

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING No.4

YELLOWKNIFE, 11 - 13 JUNE 1996

Members and Staff

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
David Igutsaq	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Meeka Mike	Member
Malachi Arreak	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Dan Pike	Director, Wildlife Management
Pierre Chartrand	Director, Finance and Admin.
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor
Myna Maniapik	Interpreter
Juliana Puulik Boychuk	Interpreter

Absent

David Aglukark	Member (weathered out)
Marius Tungilik	Member (with cause)

Guests and other participants

Bas Oosenbrug	Asst. Director, DRR
Ed Bowden	Manager, Field Ops, DRR
Robert Moshenko	DFO, Winnipeg
Wilfred Wilcox	Mayor, Ikaluktutiak

1. Opening by Chairperson

Ben Kovic convened the meeting at 9:00 A.M., welcoming the members to the Yellowknife Special Meeting (an extension of the May, Iqaluit meeting). Ben advised that he and Dan Pike would be leaving the meeting on Thursday to attend a NWT Co-management Board's Chairpersons meeting.

2. Agenda

The agenda was accepted with the following changes: **(Motion 97-028)**

1. Ben Kovic: Noted that the Board would have to take time to prepare for the meeting with the Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources, planned for later in the morning.
2. Dan Pike: (Ag.6.C.4) Referred to Tab 99 (last item);
3. Michael d'Eça: (Ag.8.B.8) noted that DFO has invited NWMB to comment on new Fisheries Act. How to proceed? Input required before the end of June, to be most effective.

3. Approval of Minutes

3. A Minutes of Ikaluktutiak Regular Meeting No. 10, 20-22 February 1996

Minutes of the Ikaluktutiak Meeting No.10 were approved as presented.
(Motion 97-029)

3.B Minutes of Iqaluit Regular Meeting No. 11, 14-17 May 1996

Minutes of the Iqaluit Meeting No. 11 were approved as presented with one amendment. **(Motion 97-030)**

Note: On review of motions from the meeting it was suggested that all motions be forwarded to the Board's Legal Advisor for review prior to finalization and possible submission to Ministers, etc.

3.C Minutes of Conference Call, 22 May 1996

Minutes of the May 22, 1996 conference call were accepted with one amendment.
(Motion 97-031)

3.D Minutes of Conference Call, 28 May 1996

Minutes of the May 28 conference call were accepted with one amendment.
(Motion 96-032)

3.E To-do list

The Board members reviewed the action list presented with the minutes. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that a similar list be provided as an item under old business at all meetings.

4. Incoming and Outgoing Mail

Mail binders and summaries were available for review by members.

5. Member's Concerns

David Igutsaq advised that Taloyoak HTA is hoping to construct two buildings and have submitted funding requests to the NWMB. David noted that the HTA Secretary Manager for Taloyoak had resigned and that the HTA needs funding for the position. David noted a concern regarding the Hunter Support Program: recipients have been advised that if a person dies, the equipment has to be returned to the Program. David requested that the NWMB question this practice as it is felt that equipment should be passed on to relatives. The Board decided to request NTI to clarify this policy.

(Motion 97-032)

Meeka Mike questioned the status of the Assignment of Rights issue. Michael d'Eça replied that he had written to the RWOs. Michael noted that NTI's Legal Advisor, Laurie Pelly has also considered the issue. The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board responded to the memo and Michael in turn replied to QWB. Ben Kovic advised that some HTOs are already discussing assignment and no process is in place. Ben questioned if the Board could prevent assignment from occurring. Michael advised that assignment can be considered even now. The Board is not charged with this duty, however the Board has been approached for advice on the issue. Michael suggested that the NFA is not at all clear on "rules." There should be forms to sign by both parties; forms should include the rights of each party, time frame, etc. Michael advised that he was prepared to continue assisting the RWOs if the Board agreed. The RWOs had initially wanted to restrict assignment, but reality is that assignment is part of the basic right to harvest of any beneficiary. NTI feels in conflict, because assignment involves rights of both the individual and the community. Michael advised that it is certainly not the responsibility of the NWMB to lead in this matter (e.g. not to lead in a public hearing). Jim Noble noted that at the last QWB meeting, most communities indicated little interest in the matter. The Board concluded with agreement that Michael d'Eça would prepare a memo, laying out the appropriate/necessary steps for assignment. Malachi Arreak suggested that the Board could comment/help with steps for the process of assignment. Kevin McCormick suggested that a letter be written to NTI:

- outlining the concerns the Board has learned about;
- suggest the assignment issue merits attention;
- suggesting that the new Wildlife Co-ordinator may wish to take the lead on the matter.

Comment:

Malachi Arreak noted that assignment does not only apply to Inuit/non-Inuit, but also to elders who can no longer hunt and wish to assign this right. The idea was that the assignments would only be for a period of one year as situations can change (e.g. divorces, separations, etc.).

Kevin McCormick noted that the relationship between the BQCMB and the NWMB requires review. Kevin suggested that the NWMB prepare a discussion paper and present it to the BQCMB. Bas Oosenbrug noted that the BQCMB would be meeting next week. The Board agreed that Kevin McCormick, Dan Pike and Michael d'Eça would draft a paper in anticipation of a joint meeting. It was agreed that a letter should be drafted to advise the BQCMB of this decision.

Malachi Arreak brought up the concern voiced by BRIA regarding the approval of the Makivik walrus sport hunt. Malachi noted that Ben Kovic and Joannie Ikkidluak had met with the Lake Harbour HTA, but Cape Dorset had not received a visit. Malachi did acknowledge that Cape Dorset had received a letter regarding walrus sport hunting. No decision was made on the matter.

6. New Business

6.A Department of Renewable Resources

6.A.1 Regulation Changes

Bas Oosenbrug provided the Board with an update on the Polar Bear Management Memorandums of Understanding and related regulation changes. It was noted that the Board had approved the MOUs in principle at an earlier meeting. Bas noted that hunting of cubs had been precluded, but could be accommodated on a case-by-case basis. David Igutsaq noted that the boundary change requested by the Taloyoak HTA had not been addressed even though the polar bear biologist had agreed with the changes requested. Bas advised that more surveys of the population would be required before DRR could agree to amending the polar bear zones. The Board decided to contact DRR about the boundary issue at Taloyoak. Dan Pike questioned why there was no mention of sex selective harvesting in the regulations. Bas responded that DRR legal advisors thought it preferable to handle subsequent-year quotas outside of the regulations per se. Michael d'Eça noted that sex-selective harvesting is a non-quota limitation, which is a matter for the NWMB. Permitting for cub harvesting is also the authority of the NWMB. Michael noted that the MOUs do not mention anything about 2-year-old bears. Bas advised that references to cub harvesting were removed from the new MOUs to avoid international complications. Michael d'Eça agreed that International Agreements must be followed, but then questioned how decisions/permits could be issued for cubs. Bas Oosenbrug suggested that the NWMB/Minister could authorize special permits.

Dan Pike noted that virtually all items in the draft regulations require NWMB approval and questioned the time restraints for getting regulation changes in the system. It was agreed that a conference call would be required to approve the changes in time for the July 1 deadline. It was further agreed that there was a need to check the proposed amendments vs signed MOUs. Dan Pike and Michael d'Eça agreed to review these items on receipt of signed MOUs from Bas Oosenbrug.

6.A.2 Health of Caribou in Kimmirut Area

Bas Oosenbrug reported that 50 to 100 caribou mortalities had been reported by the Kimmirut HTA over the period December 95-January 96. DRR found that food/snow/ice conditions were contributing factors. A final analysis/report is not yet completed. Joannie Ikkidluak advised that hunters are leery of hunting caribou when they are unsure of the reasons behind these mortalities. There is a concern that some disease may be a factor. Malachi Arreak suggested that hunters should provide samples to DRR for analysis.

6.A.3 Quality of Caribou Meat - Gjoa Haven

Bas Oosenbrug noted that there seems to be a decline in the number of caribou in the Gjoa Haven area. Contaminants do not appear to be of concern, however brucellosis appears to be on the increase. Malachi Arreak noted that brucellosis is also much more prevalent in the North Baffin in recent years.

6.A.4 DRR - General

Bas advised the Board that KHTA recently passed several motions requesting the NWMB to make regulation changes on muskox and caribou. DRR will develop the submissions for these changes for the August meeting. Bas questioned the status of new-year wildlife research contribution agreements and asked if DRR accounting of 1995/96 research projects was acceptable.

6.B NWMB

6.B.1 Review of Submission to GNWT

Kevin McCormick advised that he had taken the lead in preparing the Board's submission on DRR Consolidation. Much of the information was taken from the Board's draft Strategic Plan. Michael d'Eça suggested that the new Nunavut Government might want to prepare its own Wildlife Act. Kevin McCormick noted that the present government has the obligation and dollars for this project. Kevin suggested that the new Assembly might just take on this task.

Gordon Koshinsky suggested that the Board pursue the Department of Renewable Resources to develop the new Wildlife Act.

Kevin McCormick suggested that NTI should have prime/eventual responsibility to pursue this topic with the GNWT. Members discussed the possibility of having Michael d'Eça take on the responsibility of designing the new Wildlife Act.

6.B.2 Meeting with DRR Deputy Minister, Andrew Gamble

Mr. Gamble opened his presentation by reviewing the budgets of the three departments involved in the consolidation. Renewable currently has a budget of 58 million (1/2 forest fires), Economic Development has 40 million and Energy Mines & Petroleum Resources has 6 million. The "Consolidation Framework" is to be presented to Cabinet, for approval-in-principle on June 15, 1996. Malachi Arreak questioned how the Government was taking account of division in 1999. Gordon Koshinsky questioned if efficiencies are envisioned by streamlining, or by reduced program delivery. Andrew Gamble advised that they are not anticipating reduced program delivery; in fact the public would see enhanced and more efficient delivery. Kevin McCormick questioned whether a Nunavut-Department-in-waiting was being considered. Andrew advised that they were considering an Assistant Deputy Minister for Nunavut, but that an actual split cannot occur yet. They can however move resources and authority to deal with Nunavut issues. Andrew noted that they expected to finish staffing by the end of the current fiscal year. Michael d'Eça questioned the consultation process. Andrew replied that the Minister is trying to meet with client/interest groups and that a meeting with the Claims Boards was scheduled later this same week. Kevin McCormick asked what is meant by local decision-making and community empowerment. Andrew replied that they are not just talking about resource management but also economic development. Kevin questioned whether Renewable Resource Officers will answer to communities rather than to the Department. Andrew advised that they may not actually go that far, as there are complications with enforcement, etc. however Officers must be more responsive to community government. Ben Kovic questioned if there is any danger that a Renewable Resource Officer will have to enforce municipal matters. Andrew replied that it would be pertinent if they were municipal employees. Kevin suggested the Department could achieve better community responsiveness by reference to values rather than by changing the structure of government. Kevin suggested that he would view the roles of officers in a different light. Placing officers under communities would probably make their lives unnecessarily difficult. Kevin suggested there was the perception of off-loading. Both the NWMB and Government have defined roles. The NWMB depends heavily (and is intended to) on Departmental expertise (technical). Andrew Gamble suggested there is no intent to off-load to other agencies. Ben Kovic noted that there may be a need for further interactions between the two agencies on this initiative.

Wednesday, 12 June 1996

6.C NWMB Funded Projects and Contributions

6.C.1 NWMB Funded Research Projects

6.C.1.a Policy Re: Carry-over Requests for NWMB Funded Projects

Dan Pike presented a draft Appendix to the Policy and Procedures Manual. Gordon Koshinsky noted that if the Board does not make provisions for carry-over, agencies will be encouraged to “ensure” that they do not have carry-overs. Kevin McCormick suggested that a maximum limit for carry-overs be \$25,000. The Board approved the policy. **(Motion 97-033)**

6.C.2 NWMB Funded Projects (Non-research)

6.C.2.a Iviq Hunters and Trappers Association

Jim Noble advised that the Iviq Hunters and Trappers Association of Grise Fiord requested funding via the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, to patrol hunting by Greenlanders within Canada’s boundaries. Jim noted that Greenlanders had been charged for hunting polar bear in this area several years ago, but charges had been stayed. Malachi Arreak noted that he was generally opposed to taking fellow Inuit to court and suggested that Greenlanders need to be encouraged to discuss this issue. It was agreed that Malachi Arreak would draft letters to federal departments (DFO, DOE, External Affairs, etc.) voicing NWMB’s concern in this matter.

6.C.2.b Arviat Bridges and Culverts Project

Jim Noble advised that the Arviat Hunters and Trappers Association had been provided funds in 1995/96 for work on bridges and culverts in the Arviat area. The HTA had not utilized all funds allocated to this project and were requesting permission to carry-over the balance. The HTA was also requesting an additional \$15,000 for some work on the project. Members felt that this was a one-time funding arrangement and that no further funds could be committed to this project. The Board did however approve the carry-over of unused funds from the previous fiscal year. **(Motion 97-034)**

6.C.2.c Bowhead Hunt Planning Committee

Jim Noble advised that the Bowhead Hunt Planning Committee had requested \$20,000 from the NWMB to assist with costs of the 1996 bowhead hunt in Repulse Bay.

Malachi Arreak suggested that it is up to Inuit and Inuit Organizations to pay the costs of the hunt. He noted that “donation boxes” were placed in all communities in Nunavut to collect funds for the hunt. Malachi suggested that the NWMB had done its part in funding the Bowhead Workshop and by providing funding to the Hunt Planning Committee. Ben Kovic noted that it was made clear with approval of the donation to the Hunt Planning Committee that it was a “one time only” funding agreement. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that the Board would diminish its profile by contributing funds to the actual hunt. Joannie Ikkidluak suggested that the hunt will be very costly (e.g. transportation of meat and muktuk) and supported the request for funding. David Igutsaq also noted his support of the funding request. Gordon Koshinsky noted that he might be inclined to support the request if the outcome of the hunt depended on the NWMB. Kevin McCormick noted that the Board had decided earlier that funding assistance was “one-time only.” The Board’s primary role was to establish the TAH. The Board decided that the funding request of the Hunt Planning Committee be denied. **(Motion 97-035)**

6.C.3 1996 Bowhead Whale Hunt

6.C.3.a Board Member Participation In Hunt Activities

The question of Board member participation in the bowhead hunt was discussed. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that the Board pay for members’ attendance and participation. Malachi Arreak suggested that the Chairperson should be on location to support the hunt. The Board agreed to provide funding to have the Chairperson attend the hunt. **(Motion 97-036)**

6.C.3.b Director of Wildlife Management Participation in Hunt

Members discussed DFO’s request of having the Board’s biologist involved in the sampling of the whale. Dan Pike noted that DFO is far-advanced in plans to sample the whale. Ben Kovic noted that DFO should have advised the Hunt Planning Committee of their plans to sample the whale. Kevin McCormick suggested that there is no role for the NWMB, DFO should just get in touch with the Hunt Planning Committee. Jim Noble noted that it could take up a considerable amount of Dan Pike’s time to participate in the sampling. The Board agreed that Dan Pike would not participate in the sampling of the bowhead whale.

6.C.4 NWMB Participation in NTI Television Programming

Dan Pike reviewed his submission to the Board to participate and share costs of a proposed television call-in show. Gordon Koshinsky noted that in the draft communication policy it was suggested that the Board participate in one or two phone-in shows per year.

Malachi Arreak suggested that this would be a good forum for identifying some of the Board's roles and functions. Dan Pike noted that the four organizations proposed for the show are a bit of an odd mix. Ben Kovic saw this as a way of improving the Board's relationship with the public. Kevin McCormick suggested that there is a need to "organize our messages." The Board approved the proposal and funding required to participate in the project. **(Motion 97-037)**

7. Old Business

7.A NWMB Research Funding Policy

The Board reviewed the draft "NWMB Research Funding Policy" prepared by Dan Pike. Malachi Arreak praised Dan Pike for the effort he had put into developing the policy. Malachi suggested that some projects might be over the proposed \$30,000 maximum and suggested that such projects should be considered on a case-by-case basis. Kevin McCormick questioned what would occur if a government agency forwarded a proposal on HTO letterhead. Members agreed that this type of situation would probably be unavoidable. The Board approved the Research Funding Policy with noted corrections. **(Motion 97-038)**

7.B Harvest Study Update

Dan Pike reviewed Carol Churchward's progress report for the period ending April 30. It was noted that data collection had started in the three test communities, with the schedule to start all communities on July 1. Gordon Koshinsky questioned if the Board had received a copy of the earlier GNWT harvest study. Dan Pike advised that a copy had been requested. Jim Noble noted that a request to extend the start-date of the Harvest Study to January 1, 1997 had been sent to the Implementation Panel.

Evening Session

7.C Walrus Sport Hunt Planning

Dan Pike reviewed the 1995 walrus sport hunting season. The initiative was generally considered a success, and Igloolik HTA was pleased with the outcome. Currently the sport hunt is conducted via assignment by hunters, without increasing the total harvest. For the longer term, Dan suggested that the Board will need to set commercial quotas until the Harvest Study is completed. Licensing is the responsibility of DFO; NWMB interest is mainly in conservation and in safety aspects of the hunt. Consultations have been completed; Igloolik HTA has supported (written to the NWMB) the briefing note. Gordon Koshinsky questioned whether the Minister of DFO has to accept/reject a hunt approved by the Board. Michael d'Eça suggested that the answer is yes; however it may require review. Ben Kovic suggested that DFO should participate in monitoring the hunt for Makivik the same as it does for Nunavut. Dan Pike noted that DFO had received Implementation funding to monitor walrus sport hunts. Robert Moshenko advised that the walrus hunt application did not go to the Minister for formal approval. DFO advised the Minister, via a briefing note. The fact that the 1995 walrus hunt was termed a "Pilot" walrus hunt, may imply that a report is required. Robert suggested that if a hunt is planned for the current year (1996), the Minister should be advised. Discussion followed on whether to continue to call this a "Pilot Hunt," and whether trophy fees should be charged. Michael d'Eça suggested that the Minister would have to be advised if the Board set up a commercial quota for walrus. Robert noted that work is completed on Hudson Strait and Foxe Basin walrus (background documents) which may assist with development of a management plan. Michael noted that there could be implications for the Quebec Government regarding transport of walrus parts into Quebec. Michael agreed to draft a letter to alert Makivik of possible Province-of-Quebec implications. The Board approved a second year (1996) walrus sport hunt at Igloolik, with provisions for harvesting two walrus using the same conditions as the 1995 hunt and accommodated through assignment of existing harvesting rights. **(Motion 97-039)**

Board members discussed development of "qualifications for Inuit guides." Jim Noble questioned if the Board sets safety standards, does it assume liability? Michael d'Eça suggested that Sec. 5.2.39 absolves liability, if it is done in good faith. Dan Pike suggested it would be better to have qualifications rather than no qualifications. Michael suggested that the Board still has to be able to defend the standards that are established. Section 5.6.41 sets out the requirement, 5.2.34 seems to imply that if the Board makes standards, that they have to be approved by the Minister (DFO? Coast Guard?)

Michael agreed to determine the mechanics of establishing standards and which Minister would be required to approve. Dan Pike was requested to develop the commercial quota concept for (later) Board consideration. The Board decision was to develop qualifications for Inuit guides, including reference to minimum safety standards. **(Motion 97-040)**

Robert Moshenko asked the Board about the status of the Salluit (Makivik) proposed hunt. Dan Pike suggested the next step should be to have DFO develop a management plan, which includes all the communities. This would be how DFO is advised of the Board decision. Ben Kovic advised that Johnny Peters was already aware that the hunt might need to be deferred to 1997. It was agreed that a letter should go to DFO to catalyze the process for the Nottingham/Salisbury hunt.

7.D DFO Regulatory Process, Ferguson River

Dan Pike presented Tasha Stevenson's briefing note on the Ferguson River. DFO received one response from Whale Cove, concurring with the Ferguson River recommendations. DFO recommended that the quota stay at 3,000 kg for the next 5 years. Dan suggested that there had been considerable consultation on this issue. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that it was unlikely that the Board would seriously alter the quota in place and it would therefore be useful to contact Whale Cove and Arviat on the matter. Gordon questioned if it was necessary for the NWMB to validate the recent DFO quotas? Michael d'Eça stated that the Board should "affirm" the quotas that DFO established, if agreed to by the Board (Sec. 5.6.4). Malachi Arreak stated that he was supportive of protecting the fish stock. Dan Pike noted that DFO met with the Keewatin communities (3) earlier this year. Dan also advised that a letter was sent to DFO advising them that the NWMB would have to make decisions like this on all quota changes in the future. Dan anticipates receiving a list of charr stream/lake openings in the near future. The Board decided to wait for David Aglukark's input into the Ferguson River decision.

7.E. Bowhead Hunt Review

7.E.1 Review of Hunt Planning Committee Recommendations

7.E.2 Approval of Bowhead Management Plan

Dan Pike advised that the Board had requested DFO, earlier this year, to lead in developing a bowhead management plan. Dan Pike, Kevin McCormick and Michael d'Eça assisted with the review of the plan and Robert Moshenko was to re-write the plan based on these inputs. Robert Moshenko advised that it will take about a week to re-write the plan, prior to the next meeting of the Bowhead Hunt Planning Committee.

Robert suggested he sees no insurmountable obstacles, since all critiques put forward to-date are workable. Dan provided Inuit knowledge information, which will be incorporated in the plan. The Minister is going to have to communicate with the Canadian (and International) public in respect to the hunt; hence the need for a management plan which addresses conservation. Robert suggested that the Board and DFO should work together to draft a set of questions and answers. DFO won't want to respond beyond the issues of conservation and public safety. Dan Pike urged members of the Hunt Planning Committee to document the Hunt

Plan and advised that he had provided David Aglukark with a draft outline of a hunt plan. Joannie Ikkidluak asked if it is necessary to have stand-by guns (i.e. a modern method to back-up traditional lances.) Dan Pike advised that there are no restrictions. Ben Kovic noted that the whale needed to be harvested as humanely as possible. Michael d'Eça advised that the Board would need to decide on several issues:

- To whom the licence is issued;
- Period of the hunt;
- Wording of licence (i.e. strikes/landed)

Ben Kovic noted that these items have already been decided by the Hunt Planning Committee. Joannie Ikkidluak advised that the Hunt Planning Committee has pretty well completed conditions for the hunt. Joannie noted that financial requirements are less onerous than previously thought. Michael noted the Board must make a lot of decisions (on advice of the Hunt Planning Committee) which are non-quota limitations. These include any conditions on the hunt. Ben Kovic asked if Gary Weber would attend the Hunt Planning Committee meeting in Rankin. Robert Moshenko advised that either Gary Weber or Luke Cody would attend.

7.F NWMB Policy and Procedures

7.F.1 Preparation Days

Pierre Chartrand reviewed his briefing note on prior under-payment of honouraria for preparation days for Board Members. Pierre advised that \$7,800 was owing from June 1, 1995, which was the date the Operating Procedures were approved. To calculate from January 1995 would cost an additional \$3,600 and to calculate from January 1, 1994 would cost an additional \$7,200. Pierre requested the Board decide on the starting date for repayment. Kevin McCormick suggested that June 1, 1995 would be most appropriate starting date. Kevin also noted that the extra preparation days were agreed to when the Board did not have full staff, and Board members had to do a lot of "staff work" before and after meetings. Malachi Arreak agreed with the June 1, 1995 date. He noted that an attempt was made to increase the honouraria rate but the Implementation Panel had rejected this request.

Ben Kovic suggested that the increased preparation time must be utilized by having the meeting materials sent out well in advance of the meetings. David Igutsaq agreed that Board members have to meet their responsibilities by reading the material provided. Gordon Koshinsky noted that all the materials for the current meeting were provided at the previous meeting and should have been reviewed. Gordon agreed that the staff have to help Members prepare, but Members also have to take initiative to review materials and obtain additional information. Members are also obligated to consult before and after meetings. The Board approved an amendment to the Policy and Procedures Manual clarifying preparation and follow-up days honouraria. **(Motion 97-041)**

The Board approved repayment of outstanding preparation days retroactive to June 1, 1995. **(Motion 97-042)**

7.F.2 Procurement Policy

Pierre Chartrand presented a draft Procurement Policy for Board approval. The Board approved the policy with noted amendments. **(Motion 97-043)**

7.F.3 NWMB Superannuation Plan

Pierre Chartrand reviewed his briefing note on the staff superannuation plan with MEBA. Pierre advised that it would be beneficial for staff to leave the Board's superannuation plan and return to a group RSP plan. Meeka Mike questioned what the financial implications were to the NWMB. Pierre advised that there would be no increased costs to the NWMB. Pierre suggested that if the Board agreed to allow employees to change plans, negotiations would be started with MEBA. The Board approved the change to the superannuation plan. **(Motion 97-044)**

7.G Donation Policy

This item was deferred to the August meeting in Arviat.

7. H Communication Policy/Plan

The Board discussed this item in conjunction with the review of the Strategic Plan. Several options for completing this task were discussed, the decision was that Gordon Koshinky would attempt to complete the policy/plan.

7. I Policy and Procedures - Press Release Approval

Jim Noble advised that the current procedure is to have all members approve press releases prior to release.

Jim noted that on many occasions it is difficult to contact all members, and requested direction from the Board. Kevin McCormick suggested that the Board should rely on the Chairperson's "best effort" to communicate with members, generally with input from the legal advisor. Gordon Koshinsky requested that a copy of press releases be faxed to all members when released. The Board approved an amendment to the Procedures Manual to reflect this change. **(Motion 97-045)**

Thursday, 13 June 1996

8. Other Business

8.A Review of Strategic Plan/Process for Implementation

A quorum was not available for this item, so the remaining members considered constituting themselves into a committee to examine/consider the Strategic Plan (see Appendix 1). Since the "Internal Operations" portion of the Strategic Plan was not yet translated it was decided to defer this item. Meeka Mike suggested that the Board form a standing Executive Committee to be available for such situations.

8.A.1 Wilfred Wilcox, Mayor of Ikaluktutiak

Mayor Wilcox requested a special hearing of the Board. Mayor Wilcox advised that he heard a news item on CBC Radio yesterday, in which the NWMB was reported to have supported CWS to deny access to Kennecott Canada Inc. for mineral exploration in the Queen Maud Gulf Bird Sanctuary. Mayor Wilcox advised that he and the President of KIA feel that the NWMB should assist the Kitikmeot communities to understand why this decision was made. The Mayor suggested that the Board should consider meeting in one of the communities to allow for an information exchange. Mayor Wilcox explained that there is a need for employment in the region; with over 1000 young people in the schools, they shouldn't be shut out of job opportunities without due consideration. Kevin McCormick questioned how the Board could have handled the process better/differently. The Mayor responded, indicating that the issue is big enough warrant a concerted consultative effort on behalf of the Board. The Mayor assured the Board that he is not saying that the decision was/is wrong. The Mayor pledged to get a good meeting together (elders, youth, etc.) if the Board would agree to sponsor a meeting in the region. Gordon Koshinsky asked how it would be viewed if CWS lead with the consultation process? The Mayor suggested this might be appropriate. Kevin McCormick suggested the Board should just "encourage" consultations to occur. The Mayor suggested that it would be beneficial to have some NWMB participation. It was agreed that the Mayor would write a letter regarding this concern to the NWMB. The Mayor explained that they are mainly thinking of exploration now, but don't want to preclude the possibility of development of a mine. It was agreed that Jim Noble would provide copies of past minutes and motions regarding Board activity, decisions and discussions on this matter.

8.B Meeting Reports/Briefing Notes

8.B.1 Kitikmeot Loan Payment

Jim Noble reviewed a briefing note prepared by Pierre Chartrand on the status of the Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association's (RWO) proposed loan repayment schedule. It was suggested that through close monitoring, the loan could be repaid to the NWMB. Gordon Koshinsky questioned if the repayment proposal was reasonable? Jim Noble replied that this was a reasonable schedule.

The Board agreed to accept the KHTA's four-year repayment schedule. **(Motion 97-046)**

8.B.2 Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (Request to shrimp fish within 12 miles)

Jim Noble advised that Qikiqtaaluk Corporation recently requested permission for the Inuit shrimp licence holders to fish within 12 miles of Resolution Island. The full shrimp fleet was allowed entry into this area during the 1995 season, on the agreement that they would provide scientific reports on their efforts. These reports have yet to be received by the Board. Meeka Mike mentioned that the revenue generated by this fishery includes over a million dollars per year to the Baffin region. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that if the Board agrees to let the Inuit vessels fish inshore, it will be difficult to refuse the other licence holders. David Igutsaq suggested that the Board comply with the NFA which precludes within-12-mile access, without full compliance, such as our requirement for 1996 turbot. The Board decided to request the scientific report from the CPPA and to advise Qikiqtaaluk Corporation that until this information is received, there will be no decision on their request to fish inshore. **(Motion 97-047)**

8.B.3 Polar Bear Management Agreements (6.A.1 Revisited)

Bas Oosenbrug, Ed Bowden and Dan Pike attended this session to discuss amendments to the polar bear regulations pursuant to the MOUs for communities. Dan Pike questioned how regulations refer to 2-year olds. The response was that DRR would have to wait until all the MOUs are matched up to re-word this section. When all the MOUs come into effect, they will read "family group" throughout the regulations. Bas Oosenbrug explained that the South Hudson Bay MOU was completed first. Therefore it is worded differently than the subsequent four. The regulations try to accommodate the language of both types of MOUs. Dan noted that the MOUs talk about prohibition on hunting family groups precisely because it is so hard to tell the age of bears.

It therefore really seems inappropriate to talk of prohibition on 2-year olds in the same regulation. Bas and Ed agreed that the regulations could be rewritten to correct this problem. Renewable Resources is aiming to get MOUs signed and in place for the fall hunt and to have Boothia and M'Clintock MOUs to the NWMB by the August meeting. Another issue is an increase of 8 tags for the Foxe Basin population, which are unallocated. Bas asked if the NWMB intended to allocate (in its discretion) these tags. Jim Noble indicated he was aware of this quota increase. Dan Pike noted that it was his understanding that DRR agreed to remove all reference to 1-year old and 2-year olds from the regulations. The Board approved the polar bear regulation changes on the assumption that these changes would be made. **(Motion 97-048)**

8.B.4 Fisheries Act Amendment

Michael d'Eça advised that there was a window to make submissions on the new "Fisheries Act," which is to be submitted to the Federal Cabinet this fall. The Board agreed that Michael would draft a submission, which would go to the Minister of DFO. The Minister has written, saying "an official will contact the NWMB" about the new Act.

8.C Upcoming Meetings/Events

1. 48th Annual Meeting of IWC, June 24 - No one will attend
2. Canadian Polar Commission, (Contaminants) Oct. 7-10, Iqaluit -Chairperson
3. NAFO, St. Petersburg, Russia, Sept. 9-13, - Remind DFO that we expect them to consult us.
4. FRCC and Shrimp meetings upcoming - Chairperson to attend

9. Date and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NWMB to be held in Arviat, the week of August 12.

10. Meeting adjourned (Motion 97-049)

Minutes Approved: _____
Chairperson

Appendix I

Review of Strategic Plan

A. Priorities

1. Harvest Study

Jim Noble noted that Taloyoak HTA are refusing to supply a Field Worker at the pay offered. Staff decided to pay more for Taloyoak, based on more people to interview. Gordon Koshinsky warned that if this action occurs in one community, it

may spill over to other communities. Gordon noted that contingency planning really means how to fill in any holes that do develop.

2. Develop RWOs and HTOs

Jim Noble noted that he and Ben Kovic met with NTI officials on this matter and that the response was provided in the binder. Jim noted that staff will be analyzing the financial and administrative capability and performance of every RWO and HTO for the August meeting. Kevin McCormick noted that he had drafted an outline to summarize problems and concern: to draft options. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that a comprehensive analysis is required, not just a one-by-one identification. Jim Noble noted that at the last QWB meeting the Baffin HTAs had each agreed to allocate funding to training. Jim agreed to circulate Kevin's outline for review. Gordon suggested it was more noteworthy that NTI has acknowledged responsibility than that they denied funding availability. Jim Noble promised a paper for the August meeting.

3. Define Relationship With Gov't Wildlife Agencies

Gordon advised that this item was done for GNWT, but yet to be completed for DFO and DOE. Malachi suggested that it may have to be done for External Affairs, DIAND, etc. Kevin noted ICC also, but DRR, DFO and DOE first. It was agreed that Gordon would draft a letter to DFO and Kevin to DOE.

4. Relations With Other Land Claim Boards

Gordon Koshinsky noted a recent letter from NIRB suggesting a meeting. Members suggested that a letter be written in response, advising that a discussion paper will be prepared and that a meeting will be planned for October. Malachi Arreak agreed to draft a discussion paper, in generic form and a letter to NIRB.

5. Establish BNL,B/N/W

Under control

6. Ensure HTOs have selected method to calculate BNLs

Nothing done yet. Ben Kovic, Jim Noble and Dan Pike will approach the RWOs after July 1, to begin setting out a process.

7. Other non-claim management boards

Kevin McCormick will draft a discussion paper on the relationship between NWMB and BQCMB.

8. Communications Policy/Plan

Gordon Koshinsky agreed to attempt the draft policy/plan.

9. Annual Report

The requirement for an RFP was discussed. It was agreed that if under \$25K, two proposals will be considered. If over \$25K, it will go to formal tender. Simple, 2-color, 3-year consolidation format approved. Mockup requested for the August meeting.

10. Fisheries Advisor

Don Vincent noted that numerous fisheries committees are ignoring the NWMB and DFO Atlantic is totally ignoring the NWMB. Don noted that the Minister of DRR has written/complained to the Minister of DFO. Jim Noble agreed to have proposals for the fisheries advisor by the August meeting.

11. Policy on data storage and maintenance

Dan Pike has drafted a RFQ which is being reviewed at present.

12. Procedures for decisions - Addressed by P&P Manual.

13. Agendas, Priorities, protocols- Addressed by P&P Manual.

14. Job Descriptions, via Personnel Policy - Jim/Pierre/Board to develop.

15. Budget Profile - Pierre/Jim to develop.