Divisions 0A and 0B are also promising. Requests for allocations in the Division 0B and shrimp fisheries will be considered in March. However, in the interest of making the best of the 0A fishery, an early allocation of that quota is desirable. The Board decided **(Resolution 2002- 008)** to approve continued allocation of the entire Nunavut allocation in Division 0A to the Baffin Fisheries Coalition.

The NWMB will also advise the DFO Minister that an early decision on the exact quota for 2002 would be very useful.

Harry Flaherty asked if boats were monitored when they fished near Nunavut. DFO replied that boats are monitored and concerns will be followed up.

9. Nunavut Wildlife (DSD) Issues and Decisions

9.A M'Clintock Channel Polar Bear Management: Update

Stephen Atkinson reported that DSD has now completed analysis of past research on the M'Clintock Channel (MC) and Gulf of Boothia (GB) polar bear populations. Final population estimates are 284 for MC and 1500 for GB. It is unlikely that further field work would provide any greater accuracy in the population estimates. It is likely therefore that the quota for GB could be increased and it will be possible to seek MMPA approval for import of polar bear trophies from this population to the US. It is now important to go back to communities and do consultations and finalise a harvest management plan for both populations before next season. Work is also going ahead on a polar bear IQ study in M'Clintock Channel by Gjoa Haven HTO, and a study on the history of sea ice conditions. There is also work with the communities on economic initiatives.

9.B Muskox and Caribou Quota Change Requests: Chesterfield Inlet

A request has been received from Chesterfield Inlet for an increase in their muskox quota in Muskox Zone MX/21 from 5 to 8 animals. The Kivalliq Wildlife Board provided a letter of support. The total muskox quota for this area is currently 25 animals per year. Recent research by DSD indicates that the overall quota can likely be increased to 52 animals. A new muskox zone to the south will also likely be recommended. A full report on recent research along with management recommendations will be completed shortly. Meanwhile, DSD recommends that the requested quota increase be approved.

The Board considered and approved (**Resolution 2002- 009**) the requested quota increase to 8 muskox tags for Chesterfield Inlet.

Chesterfield Inlet has also submitted a request for an increase in their commercial quota from the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd from 150 to 500 animals, and from the Wager Bay herd from 80 to 1000 animals. The Beverly Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board has recommended that the request with respect to the Qamanirjuaq herd not be approved until a new population survey has been done. Such a survey is expected within a couple of years. The Wager Bay herd size is also uncertain and a large increase in commercial harvest may not be sustainable. The RWO has not received the requests and it was suggested that more consultation should take place between the communities that harvest these herds.

Based on the information presented, the Board decided (**Resolution 2002- 010**) not to approve the requests and to recommend that the HTO consult with the RWO.

9.C New MOUs for Polar Bear Management

DSD was asked how traditional knowledge would be included in the MOUs. DSD indicated that communities would be consulted in the reviews, and the Polar Bear Working Group would be addressing the issue of how to include IQ in the MOUs.

DSD was also asked about the status of the proposed research on the Davis Strait polar bear population. DSD indicated that with field work on the M'Clintock Channel and Gulf of Boothia populations now completed, Davis Strait was next on the list. DSD is working to ensure that the costs of the research will be shared between all the jurisdictions that harvest from this population. Some research should be underway this year.

9.D New Wildlife Act: Update

Stephen Atkinson informed the Board about progress being made in developing the new *Nunavut Wildlife Act*. The public consultation phase is set to begin in February. The first stage of this consultation will be community meetings hosted by wildlife officers and HTOs. DSD will be briefing the officers next week in Rankin Inlet. This will be followed by a travelling panel and public meetings in March. A discussion paper will also be completed soon, along with a full communications package. The GN has set a deadline for a first draft of the legislation for this fall. The NWMB has indicated its willingness to try to meet that deadline while pointing out that it may not be possible to do so, considering the importance and complexity of the project. The NWMB's primary concern is to produce a top quality statute, rather than to meet a very short deadline.

10. NWMB Internal Items: Issues / Decisions

10.A Nunavut Wildlife Harvest Study: Update

Heather Priest updated the board on the status of the harvest study. Data collection is almost complete and data verification is also nearing completion for all communities. Community field workers and regional data entry clerks have finished

their terms of employment. The database manager position in the Iqaluit office has also ended. A request for proposals will be prepared to design a GIS program to locate geographical problems with the data. A final survey was conducted to get more economic information for the study. Most data has been entered but no analysis has been done yet. The next step is planning for the final report including a history of decisions pertaining to study design as well as planning for analysis of the data. There will also be community consultations with respect to the five years of data. March 2003 is still the target date for completion of the final report.

10.B Big Game Guides Working Group: Update

The Big Game Guides Working Group was established by the NWMB to make recommendations to the Board on minimum qualifications for big game hunting guides in Nunavut. The Working Group has representatives from each RWO, DFO, DSD, and NWMB. Under Article 5.2.34 (h) of the NLCA, the NWMB may establish minimum qualifications for big game hunting guides in Nunavut.

The three RWOs have now approved the recommendations developed by the Working Group. The Working Group members expect to hold a conference call in the near future to finalise the recommendations for submission to the Board. Work will then proceed to determine how to implement the recommendations

10.C Walrus Working Group: Update

As reported at previous Board meetings, the Walrus Working Group last met in October 2000. Since that time there has been some feedback on the recommendations for managing the walrus harvest, from individual members of the Working Group and from the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board. A meeting in partnership with a Regional Assessment Process (RAP) session on walrus, being held by DFO in preparation for producing a stock status report, will take place at the end of January in Iqaluit. The Walrus Working Group meeting will focus on the management options and try to finalise the recommendations. All other aspects of the Management Plan have in general been agreed upon.

The Board engaged in a general discussion about the difficulties in assessing walrus population size and therefore in determining sustainable harvest strategies.

10.D Nunavut Resource Centres Coalition: Update

The Nunavut Wildlife Resource Centres Coalition was formed in 1998 in order to link the resource centres (libraries) in the offices of a number of wildlife management agencies in Iqaluit including DFO, DSD, NRI, NWMB and CWS (from 2000). The Coalition is currently looking for a part-time Resource Centre Technician Trainee to work in the various resource centres. The computerized database for the resource centres is also being adapted for accessibility via the Internet. This will allow anyone, anywhere, to search the collections. It will also allow people at several sites to catalogue new material without interfering with each other.

10.E Live Capture: Policy

A draft outline of a policy to guide Board decisions on requests for live-capture of wildlife in Nunavut was presented at the June, 2001 meeting. The draft was distributed to co-management partners for comment. NTI has taken it to the recent WPAC meeting, and feedback from this group is awaited. Some concerns have been expressed as to whether this is within the mandate of the NWMB. Further discussions on this issue is needed and planned. Board members suggested that while a policy was necessary, it should not be too restrictive.

10.F Wildlife Management Priorities: Review and Decision

In 2001 the NWMB began implementing a new system for establishing wildlife management priorities in Nunavut. The new system involves holding workshops in each of the three regions of Nunavut, in conjunction with the RWO meetings. The reports from the regional meetings have been distributed to all the participants and to the government departments (DFO, DSD, and CWS) as well as to NTI.

The Board reviewed the regional priorities and agreed to accept **(Resolution 2002-011)** these as presented. The Board simultaneously undertook to notify the particular agencies of the research, management and other priorities pertinent to them. Government departments will also be asked submit reports on current and planned activities to address these priority issues.

10.G Research Funding Policies: Review

Based on past experience with funding proposals for Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust Funding and NWMB Study Funding, the Board reviewed the current policies with respect to carry-forward funding and the types of studies that will be supported.

The Board reaffirmed **(Resolution 2002- 012)** its existing policies regarding these matters.

The Board also considered a suggestion to include the identification of funding for preliminary studies in the NWRT policy. The Board approved **(Resolution 2002-013)** the drafting of such a policy for the Board's review at a later date.

10.H Implementation Contract Negotiations

The Executive Director referred members to the binder for an update on implementation contract negotiations. When the information package was presented to the Nunavut Implementation Panel, the DIAND negotiator indicated that he did not have a mandate to approve increases to the level that the NWMB was requesting. Such would require going back to Cabinet. The NWMB has since been asked for further information to clarify some of the line items; this information has been provided to the negotiator. The NWMB has also indicated to the NIP a desire to be involved in any further negotiations on these funding issues.

10.I NWMB Committees

The Board reviewed the membership of the Harvest Study Committee and the Executive Committee, and the need to appoint two people to the proposed Community-Based Management Review Committee.

The Board approved **(Resolution 2002- 014)** the following memberships:

- Executive Committee: David Alagalak, Harry Flaherty, Kevin McCormick, and Meeka Mike.
- Harvest Study Committee: Nick Amautinuvar, Moses Koonoo, Kevin McCormick, and Okalik Eegeesiak.
- Community-Based Management Review Committee: Ben Kovic, Michelle Wheatley.

In-Camera Session

The Board decided to go *in-camera* to discuss some matters having confidential implications. Resolutions passed in connection with holding this *in-camera* session:

- To go *in-camera* **(Resolution 2002- 015)**
- To close the *in-camera* session **(Resolution 2002- 016)**

Friday, 18 January 2002

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Board dealt first with matters discussed *in-camera* and that required further treatment in open forum.

The Board approved **(Resolution 2002- 017)** setting a TAH for one bowhead whale for 2002 or 2003 from the Foxe Basin / North Hudson Bay population, while leaving the decision on which community will host the hunt to the RWOs. All conditions set for previous hunts will continue to apply.

The Board approved **(Resolution 2002- 018)** the performance reviews for the NWMB Chairperson and the Executive Director as presented, along with the salary increments as per NWMB policy.

The Board approved **(Resolution 2002- 019)** a bonus of 4% for the Legal Advisor for the fiscal year 2000/01.

11. NTI Wildlife Division: Issues / Decisions

The new President of NTI, Cathy Towtongie, was introduced to the Board and gave a brief address. Ms. Towtongie stated that she was inspired by the work of the NWMB to date. She noted that the wildlife management article is a lengthy part of the NLCA, and that NTI will have to work closely with the NWMB Chairperson and the Board. She stated a desire to meet with the Chairperson once she is settled in.

11.A Hunting Practices and Techniques

NTI requested support from the NWMB regarding a more proactive approach to addressing concerns relating to marine mammal harvesting practices and techniques, with a view to holding a workshop at a convenient date. The Board indicated support in principle (**Resolution 2002- 020**) for NTI's proposal.

11.B Nunavut Wildlife Symposium

NTI updated the Board on plans for a Wildlife Symposium to be held in the fall of 2002. This will be the fourth such undertaking. Wildlife Symposia were previously held in 1994, 1997 and 2000. Representatives from all HTOs and RWOs in Nunavut and government departments with wildlife responsibilities are expected to attend. The Symposium is tentatively scheduled for Cambridge Bay in September. The cost of the Symposium will be about \$300,000, and NTI anticipates requesting about \$100,000 from the NWMB.

Members expressed concern about the total estimated cost of the Symposium, but agreed to consider the NTI proposal once it is fully developed.

11.C WPAC Schedule and HTO Managers Workshops

Bert Dean reported that the Wildlife Policy Advisory Committee (WPAC) met in early December and has another meeting tentatively set for March. Bert also indicated that plans are in place for the annual HTO Managers Workshops in each of the three regions in early March. Agenda items are invited.

11.D Bowhead Hunt Community Selection Process

NTI reported that the selection process for community(ies) to host bowhead whale hunts was discussed at the recent WPAC meeting. WPAC would like to be more involved in the site-selection and hunt-planning processes. WPAC have also identified criteria for selecting host communities.

The Chairperson stated that the Board had decided that community selection would be left to the RWOs, and it was agreed that this was in general accordance with the request from WPAC.

11.E Narwhal Quotas/ Tag Administration East Kitikmeot

Bert Dean reported that there were some concerns about the management of the narwhal tags in the communities of Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak and Kugaaruk. While an informal agreement to share tags between the communities has been in place, it has not always worked smoothly. NTI suggests that other options such as a quota set over 3 to 5 years may be more suitable. It was noted that the Transfer of Tags policy that NWMB has begun developing may be useful in this regard.

It was agreed that the Community-Based Management Review Committee should be asked to address this issue as part of the review.

11.F Assignment of Harvesting Rights

Bert Dean reported that a draft work plan to address the matter of assignment of harvesting rights was presented to WPAC in December. This is an ongoing issue. The NWMB and NTI worked on it previously, but the work was never completed. There is a need to get consultations underway.

11.G KHTA – DIO Rights to First Refusal

NTI reported that KHTA has been in dispute with Kitikmeot Foods and the Development Corporation with respect to accessing muskox hides for the production of kiviut. Most immediate concerns have been resolved, but there is a need to complete the work to have KHTA become the DIO for this section. It had been hoped to present this to the NTI Board at the February meeting. However, it will be delayed to the next meeting, later in spring.

11.H Appointments to the NWMB

Bert Dean reported that NTI had used a selection process to ensure that the new NTI appointee had the appropriate qualifications to sit on the NWMB. NTI is working to ensure that RWOs and RIAs communicate on NWMB appointments. Board members suggested that those appointing agencies should also communicate with the NWMB to ensure that their appointees are capable of meeting their responsibilities and to discuss the performance of members when their terms come up for re-appointment. The NWMB Legal Advisor also pointed out that appointees and appointing agencies should be aware of their obligation to remain impartial when sitting on the NWMB.

11.I RWO / HTO Funding Proposal

NTI presented a copy of the presentation that was made to NIP regarding funding for the RWOs and HTOs for the next 10-year planning period.

12. Matters of Funding: Status Reports on Programs

12.A Status of NWRT Research Funding for 2001/02

All contribution agreements with government departments have been completed and cheques issued to the relevant government departments as follows:

- CWS: \$207,900
- DFO: \$449,856 (including carry forwards)
- DSD: \$45,700

Interim reports and financial reports are due by 25 January 2002, and will be presented in the funding binder for the March meeting.

12.B Status of NWMB Study Funding for 2001/02

Three out of four projects approved for NWMB Study Funding fulfilled their funding conditions. Contribution agreements have been completed and cheques totalling \$90,000 have been issued for these three projects. The fourth project did not meet funding conditions. Interim reports and financial reports are due on 25 January 2002, and will be presented at the March meeting.

12.C Conservation Education Funding: Requests

The Gjoa Haven HTO has been working with a consultant from Yellowknife to develop a proposal to conduct an IQ study on polar bears in the M'Clintock Channel area. The total budget for this fiscal year is \$32,657.50. DSD has committed \$25,000 and the HTO is requesting the additional \$7,657.50 from the NWMB for this fiscal year. A new proposal for NWMB Study Funding will be submitted for next fiscal year. The Board approved **(Resolution 2002- 021)** the requested funding.

13. Other Presentations

13.A Amarok HTA (Office Space Presentation)

Amarok HTO and their business arm, Quliruaq Inc., made a presentation to the Board seeking to determine if the NWMB was interested in committing to a long-term lease arrangement for office space in a building that Quliruaq is proposing to construct on the beach adjacent to the Museum. They indicated that the design would depend on the tenant.

Board members indicated an interest, but noted that until funding levels for the next 10-year planning period have been resolved it is impossible to know what the NWMB's office space requirement will be and thus impossible to make firm commitments towards addressing it.

13.B RWO Presentation

QWB did not take the opportunity to make a presentation to the Board.

14. Meetings, Workshops and Other Pertinent Events

14.A Past Events: Reports and Briefings

Board members were referred to the meeting reports in the binder.

14.B Upcoming Events: Review and Participation

The list of upcoming meetings was reviewed and the following decisions were made with respect to attendance and participation by the NWMB:

- Bathurst Caribou – Ben Kovic and Nick Amautinuvar to attend;
- Atlantic Fisheries Policy Review – DSD attending, no NWMB attendance;
- CARC – climate change Ottawa – no NWMB attendance;
- QWB – Jim Noble and Heather Priest to attend;
- NAMMCO: Harry Flaherty may attend with NTI, no others from NWMB;
- Sirmilik Park workshop – no NWMB attendance;
- Inuit Heritage Trust place names – Ben Kovic to attend;
- Tampere Polytechnic – climate change – no NWMB attendance;
- NPC – Kitikmeot Land Use Plan – no NWMB attendance;
- DFO – marine mammals stock status – no NWMB attendance;
- Education and Culture – Yellowknife – Ben Kovic to attend.

15. Date and Location of Next Meeting

The Board decided **(Resolution 2002- 022)** to conduct its next (32nd) Regular Meeting in Iqaluit the week of 04 March 2002.

16. Adjournment

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, thanked the members for their work. He again welcomed new members as well as returning members, and stated that he looked forward to working with them. He also thanked the translators and NWMB staff for their work in preparation for and at the meeting.

The 31st Meeting of the NWMB adjourned at 11:20 a.m. **(Resolution 2002- 023)**

Minutes Approved by: _____
Chairperson Date

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLUTIONS: MEETING No. 31

IQALUIT, 15-18 JANUARY 2002

Resolution 2002- 001: Resolved that the NWMB accept the agenda for Meeting No. 31 as presented, with the following additions:

- Move appointment of committees to item 10 (1)
- Add offshore fisheries as item 8 F
- Schedule and in-camera session for Thursday evening

Moved by David Alagalak Seconded by Nick Amautinuar

Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 002: Resolved that the NWMB adopt the minutes for Meeting No. 30 conducted at Iqaluit on 18-20 September 2001, with minor revisions.

Moved by Kevin McCormick Seconded by David Alagalak

Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Abstention – Meeka Mike

Resolution 2002- 003: Resolved that the NWMB accept the Variance Report for the period ending 31 December 2001 as presented.

Moved by Harry Flaherty Seconded by Kevin McCormick

Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 004: Resolved that the NWMB accept the Interim Activity Report April – October 2001 as presented.

Moved by Kevin McCormick Seconded by Harry Flaherty

Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Abstention – Meeka Mike

Resolution 2002- 005: Resolved that the NWMB supports in principle the *Bowhead Conservation Plan* prepared with our co-management partners with the overall goal of the plan being, “*To promote population recovery and maintain self-sustaining and healthy bowhead whale populations in Nunavut,*” recognizing that the document is not viewed as a “*Recovery Strategy,*” and that further movement studies must be made a high priority.

Moved by David Alagalak

Seconded by Nick Amautinuvar

Carried

Date: 15 January 2002

Abstention – Harry Flaherty

Resolution 2002- 006: Resolved that the NWMB approve the following walrus sport hunts quotas for the 2002 hunting season:

- Aiviq HTA, Cape Dorset - Five hunts
- Igloodik HTA, Igloodik - Twelve hunts
- Aiviit HTA, Coral Harbour - Ten hunts
- Arviq HTA, Repulse Bay - Five hunts
- Hall Beach HTA, Hall Beach - Ten hunts

Further that these hunts be subject to the following conditions:

- That the total walrus harvest of the above communities in 2002 not exceed the average annual harvest by the community over the last five years, except in the case of Salliq, with its annual quota of sixty animals and in Nauyasat where the annual take was only an average of two over the past five years.
- That the allocation of the right to sport-hunt each walrus be made by way of an assignment, executed in writing.
- That the numbers of walrus landed and the number struck and lost be reported at the time of the next application for a sport-hunting quota.
- That the hunts be conducted according to the hunt plan as submitted by the HTOs for the 2002 season.

Moved by Harry Flaherty

Seconded by David Alagalak

Carried

Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 007: Resolved that the NWMB approve a quota of eight walrus sport hunts for Willie Keatainak of Salluit for the 2002 hunting season subject to the following conditions:

- That these hunts take place in the Area of Equal Use and Occupancy around Nottingham and Salisbury Islands;
- That the total walrus harvest at Salluit in 2002 not exceed the average annual harvest by the community over the last five years;
- That the allocation of the right to sport-hunt each walrus be made by way of an assignment, executed in writing;
- That the number of walrus landed and the number struck and lost be reported at the time of the next application for a sport-hunting quota;

- That the hunts be conducted according to the hunt plan as submitted by Mr. Keatainak of Salluit for the 2002 season.

Moved by Meeka Mike Seconded by Johnny Peters
Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002-008: Resolved that the NWMB continue allocating the entire 2002 Nunavut allocation of turbot in Division 0A to the Baffin Fisheries Coalition to ensure the continued development of this fishery.

Moved by Moses Koonoo Seconded by Harry Flaherty
Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002-009: Resolved that the NWMB approve the request from Aqigiq Hunters' and Trappers' Association in Chesterfield Inlet for an increase in muskox quota for Management Zone 21 (MX/21) from 25 to 28 tags, this will increase Chesterfield's quota from 5 to 8 tags as the quota is shared between 5 communities for a total of 5 tags each.

Moved by Harry Flaherty Seconded by David Alagalak
Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002-010: Resolved that the NWMB not approve the request of Chesterfield Inlet's HTA to increase their commercial quota from the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd from 150 to 500 animals and from the Lorillard/Wager herd from 80 to 1000 animals until new population estimates are completed on these herds.

Moved by Harry Flaherty Seconded by Kevin McCormick
Carried Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 011: Resolved that the NWMB approve the recommendations of the Director of Wildlife regarding the issue of setting *Wildlife Management Priorities* as follows:

- That wildlife management concerns appearing on the priority lists that have a research component, or require research in order to be addressed, should be brought to the attention of the relevant government department(s) as management priorities;
- That wildlife management concerns appearing on the priority lists that relate to the need for management plans or similar undertakings, should also be brought to the attention of the relevant government department(s) as management priorities for the coming year;
- That wildlife concerns that are not within the general mandate of the NWMB, such as concerns about wildlife health, contaminants or human health concerns should be brought to the attention of the relevant agencies with responsibilities for these issues;
- That government department(s) should be asked to briefly indicate what activities are currently underway or planned to address the various

concerns within their mandates / jurisdictions. A table summarising this information from all departments should be prepared for the Board for the January Board meeting.

Moved by Harry Flaherty
Carried

Seconded by Kevin McCormick
Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002-012: Resolved that the NWMB approve the recommendations of the Director of Wildlife Management's recommendations regarding NWRT Funding Policy and the NWMB Study Funding Policies as follows:

- That the Board reaffirms support for the Director of Wildlife Management to approve carry-forward requests relating to research projects, to a maximum of \$25,000 and that a report of all such approvals be provided in the funding binder provided at the March meetings;
- That the Board direct the Director of Wildlife Management to inform proponents of projects focussed purely on economic development, human health or contaminants that NWMB/NWRT funds do not support these areas of study, and will not be considered by the Board, and that all projects with a wildlife management component will continue to be brought to the Board for consideration.

Moved by Kevin McCormick
Carried

Seconded by Moses Koonoo
Date: 15 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 013: Resolved that the NWMB approve the recommendation of the Director of Wildlife Management to modify the NWRT Policy to include the option to provide funding for preliminary studies of research projects and that the revised policy be brought to the Board for review at a later date.

Moved by Harry Flaherty
Carried

Seconded by Kevin McCormick
Date: 16 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 014: Resolved that the NWMB approve the membership of the following Board committees:

Executive Committee:

David Alagalak
Harry Flaherty
Kevin McCormick
Meeka Mike

Harvest Study Committee:

Nick Amautinuvar
Moses Koonoo
Kevin McCormick
Okalik Eegeesiak

Community Based Management Review Committee: Ben Kovic,

Michelle Wheatley
Moved by David Alagalak Seconded by Kevin McCormick
Carried Date: 17 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 015: Resolved that the Board move to an *in-camera session*.

Moved by Harry Flaherty Seconded by Kevin McCormick
Carried Date: 17 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 016: Resolved that the Board move out of *in-camera session*.

Moved by David Alagalak Seconded by Moses Koonoo
Carried Date: 17 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 017: Resolved that the NWMB establish a Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) of one bowhead whale from the Foxe Basin / Northern Hudson Bay stock/population, with the provisos:

- That the harvest take place during open water in 2002 or 2003; and
- That two strikes be permitted for the landing of one bowhead whale; and
- That the decision on which community(s) will host the hunt be left to the RWOs; and
- That all conditions set for previous hunts continue to apply.

Moved by David Alagalak Seconded by Harry Flaherty
Carried Date: 18 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 018: Resolved that the NWMB that the Chairperson's and Executive Director's appraisals be accepted as presented and that staff salary increments be processed as per the NWMB Personnel Policy.

Moved by Moses Koonoo Seconded by Nick Amautiar
Carried Date: 18 January 2002
Abstention (1) Harry Flaherty

Resolution 2002- 019: Resolved that NWMB approve a 4% bonus for the NWMB Legal Advisor for the period April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001 as per the Legal Advisor's Contract.

Moved by Moses Koonoo Seconded by Kevin McCormick
Carried Date: 18 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 020: Resolved that the NWMB support in principle NTI's Wildlife Department in a proactive approach in addressing concerns relating to marine mammal harvesting practices and techniques with a view to holding a workshop in the future.

Moved by Moses Koonoo Seconded by Harry Flaherty
Carried Date: 18 January 2002

Resolution 2002- 021: Resolved that the NWMB approve a contribution of \$7,657.50 from the Conservation Education budget to assist the Gjoa Haven HTA to

conduct an IQ study on polar bears in the M'Clintock Channel area during the current fiscal year 2001/02.

Moved by David Alagalak

Seconded by Harry Flaherty

Carried

Date: 18 January 2002

Resolution 2002-022: Resolved that the NWMB conduct its 32nd Regular Meeting in Iqaluit the week of March 4, 2002.

Moved by Kevin McCormick

Seconded by Harry Flaherty

Carried

Date: 18 January 2002

Resolution 2002-023: Resolved that the 31st Regular Meeting of the NWMB be adjourned.

Moved by David Alagalak

Seconded by Kevin McCormick

Carried

Date: 18 January 2002