

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 21

MONDAY, 24 JUNE 1996

Participants:

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
David Aglukark	Member
David Igutsaq	Member
Malachi Arreak	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Meeka Mike	Member
Marius Tungilik	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Pierre Chartrand	Director of Finance and Administration
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter

1. Call to Order

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, convened the Conference Call at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Kovic noted that the Aglukark family had just lost a family member and offered the Board's condolences.

2. Independent Review of Past Staffing

The Board reviewed a briefing note prepared by the Director of Finance and Administration which suggested that NWMB Resolution 97-011 was based on an unfounded premise. (This Resolution was passed at the 11th Regular Meeting of the Board, and calls for an independent review of past NWMB staffing actions "for the purpose of documenting success or failure to reflect the aboriginal and gender composition of the NSA in the Board's staff complement".) Gordon Koshinsky agreed that the Board's hiring policy does not include a reference to Article 23; however, the review should proceed with a view to improving procedures in the future. Malachi Arreak noted that Article 23 may not be applicable since the NWMB is not a government agency. Malachi suggested that the overall intent of the Land Claims Agreement is to have staff whose composition reflects that of the Nunavut population and that this is the route the NWMB should take. Marius Tungilik supported Malachi's suggestion and noted that the Board should review what the barriers to hiring Inuit are

and what the Board can do to improve its hiring practices. Gordon Koshinsky agreed that there is a need to identify any stumbling blocks and to find ways to eliminate or avoid them.

David Aglukark reminded the Board that the NWMB is an “institution of public government” and has to represent all people, not just Inuit. David felt this will be more of a concern in the future. Meeka Mike suggested that the Board should continue to look ahead so that Inuit will be represented. Gordon Koshinsky reaffirmed that the Board should attempt to reach the goal mentioned in Article 23. The Board agreed that the independent review should proceed and that the original Resolution would stand.

3. DIAND Concerns about Interest Earned on NWMB Operating Funds

The Board reviewed a briefing note and a draft letter (to DIAND) prepared by Pierre Chartrand. Members discussed the administrative problems that would occur if the Board were to receive RWO and HTO funding on a monthly basis rather than the current method of receiving the full budget on April 1. Kevin McCormick suggested that the letter to DIAND include a suggestion that the interest earned by the Board on operating funds actually provides a benefit to government since it reduces requests for funding. The Board agreed that Pierre Chartrand’s letter, with some modifications, should be forwarded to DIAND.

4. Date of August Meeting

The next regular Meeting of the NWMB was originally scheduled for the week of August 12. Members noted that the bowhead hunt is scheduled for the same week. It was also noted that the TAL representative would not be available until August 15. With many Members wishing to participate in the bowhead hunt activities, it was agreed to reschedule the next regular Meeting for the week of August 26. **(Resolution 97-050)**

5. Communications Officer Position

Ben Kovic noted that the Board office is facing a heavy workload and suggested that additional staff were required. Ben suggested that the Communications Officer position might be one way to alleviate this problem. Kevin McCormick suggested that the Board should complete the Communications Policy before any staffing of the Communications Officer is considered. The Board agreed that the Communications Policy must be completed before this position could be filled. However, the Board

also agreed that it would be appropriate to hire interim office staff as may be required.

6. Forthcoming Issues

Jim Noble identified several resource-management matters of high priority that would soon require the attention of the Board. These items included:

- A proposed increase to the Foxe Basin polar bear quota (8 tags),
- A request from several fishing companies to fish for shrimp within 12 miles of Resolution Island,
- Approval of the Bowhead Management Plan, and
- Licensing of the 1996 bowhead hunt.

The Board decided to conduct a Conference Call on Friday, 28 June at 2:00 p.m. to consider these matters.

7. Adjournment

The Conference Call adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved by: _____ **Date** _____
Chairperson

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLUTIONS: CONFERENCE CALL No. 21

24 June 1996

Resolution 97- 050

Resolved that the next (12th) regular Meeting of the NWMB, originally scheduled to be held during the week of 12 August 1996 in Arviat, be rescheduled to the week of August 26.

Moved by: Malachi Arreak
Carried

Seconded by: David Igutsaq
Date: 24 June 1996