

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: MEETING NO. 17

10-12 FEBRUARY 1998
GJOA HAVEN, NT

Members and Staff Participating:

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Kevin McCormick	Member
Meeka Mike	Member
Pauloosie Keyootak	Member
David Tagoona	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
Makabe Nartok	Member
Harry Flaherty	Member
Joan Scottie	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Dan Pike	Director of Wildlife Management
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor
Mary Nashook	Interpreter

Guests and Other Participants (at various times):

Michael Angottitauruq	His Worship, Mayor of Gjoa Haven
Uriash Pukinaq	Chairperson, Gjoa Haven HTA
Isaac Klengenberg	Chairperson, Kitikmeot HTA
Stephen Atkinson	Asst Director Fisheries & Wildlife RWED, Iqaluit
Joe Tigullaraq	Sr Advisor Wildlife & Fisheries RWED, Iqaluit
Stephen Pinksen	Sr Advisor Legisl & Enforcement RWED, Iqaluit
Alden Williams	Mgr Wildlife & Fisheries RWED Baffin, Iqaluit
Todd Roche	Regional Liaison Officer, Kitikmeot

Several other presenters and members of the public at large

Tuesday, 10 February 1998

1. Call to Order and Opening Preliminaries

The Chairperson Ben Kovic convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Admundsen Hotel in Gjoa Haven. He welcomed the Members to Gjoa Haven, and asked all persons present to introduce themselves.

Ben gave a brief overview of the agenda for the week. He noted that in addition to the regular Board business it would be necessary to swear-in the three Board Members who were recently re-appointed.

Swearing-in Ceremony for Re-Appointed Members

Michael d'Eça, the NWMB Legal Advisor, swore-in or affirmed those Members who were recently re-appointed by the Governor in Council:

- Gordon Koshinsky, nominated by DFO (sworn in February 10)
- Kevin McCormick, nominated by DOE (affirmed February 10)
- Meeka Mike, nominated by DIAND (sworn in February 12)

Welcome by Community Representatives

His Worship, Michael Angottitaurquq, welcomed the NWMB Members to Gjoa Haven on behalf of the Hamlet Council and the residents of the community. He stated that Gjoa Haven was proud to be hosting this NWMB meeting. He invited the Board to take advantage of amenities available in the Hamlet office.

Uriash Paukinaq, Chairperson of the Gjoa Haven Hunters and Trappers Association, also welcomed the NWMB to the community. He identified a shortage of trained candidates and a high turnover in the secretary/manager position as very detrimental to the operations of the HTA. He also urged that a greater effort be made to develop inter-settlement trade in country food between the Baffin and Kitikmeot Regions.

2. Agenda

Members reviewed and accepted the agenda for this the 17th regular Meeting of the NWMB. **(Resolution 98- 082)**

3. Minutes: Review and Adoption

3.A Meeting No. 16

The Minutes for Regular Meeting No. 16, held on 15-20 November 1997, were adopted with noted corrections. **(Resolution 98- 083)**

3.B Conference Call No. 35

The Minutes for Conference Call No. 35, conducted on 19 December 1997, were adopted as presented. **(Resolution 98- 084)**

4. Financial and Administrative Business

4.A Financial Report to 31 December 1997

Jim Noble gave an overview of the December 31 financial report. Harry Flaherty questioned the under-expenditure on Salaries and the over-expenditure on the Office Lease. Jim explained that the former was due to the delayed staffing of the Assistant Director of Wildlife Management position, whereas the latter was due to an escalation from about \$5.00 to about \$12.00 per square foot in the "common-area expense" component. Jim noted that the Board's earlier authorization for staff to explore alternative office accommodation arrangements stemmed from the imposition of this higher charge. The property management function for the building was recently taken over by Qikiqtaaluk Corporation. The Board's lease has 14 months remaining.

The Board accepted the report as presented, with the admonition that future reports include an explanation of significant variances. **(Resolution 98- 085)**

4.B Budget for 1998/99: Review and Approval

Jim Noble referred to the budget estimates for the coming year, included in the briefing material for the Meeting. An expenditure of \$4,838,620 is projected. This compares with this year's (1997/98) budget of \$5,080,285. Jim stressed that this is the Board's operating budget only; the bulk of the research that the Board supports is funded out of the Research Trust.

At Gordon Koshinsky's request, Jim provided an overview of the budget in the context of the first 10-year planning period under the Implementation Contract. It

was noted that the Board's funding and expenditure profiles seem to be satisfactorily on track in this regard. The Board is currently operating in its fifth year under the Contract. Michael d'Eça observed that the parties to the Implementation Contract are required, at least one year prior to the expiry of any planning period, "to enter into negotiations for the purpose of determining the amount of funding that shall be provided under the Contract to implement the Nunavut Final Agreement in the following planning period."

Kevin McCormick noted that, in contrast to previous years, there was no provision in this draft budget for Public Hearings. He expressed concern about this, but also expressed dissatisfaction about the simple way in which this item was budgeted in the past. A Public Hearing would pose a major expenditure if it happened, but was impossible to predict. Kevin and others felt that there ought to be a better way to protect funds for such an eventuality other than merely showing it as a line item that tended not to be actually used. There were suggestions that it might be useful to amalgamate funds for Public Hearings with some other line item. Dan Pike suggested amalgamating it with "NWMB-Funded Research" (=Community Research); Michael d'Eça preferred amalgamating it with "Other Meetings/Workshops". In the final analysis no acceptable alternative mechanism was identified, but the Executive Director was assigned to investigate the matter further.

The Board decided to approve an operating budget for 1998/99 in the amount of \$4,938,620. This was as per the draft presented, except with the additional inclusion of a line item for Public Hearings in the amount of \$100,000. **(Resolution 98- 086)**

5. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations

This item was deferred until after the Executive Committee had opportunity to meet. The item was revisited Thursday morning, February 12.

6. Chairman, Staff, and Members' Reports

Ben Kovic referred to the reports by NWMB senior staff members and Advisors provided in the briefing material for the information of the Board.

6.A Chairperson's Report

Ben suggested that unless Board Members had specific questions, he did not intend to review his report or associated materials in the course of the meeting.

The same would apply to the reports of staff members and Advisors, unless they had any particular highlights or concerns they wanted to emphasize.

6.B Executive Director's Report

In response to a question from Kevin McCormick, Jim advised that the NWMB Web Site is now accessible in a draft format. Favourable comments are already being received. Minutes of the Board's Meetings and Teleconferences are currently being re-formatted for inclusion.

6.C Director, Wildlife Management Report

Further to item 5 in his summary of achievements, Dan Pike reported that 11 of the 13 charr that had been radio-tagged at Nettilling Lake were re-located in a small area at the south end of the lake in the course of a late-January over-flight. Invitations have been sent to the RWOs regarding the narwhal workshop and discussion papers are being drafted.

6.D Director, Finance and Administration Report

Jim Noble noted that Pierre Chartrand had been unable to develop a policy for purchase and disposition of property as he had been assigned prior to his departure. Pierre has offered his help and advice to the Board until his replacement is hired.

6.E Legal Advisor's Report

Michael d'Eça expressed concern about the lack of any positive response from DIAND officials to date about a new Funding Agreement for 1998/99. He noted three federal legislative initiatives (Endangered Species Protection, Marine Conservation Areas, Fisheries) that are expected to start or be re-initiated soon, and asked for guidance on if and when to develop input. For the most part appropriate documents, or at least very good drafts, already exist. The Board agreed that it was important to be proactive and to introduce (or re-introduce) the Board's point of view early in these legislative proceedings.

6.F Fisheries Advisor's Report

Ray Andrews noted in his report that the final TAC of 5500 metric tonnes (mt) of turbot for the Sub-Area 0 (Division 0B) fishery in 1997 was exceeded by 628 mt. The overrun occurred in the competitive gillnet component of the fishery. The OA exploratory/experimental catch was about 200 mt.

6.G Member's Reports and Concerns

6.G.1 Makabe Nartok

Makabe referred to Resolution AGM 12/96 of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association that he tabled at the last Board meeting. With respect to the three requests for changes to wildlife management regulations set out therein:

- The Board noted that the request for narwhal quota increases will be integral to the comprehensive narwhal management planning exercise that is getting underway. Kitikmeot representatives are expected to be present at the first meeting of the Working Group, probably in April.
- The request for changes in Muskox Management Area boundaries was referred to agenda item 10.B (this meeting).
- The request for changes in Polar Bear Management Area boundaries was referred to agenda item 10.F (this meeting).

6.G.2 Joan Scottie

Joan drew attention to ongoing financial and administrative difficulties at the Baker Lake HTA. She noted that the Chairperson and the Secretary Manager are brothers, and suggested that a policy is needed to prevent such arrangements. Jim Noble suggested that the key to having functional HTAs is to have strong RWOs, and cited the Baffin Region as an example. Members deemed it impractical for the NWMB to take an active role in the operation of the HTOs, and noted that Board funds flow to the HTOs via the RWOs.

6.G.3 Kevin McCormick

Kevin reported plans by Natural Resources Canada to further diminish funding for the Polar Continental Shelf Project (PCSP). This agency provides logistic support for Arctic research projects. As its ability to provide such support is diminished, research funding provided by agencies (including NWMB) will need to stretch further. Inevitably, fewer research projects will be funded in the Arctic and some kinds of work may be precluded entirely. The PCSP operating budget was traditionally about \$4 million. This year it is about \$2 million. Next year it is scheduled to drop to about \$1 million. The Board agreed to write to the Minister of Natural Resources Canada to register concern about the past and proposed PCSP funding reductions.

Kevin reported that compensating communities for polar bear defence-kills remains a matter of contention and concern. From the DOE perspective, a defence-kill near Kimmirut last summer has become an escalating issue. Grise Fiord perceives a long-standing grievance and refuses to permit further research in that area until it is resolved. Some researchers are negotiating their own agreements, which is jeopardizing any comprehensive approach. Kevin encouraged development of a permanent solution. As part of that solution it will be necessary among other things to:

- Take account of existing legislation and agreements. The MOUs between the communities and RWED will certainly be a factor. These MOUs speak to the matter, but only as it pertains to RWED. The flexible quota system will also pose complications.
- Agree on the value of a polar bear. Presumably this would not be constant for different polar bear genders and age categories.
- Develop a mechanism to pay. One possibility might be to set this up like a no-fault insurance system.
- Determine the NWMB role (if any). Michael d'Eça advised that the Board has the option of playing a role, but has no obligation to do so.

The Board agreed that the matter warranted attention. An exploratory meeting among Stephen Atkinson (RWED), Kevin McCormick (NWMB), Dan Pike (NWMB) and Michael d'Eça (NWMB) was arranged by Kevin, to discuss the matter and possible options. Stephen will attempt to consolidate this material and on that basis to consult with the RWOs.

7. Implementation of Assignments and Resolutions from Last Meeting

Jim Noble reported verbally on this matter. He used a reverse-reporting procedure, bringing to attention only items for which progress was slower than expected or which were stymied for whatever reason. Members remarked on the very good progress that had generally been achieved.

In response to a request for clarification about the Canada Foundation for Innovation, Jim explained that this was a new Federal program of capital funding to support research. A possible candidate item might be a research facility in Iqaluit; DIAND used to have such a facility here.

8. Environment Canada (CWS) Presentations/Decisions

8.A The *Canada Endangered Species Protection Act* (CESPA): Update

Kevin McCormick briefed Members on the status of legislation and related efforts to protect species at risk. Bill C-65, the *Canada Endangered Species Protection Act*, died on the Order Paper when the federal election was called in the spring of 1997. The Canadian Wildlife Ministers recently affirmed this as a matter of continuing priority, and identified a need to focus initially on moving forward with the National Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk. The Ministers acknowledged three aspects of the Bill as previously drafted that require attention: civil actions, transboundary species, and the relationship between the Ministers' Council and COSEWIC. An updated Bill will likely be introduced in the fall of 1998.

8.B Snow Goose Over-Population Issue

Kevin McCormick reminded Members that the focus of concern is the mid-continent population of Lesser Snow Geese. He indicated that one option being considered, albeit unlikely to have the potential for very significant impact, is to encourage a larger snow goose harvest in the Arctic.

Kevin reported that the 1997 surveys did indicate that the component of the population summering in the SW Hudson Bay area now seems to be declining, or at least stabilizing. Gordon Koshinsky asked how this could be reconciled with the fact that this area shows perhaps the greatest habitat destruction by geese in the Arctic. Kevin suggested some possible explanations:

- Time lags that are in different phases in different areas, or
- Combined impact of migrant and nesting geese in the southern reaches of the summer range.

8.C Migratory Birds Convention Amending Process

Kevin McCormick reminded Members that the Canadian incentive for amending the Convention derives in large part from the various Land Claims Agreements. The process has been proceeding according to a Protocol developed in 1995. Amendments endorsed by both countries include:

- Provisions for aboriginal persons having aboriginal or treaty rights to harvest migratory birds and their eggs throughout the year, and to offer such birds for barter, trade or sale within or between aboriginal communities as provided in particular treaties or agreements,
- Provisions for qualified non-aboriginal residents in areas of northern Canada, as permitted by particular agreements or treaties, to harvest migratory birds throughout the year, and

- Provision for the possibility of an earlier opening of the fall hunting season in northern Canada generally.

It still remains for the US President to sign off on the Protocol and for the two countries to exchange instruments of ratification. Canada will then need to make appropriate changes to legislation and regulations to bring the ratified new Convention into force. The USA is also amending its Migratory Birds Convention with Mexico and this may delay ratification of the new Convention between Canada and the USA. The process is on track, but once the Convention is amended it will still be necessary for CWS to bring its legislation and regulations in line to permit implementation. Certain challenges remain, such as defining “aboriginal community” with respect to trading and distribution of bird harvests. The Board agreed that it would be worthwhile to declare at the outset what amendments to legislation and regulations it would consider appropriate.

8.D Arctic Contaminants Program

Kevin McCormick advised that this Program has been extended at a level of \$6 million per year for the next five years.

9. Fisheries and Oceans (DFO): Presentations/Decisions

Note: No DFO representative was present at the meeting;
neither did the Department provide any briefing materials.

9.A Walrus Management: Regulatory Options

Dan Pike noted that at the August Board meeting DFO undertook to develop an options paper on this subject for the November meeting. It was not completed then, and has not been delivered yet.

9.B Beluga Live Capture Proposal

Dan Pike advised that DFO has received notice of a pending application for the live-capture and removal of five beluga whales from the Churchill area. Although the capture would take place in waters off Manitoba, the whales would be from the Western Hudson Bay stock and the application would thus be of some interest to the NWMB.

9.C Walrus Management Plan: Update

Dan Pike reminded Members that NWMB staff reviewed the draft plan that DFO tabled at the August Board meeting. DFO is awaiting response from Makivik before doing the next draft. Timing is now a matter of concern, since applications are already being received for sport hunting ventures this summer.

9.D Bowhead Hunt: Non-Quota Limitations

Dan Pike was unable to advise what DFO had in mind when they asked that this item be placed on the agenda for this Board meeting.

9.E Quota for Striped Pink Shrimp in the NSA: NWMB Final Decision

Dan Pike reviewed the recent history in the management of the northern shrimp and striped pink shrimp fisheries. In 1996 the DFO Minister established a new overall competitive quota of 3800 metric tonnes for striped pink shrimp for Shrimp Fishing Areas 2, 3 and 4. The NWMB then decided to establish a quota of 1000 metric tonnes for striped pink shrimp in NSA waters, and to limit participation in the NSA fishery to the three Inuit-owned companies. The Minister acted illegally when he varied this decision by making the NSA quota part of the overall competitive quota. This had and has the effect of forcing the fishery within the NSA to close if/when the competitive quota is reached. In 1997 the NWMB again decided to establish a 1000-tonne quota for striped pink shrimp in the NSA. This time the Minister rejected the NWMB decision. He proposed instead a temporary quota of 500 tonnes for the NSA. The uncertainty about quota levels may have contributed to there being no shrimp fishing within the NSA in 1997. There was also none in 1996.

As per instructions from the Board at the last meeting, Dan reported that he did consult with the industry and did develop options for the Board's consideration. Qikiqtaaluk Corporation expressed preference for a system that would allow flexibility to fish within the NSA when shrimp are abundant there, but would have the quota available outside the NSA when this is not the case. The Board then examined the three options that Dan set forth.

Comment: Replace with "allow"?

The Board made its final decision, in response to the Minister's rejection of the earlier decision, with respect to harvesting restrictions for striped pink shrimp in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The Board decided to establish a quota of 500 metric tonnes in the NSA for 1998 and ongoing, along with a total catch limit of 1000 metric tonnes. **(Resolution 98- 087)** This would provide certain access to 500 tonnes for allocation by the NWMB, plus potential access to an additional 500 tonnes to the same parties.

9.F Integrated Fishery Management Plan for Northern Shrimp

Dan Pike advised that DFO had responded to the critique by NWMB staff regarding DFO's draft Management Plan. Recognition of the NWMB role in the fishery was still inadequate, and this was again brought to the attention of the DFO Minister. The next version of the Plan is expected to arrive soon, for NWMB consideration and approval.

9.G Judicial Proceedings on Turbot: Review and Update

Michael d'Eça indicated that he considered it unlikely that the current DFO appeal, and more particularly the second judicial review, would be heard before it is necessary to establish the Davis Strait turbot quotas and allocations for 1998. He confirmed that Makivik Corporation was successful in its application to intervene in the DFO appeal, and is currently seeking approval to intervene in the second judicial review.

Discussion turned to what the NWMB could/should do at this point. Michael suggested that it was probably not worthwhile for the NWMB to seek to intervene directly in the DFO appeal, on the assumption that NTI, through their factum and other initiatives, will convey the same message that the Board would convey.

Michael recommended that the NWMB:

- Continue to work closely with NTI on this matter.
- Decide on the 1998 Total Allowable Catch for turbot in the NSA.
- Recommend to the Minister regarding 1998 turbot allocations in Davis Strait outside the NSA.
- Work pro-actively to improve the relationship with DFO.

With respect to trying to improve the relationship with DFO, the forthcoming visit of the Minister to Iqaluit and the anticipated Baffin tour by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries, were seen as key opportunities. Gordon Koshinsky reminded Members about the paper on this subject that he and Michael had started to draft but that had been put in abeyance.

Wednesday, 11 February 1998

10. GNWT Wildlife (RWED): Presentations/Decisions

10.A Peary Caribou Recovery Plan: Update

Stephen Atkinson reported that a draft framework for a co-management plan has been developed for Peary and other High-Arctic caribou. A three-day workshop is scheduled for Yellowknife at the end of this month, to provide input for the continuing development of this plan. It is hoped to formulate criteria for deciding when it would be appropriate to implement particular management interventions. It is still planned to conduct a full-scale caribou survey in the Eastern High Arctic this summer, along with a reconnaissance survey in the Western Queen Elizabeth Islands.

In response to questions, Stephen advised that:

- Greenland officials are informally receptive to the idea of trying to transplant Peary caribou to eastern Greenland. Caribou formerly inhabited the area under consideration, but hunters do not access the area at present. Work has started on documenting current environmental conditions.
- If the 1998 surveys find sufficient numbers of caribou, the most critical part of the problem will be deemed solved, at least for the present. One of the aims for the forthcoming workshop is to decide what would constitute "sufficient numbers".
- The draft co-management plan will likely be available for NWMB perusal in late spring, after the present round of community consultations. The plan will require NWMB approval.
- This will not be the same as the COSEWIC Recovery Plan, although the two documents will naturally have much in common.

10.B Muskox Management Area N/MX/13 (Kent Peninsula): Delineation

Joe Tigullaraq reported that the Kitikmeot Inuit Association has expressed dissatisfaction about the creation of a new and separate Muskox Management Area to encompass Kent Peninsula. The rationale for this initiative was to complement a process for tighter management and protection of Victoria Island caribou. These caribou are at a low ebb of abundance and they utilize Kent Peninsula extensively as winter range. The HTO at Cambridge Bay and also the RWO (KHTA) were involved throughout the development of this change, and have not expressed substantive concerns.

Makabe Nartok confirmed that KIA officials have stated that they want Kent Peninsula reincorporated with the rest of Bathurst Inlet for muskox management purposes. Kevin McCormick asked if there is a management issue here. Stephen Atkinson replied that there is none of which the Department is aware. The debate hinges on what agencies have authority and who should be consulted. Muskox harvesting has in fact not been affected. Isaac Klengenberg stated that the KHTA does not understand what the concern of the KIA is. Ben Kovic confirmed the primacy of the RWO/HTO in these types of wildlife management matters. He suggested that the KIA consult with the RWO if it has concerns of this nature.

10.C Polar Bear Handling Effects: Status Report

Stephen Atkinson reported that the Department has contracted Dr. Francois Messier at the University of Saskatchewan to conduct an analysis of all data that have been generated by all agencies since researchers began using Telazol as a tranquilizer in the mid 1980s. The report should be available by late summer. The analysis will encompass the full range of handling treatments, not just tranquilizers. The report will not provide highly definitive statements, but rather a basis for the NWMB to decide if a more work, perhaps by a third party, is required.

Makabe Nartok asked if the newest tranquilizers dissipate more quickly than those used previously. Stephen replied that this comparison is not yet possible because there are no field data for the newest drugs. Health and Welfare Canada declares the meat to be safe to eat after 12 months, but this surely incorporates a very large margin of safety.

10.D South Baffin Caribou Research Project: Status Report

Joe Tigullaraq tabled a synopsis of the research that has been conducted over the past 20 years. Much data yet remain to be analyzed and extensive community consultations will be needed for development of a management plan. The target for completion is April 1999, but competing priorities will probably force a delay.

Harry Flaherty expressed frustration about the protracted time to completion of this project. He urged that discrete components of the database be identified and dealt with in an organized manner. Stephen Atkinson observed that the work has a very substantial TEK component and there is not much precedent for analyzing and reporting results of this nature. Dan Pike drew attention to the maps on display that show some of the TEK data.

10.E North Baffin Caribou: Research Strategy

Joe Tigullaraq tabled a preliminary assessment of research priorities that was prepared by the Department in 1996 in consultation with the six pertinent communities. Joe reported that there is much local impetus to commence the actual studies but the Department has been unable to identify and allocate the necessary resources. One of the biggest concerns being expressed by the hunters centres on the incidence of *Brucellosis* which, at around 30%, is the highest known for any caribou population.

Dan Pike pointed out that a similar but not identical document was tabled by the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board on behalf of the North Baffin communities at the recent workshop on research priorities. He mentioned that he had anticipated that the document to be tabled at the present Board meeting would be oriented more to research plans than to research priorities

Comment: No, not correct. The document in question is a set of research priorities sent to us by the QWB on behalf of North Baffin communities. It is similar but not identical to the one presented. There is really something weird going on here. Apparently what happened is that RWED (ie. Mike) did consultations to develop research priorities, and produced the document tabled. At the same time, the RWO tabled one that they called their own, but which was primarily also written by Mike and had much the same content. Frankly, I don't get it.

10.F Polar Bear Mgmt Boundary: Taloyoak/Pelly Bay

Joe Tigullaraq reminded the Board, as had also been confirmed by Makabe Nartok, that the Taloyoak HTA had questioned the boundary between the Gulf of Boothia and M'Clintock Channel Polar Bear Management Areas. Community consultations were conducted (in which Makabe participated) in December. The HTA accepted the explanation that the Department provided, but did refuse to grant permission to use radio collars to study the matter further. With the issue thus resolved, it has been possible to scale back somewhat the scope and the cost of the polar bear research plan for this area.

10.G Conservation Education: Update

Steve Pinksen advised that the Department is rebuilding a conservation education capability. An education specialist will be hired very soon, to train field officers in their interactions with resource users, particularly in the context of the new legislation being prepared (see 10.H below). A second PY may also be allocated. The Department is very interested to develop a partnership with the NWMB for work in this area.

The Board agreed that Jim Noble should work with the Department on this initiative. Stephen Atkinson agreed to provide copies of the job descriptions.

10.H Wildlife Act Revisions: Update

Steve Pinksen advised that the Department has awarded a contract to the Canadian Institute of Resources Law at the University of Calgary to identify matters pertaining to the *Wildlife Act* that merit revision, either from the perspective of the NLCA or for other reasons. This report is expected by the end of March. The next step will be to produce a workplan for actually developing the new Act. It is hoped to have a good draft of the new Act by the end of the calendar year. The Department does not anticipate a single two-part Act, but believes that the legislation for the two Territories (NWT and Nunavut) will be completely separate.

The Board urged that the Department work on this initiative with its co-management partners on an incremental basis. In other words, it will be more productive to obtain input in respect to individual stages and sections rather than drafting the initial version unilaterally.

10.I Quota for Kane Basin Polar Bears: NWMB Final Decision

Dan Pike reviewed the history pertinent to this issue, including the sequence of management decisions. He advised that as the outcome of a recent conference call, the Iviq HTA at Grise Fiord agreed to accept a quota of one polar bear from the Kane Basin population for 1997/98. The HTA also expects that a new management agreement will be negotiated for the following (1998/99) season. It now remains for the Board to render its final decision.

The Board decided to reduce the Grise Fjord quota of polar bears from the Kane Basin population to one bear for the 1997/98 hunting season. **(Resolution 98-088)**

10.J Traditional Polar Bear Hunt Proposal: Coral Harbour

Dan Pike reviewed the extensive file on this matter. He also tabled some new information besides own his briefing note, specifically:

- A project description prepared by the filming proponent
- A preliminary opinion from the NWMB Legal Advisor on the general subject of liability.

On the basis of his analysis of the available information Dan concluded that:

- There is no conservation issue. The hunt would be integral to the Coral Harbour polar bear quota for Foxe Basin.
- The hunt would not be legal under the *Wildlife Act* as it stands. The Act does not provide for use of equipment of the type proposed, presumably out of concern for humane killing and/or public safety.
- The *Wildlife Act* as it stands is relevant. While NLCA 5.7.42 does authorize an Inuk to employ any type, method or technology to harvest, this is only to the extent that this “does not conflict with laws of general application regarding humane killing of wildlife, public safety and firearms control”.

- The Board also has its own authority, under NLCA 5.3.3(c), to restrict or limit Inuit harvesting “to the extent necessary...to provide for...public safety”.
- The Board nonetheless may decide that there is no reasonable issue of humane killing or public safety in the hunt as proposed or modified. In that case the Board would have the authority to approve the hunt and the GNWT would have to make the appropriate legal provision, subject of course to the final authority of the Minister. A key issue is how the hunt would be perceived, especially if it is to be filmed, in southern Canadian and international circles. The proponent anticipates wide-ranging public and educational benefits; others are not so sure. In reality, however, this is probably not an issue that the Board has a mandate to seriously take into account.

Following from these conclusions, Dan suggested that if the Board did approve the hunt, the Board should consider:

- Striving to designate it as a special one-time event.
- Setting a number of operational conditions.

On the matter of liability, Michael d'Eça advised that while recourse to suing the Board in the event of an accident or injury would be difficult and unlikely, it could nonetheless not be ruled out completely. The Board's key defences would rest in having acted in good faith as per NLCA 5.2.39, and in having made what is known in law as a “policy decision,” assuming it could so demonstrate. Michael also suggested a number of conditions if the hunt were to proceed. In addition, he suggested that once the precedent was set it would be very difficult to confine such a hunt to a one-time event. Any other beneficiaries with the same qualifications who came forward with a similar proposal in future would justifiably have to be found eligible.

Gordon Koshinsky proposed obtaining a very complete inventory of the proponent's qualifications, with a view to disqualifying other/future applicants by way of comparison. It might also be reasonable to require certification of medical fitness. Harry Flaherty and Pauloosie Keyootak did not consider the hunt as it was proposed to be particularly risky, but wondered whether Inuit interests overall would benefit or be harmed by it. Ben Kovic noted that the proponent had declared his willingness to assume accountability. Could he be held accountable if Inuit interests were harmed? Michael d'Eça indicated that he might have a moral liability, but nothing more than that.

Kevin McCormick suggested that the film message could be portrayed without any actual footage of a/the kill. If such footage did come into existence, then Kevin felt that he could safely predict that it would eventually be used to the detriment of Inuit interests.

Ben Kovic questioned if a hunt that had benefit of back-up personnel with rifles could properly be interpreted as traditional. A traditional polar bear hunt according to his (Ben's) father involved hiding among the sled dogs to deceive the bear, then killing the bear with a snow knife. Gordon Koshinsky asked if it was traditional to hunt polar bears with harpoons, 30-foot spears, and tethering lines as was indicated in the proposal. Ben noted that the proponent spoke of trying to revive the traditional hunting tradition, but at the same time identified this as a one-time occasion. This seems not to be a consistent perspective.

Members expressed a desire for more time to consider the proposal and to obtain the reaction of the communities. It was decided to ask staff to request the RWOs to approach the HTOs on the subject, and particularly to obtain input on the matter of hunting techniques and the implications of filming.

10.K Commercial Caribou Quota: Qamanirjuaq Herd

Dan Pike advised that the Beverly/Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board had concurred with the earlier tentative decision of the NWMB to increase the Arviat commercial caribou quota from the Qamanirjuaq herd to 220 animals. The NWMB decision has accordingly been conveyed to the RWED Minister.

10.L Arctic Charr Development Proposal

Joe Tigullaraq reminded the Board of the proposal that was brought forward earlier by Icy Waters International to develop a superior strain of Arctic charr and commercialize the progeny for aquaculture purposes. As per instructions from the NWMB, the firm has continued consulting on the proposal with potentially participating communities. Clyde River has declined to participate in such discussions, and the firm has now set its sights on Pond Inlet. In response to ongoing concerns about potential negative effects of charr culture on the wild-fish fisheries, the Department commissioned a consultant to review the matter. Joe tabled the consultant's report.

Gordon Koshinsky reviewed the Board's earlier response to this proposal, as embodied in NWMB Resolution 98-032. He stressed that the Board was not interested just to see predictions, no matter how convincing they might sound, that Arctic charr culture posed no threat to the wild-fish fisheries. The Board wanted to see an examination of the possibilities for integrating the two kinds of operations for the potential benefit of both. The key aspect of such an examination would be in the areas of customer satisfaction and product marketing. It is theorized that there is a body of consumers who prefer the wild-fish product, and are willing to pay extra to get it, but who tend to forget about the existence of this product during the intervals when no wild charr of suitable quality are made available in stores.

11. NWMB Internal Items: Presentations / Decisions

11.A Harvest Study: Update

Dan Pike presented Johnny McPherson's briefing report on Johnny's behalf. A new Data Entry Clerk had been hired for the Kitikmeot Region, two Field Workers were recently replaced in the Keewatin, and an extra Field Worker was hired for Iqaluit. More promotional work is being done. Dan referred Members to the transcript of a recent interview by Johnny on CBC Radio. A full-page ad was placed in "Above and Beyond" magazine. It is intended to convene the new Harvest Study Committee for the first time in conjunction with the forthcoming Special Meeting of the Board in Iqaluit.

Dan indicated that Johnny has been doing an excellent job as Harvest Study Co-ordinator. The intention is to extend his term for the duration of the Study.

Dan presented the 1998/99 budget estimates for the Harvest Study. The amount identified for 1998/99 is \$1,330,605. The projected total expenditure to the end of the Study in 2002 is \$7,152,278, or about 3% less than what has been set aside.

David Tagoona reported that the Field Worker at Baker Lake is having a difficult time obtaining locational data from hunters because the maps being used do not have Inuktitut place names.

11.B Inuit Bowhead Knowledge Study: Update

Dan Pike presented Keith Hay's briefing material on Keith's behalf. All the data collection and treatment is finished except for a small amount of map digitizing that is out on contract. Keith is writing the report but he has been ill and will not make his first-draft target of March 31.

Dan presented a preliminary 1998/99 budget estimate to complete the Inuit Bowhead Knowledge Study. The amount identified is \$66,600 to the end of July. This estimate will be exceeded to the extent that slippage develops in the completion date for the final report. Printing costs have probably been underestimated as well.

11.C Southeast Baffin Beluga TEK Study: Update

Dan Pike advised that all deliverables have now been received from the consultant. Keith Hay is reviewing the report. The intent is to publish it using NWMB funds allocated to Wildlife Conservation Education.

11.D Southeast Baffin Beluga Management Committee: Update

Dan Pike tabled the report from the last meeting of the Committee in December, along with related materials. Highlights included:

- Discussion about beluga entrapments in Cumberland Sound last summer. A request was reiterated to DFO and the HTA to develop an action plan to deal with these recurring events.
- Presentation by Peter Kilabuk of the Traditional Knowledge Study.
- Acknowledgment by community representatives that the recently-printed Information Pamphlets are being well received.
- Frustration about the eroding presence of DFO trained staff in the area.
- Confirmation that all tasks identified by the Committee in its research plan for 1997 were addressed.
- Commitment by DFO (Pierre Richard) to present the results of all DNA analyses by June 1998.

The Committee developed three research recommendations for the consideration of the Board:

- That another attempt be made to satellite-tag beluga in 1998, subject to the endorsement of the HTA.
- That the population survey be postponed until 1999.
- That sampling of harvested whales cease pending completion by DFO of sample analyses yet outstanding.

The Committee developed three management recommendations for the consideration of the Board:

- That the NWMB fund publication of the Traditional Knowledge Study.
- That the NWMB, in cooperation with the HTAs, lead in the development of materials for teaching (especially young) hunters proper techniques.
- That the NWMB provide guidance and encouragement to the HTAs in the development and enforcement of local by-laws.

Ben Kovic noted that availability and distribution of beluga sampling kits is often used as a mechanism to control the harvest. He wondered if cessation of sampling would jeopardize this. Dan observed that Pangnirtung is really the only community that uses this method. It would be up to the HTA and DFO to work out an alternative quota-monitoring system.

Gordon Koshinsky noted that the Southeast Baffin Beluga Co-Management Plan called for further hunting restrictions if the population was not shown to have increased by 1998. Postponing the 1998 survey would prevent any such demonstration. Dan replied that it may be necessary to extend the existing provisions for an additional year. It makes more sense to do the tagging first as a

way to assist the survey planning, and the two operations cannot realistically be done in the same year.

The Inuvialuit experience was cited as a possible model for developing local hunting by-laws in the Southeast Baffin. Kevin McCormick confirmed that the Inuvialuit Final Agreement makes provision for this, but in actual practice such by-laws are run through the RWED system and emerge as GNWT regulations. Dan Pike observed that any organization can make “rules” applying to its members that it enforces internally. Michael d’Eça stated that, under the NLCA, if the intent is to develop “rules” that apply to the public generally, and that are to be enforced by a Resource Officer, then the HTA would need to convince the NWMB to formally establish such rules. Under the NLCA, only NWMB decisions can be made into federal or territorial regulations that control quotas or non-quota limitations.

Comment: Not really. Like any other “club”, an HTA can and does have bylaws. They can be enforced by whatever means are available, usually withdrawing the privileges of the “club”. It is only when they want the rules to be enforced by a peace officer (with a gun in this case) that regulations need be made.

The Board decided to accept the six recommendations brought forward by the Southeast Baffin Beluga Management Committee from its December meeting in Kimmirut. **(Resolution 98-089)**

11.E NWMB Resource Centre: Update

Dan Pike reported on behalf of Rebecca Mike that L&B Consulting was contracted to develop a filing system for information that will be shared electronically by NWMB, RWED, DFO and CWS. The four agencies will each maintain their own material collections. The second component of the Resource Centre will be a stock database, designated the Nunavut Wildlife Stock Information System. This database will incorporate information for each species pertaining to life history, stock delineation, vital rates, harvest, research, management, traditional knowledge, and literature. RWED is taking the lead in developing this database, but the other two government agencies intend to participate as full partners. A challenge for the future will be to obtain the participation of the other IPGs under the NLCA.

11.F NWMB General By-law: Update

Michael d’Eça advised that he had made the changes that the Board had identified with respect to his earlier draft, along with some other ones on his own initiative. He then elaborated the major new changes, including:

- The addition of two new items under “Objects of the NWMB”.
- The addition of a new section defining the basis of removal for cause.
- A declaration to the effect that members are not representatives of their appointing agencies.
- Provision for passing resolutions in writing.

- Clarification of provisions for signing authorities to execute documents.

The Board assigned the Executive Director to work with Michael to ensure that all the minutiae of the by-law are in conformity with the Board's actual practice or vice-versa. Michael was also assigned to:

- Confirm that the DIOs have the same understanding about the terms of office of replacement members as do the government agencies.
- Soften the item pertaining to disclosure of salaries in the annual report.

11.G NWMB Public Hearing Process: Update

Michael d'Eça reminded Members that the Board's draft "Rules of Practice for Public Hearings" was distributed for comment to a number of agencies recently. The other IPGs have directed their legal advisors to examine the document with a view to standardizing procedures as much as possible. Michael applauded this intention. He predicted that lack of commitment to date by the federal government to provide intervenor funding will be a matter of common concern.

The Board assigned Michael to acknowledge on behalf of the Board the responses received to date, to follow up with phone calls as he might consider appropriate, and to amend the current draft in light of this interaction as he considered beneficial. The Board will be prepared to review the matter further at the next Board meeting.

11.H Nunavut Marine Council: Update

Michael d'Eça reviewed the history leading up to the Board's decision not to actively involve itself in the formation of a Nunavut Marine Council until there was opportunity for further discussion with the other IPGs in particular. The matter was subsequently discussed at the IPGs' meeting in December, where NIRB tabled a proposal. Michael provided a review and response whereupon NIRB circulated another draft. Comments were again provided, this time by Michael in concert with Gordon Koshinsky. There has been no reply to date. It has not been made clear how an NMC would provide a basis for increasing the effectiveness or adding value to what the NWMB can already do.

Ben Kovic advised that the other IPGs are meeting in Yellowknife this week. They have been in telephone contact with the NWMB's Executive Director and Legal Advisor to urge the NWMB to decide in favour of supporting their initiative. They have just sent (by Fax) a draft outline for an MOU to underpin the establishment of an NMC. They would like to meet with the NWMB to discuss this matter further, and have suggested April in Iqaluit.

Jim Noble explained that the other IPGs see a relatively urgent need to respond to marine initiatives, such as the one pertaining to Marine Protected Areas, that the federal government has recently put in motion. They believe that a joint response from all the IPGs (as per an NMC) would be most effective. They propose that the IPGs acting together should hire someone on contract to begin developing such a response.

Kevin McCormick suggested that the next communication of the NWMB to the other IPGs should be framed as a set of questions designed to establish more precisely what they envision that an NMC would do that cannot be done already, especially with reference to the NWMB mandate. Kevin disputed the contention that a single voice would carry more weight than a number of co-ordinated voices speaking to a particular issue. Gordon Koshinsky expressed disappointment that the other IPGs seem to be stepping up their pressure on the Board in this matter while failing to even acknowledge the Board's substantial response to the material that they circulated in December.

The Board decided to invite the other IPGs to meet with the NWMB in conjunction with the Special Board Meeting planned for March or, if that is not convenient, in conjunction with the next Regular Board Meeting in May. In preparation for such a meeting the Board will develop and forward a detailed draft agenda. The Board will also withhold participation in interim contracting for assistance to further the aims of an NMC until such time as those aims are clarified and agreed.

11.I Developing Qualifications for Big-Game Hunting Guides: Update

Jim Noble advised that two proposals were received in response to the Board's published request. It was agreed that Harry Flaherty and Kevin McCormick, along with Dan Pike, would assist Jim to select which firm to contract with a view to proceeding immediately.

11.J Implementation of NWMB Strategic Plan: Update

Jim Noble made reference to progress made and items underway since his last update, as indicated in bold on the briefing document.

Kevin McCormick drew attention to item 2.1, citing the need in his view for a policy paper on the relationship among the NWMB and the RWOs/HTOs as partners in wildlife management. Jim Noble referred to ongoing efforts of the Board through himself to assist and encourage the RWOs toward better financial and administrative practices. Such work is much needed, yet it could be construed as intervention by an IPG in the affairs of Inuit organizations.

Discussion then shifted to Section 3: Defining relationships with government agencies. Gordon Koshinsky acknowledged that there has been no recent progress on drafting the paper to formalize the basis for the relationship between NWMB and DFO. The consensus of the Members was that it would be useful if this task were completed but that the outcome of the current litigation between NTI and DFO could be a factor. Dan Pike reported that DFO staff continue to express enthusiasm to see the paper completed. When finished it might also serve as something of a template for similar clarifications respecting the other government departments with which the NWMB interacts.

Thursday, 12 February 1998

Ben Kovic reconvened the meeting at 08:40 a.m.

Executive Committee Report and Recommendations

Gordon Koshinsky reported to the Board in his capacity as Chairperson of the Executive Committee. Gordon explained that the Executive Committee met on Tuesday evening February 10 and developed a number of recommendations for the Board. Gordon circulated copies of the draft Minutes of that meeting as a means of streamlining the Board's present deliberations. Matters discussed and decisions made by the Board were as follows:

- **Executive Committee Terms of Reference:** Gordon tabled the Terms of Reference as developed by the Executive Committee. The Board decided that these Terms of Reference be adopted. **(Resolution 98- 090)**
- **Responsibility of NWMB Members to their Appointing Agencies:** Gordon advised that the Executive Committee had reviewed a treatment of this subject that had been developed by the Board's Legal Advisor. This treatment was in the form of a draft letter from the Board to the appointing agencies. The Committee had decided to recommend to the Board that this treatment be modified for inclusion in the Board's Operating Procedures Manual, and that it be given opportunity to "mature" in that form before being sent out as a formal letter. The Board agreed that this was an appropriate approach.
- **Signing Authority for Financial Documents:** Gordon Koshinsky explained that the departure of Pierre Chartrand left the NWMB office short by one signing authority for routine financial matters. The Board decided, on the recommendation of the Committee, to confirm Harry Flaherty as an interim signing authority for financial documents until the position of Director, Finance and Administration is filled. **(Resolution 98- 091)**

- **Salary Adjustments for Departing Employees:** Gordon advised the Board that Pierre Chartrand, on a previous recommendation of the Executive Committee, had been paid a performance bonus for his period of service with the Board in 1997/98 at the same rate as he was rewarded for performance the previous year. The rationale was that Pierre's performance had not obviously deteriorated, but he was without ordinary recourse because he left shortly before the annual appraisal exercise. The Board establishes performance bonuses on the basis of the annual appraisal results. Gordon suggested that while it would be appropriate and was indeed probably necessary for the Board to formally confirm what had been done in this instance, the Committee had come to the view that this should not be standard procedure in future. The Board decided as follows:
 - To approve the payment of a performance bonus to Pierre Chartrand for his period of service to the Board in 1997/98 and as recommended by the Executive Committee. **(Resolution 98- 092)**
 - To adopt a policy of not paying performance bonuses to outgoing employees in future, for periods of less than a full year worked. **(Resolution 98- 093)**
- **Staffing Director of Finance and Administration Position:** Gordon advised the Board of the Executive Committee's recommendation that Jim Noble, Meeka Mike and one external participant (to be arranged) constitute a screening and selection committee for purposes of this staffing action. The Board concurred with this recommendation
- **Nomination for Appointment as NWMB Chairperson:** Gordon advised the Board that the Executive Committee had taken notice of the impending expiry of the term of appointment of the current Chairperson Ben Kovic. The Committee recommended, and the Board agreed, to consider this matter further at an *in-camera* session at the end of the current Meeting.

On an earlier matter, Harry Flaherty sought confirmation that the third-party contract arrangement regarding reimbursement of the regular employer that was recently developed in the case of NWMB, Kevin McCormick and Environment Canada, could be adapted to other comparable situations. Michael d'Eça assured Harry that such was the intention, and that indeed it could be adapted.

12. Applications for NWMB Funding: Reviews and Decisions

12.A Requests for Donations

Jim Noble referred the Board to the three requests for donations that were on the agenda for consideration.

12.A.1 QWB: Bowhead Whale Hunt Planning Committee

The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board is requesting \$26,071 to assist with two meetings of the Bowhead Whale Hunt Planning Committee.

Discussion turned to the Committee membership and workplan, or lack thereof. David Tagoona suggested that it would be best to restrict formal participation to enable local hunters to be clearly predominant in the planning activities. Makabe Nartok agreed that local and regional participation is all that is warranted. Ben Kovic cited public opinion that Pangnirtung community, with general guidance from the RWO, should plan and organize the hunt. Joan Scottie expressed confidence that the Pangnirtung HTA had the expertise to make all the necessary arrangements. Gordon Koshinsky echoed Ben's observations and wondered if a special Planning Committee was even necessary. No agenda or workplan has been provided, and unless it is very clear at the outset what the Committee is supposed to do there is a danger of it becoming a distraction and a diversion rather than a positive influence. Kevin McCormick called for the development of a checklist of things to be accomplished in the planning process.

Jim Noble wondered if restricting participation on the Committee to persons from Baffin Region would make it more difficult to obtain loans of equipment or funding support from the other Regions. The consensus was that other Regions can and must be kept informed about hunt planning development, but that this can be adequately and perhaps better achieved by means other than bringing representatives to meetings. Ben Kovic expressed confidence that Regions and communities outside the Baffin would provide tangible assistance if requested, provided that they were kept informed.

Michael d'Eça urged that attention be directed as soon as possible to identifying those aspects of the hunt plan that pertain to methodology. Anything that can be considered to be a non-quota limitation will need to be considered and decided by the Board and then submitted to the Minister. This in itself is invariably a time-consuming process.

The Board decided to assign Jim Noble to discuss its concerns with the Executive Director of the QWB and to invite a scaled-down re-submission.

12.A.2 QWB: World Council of Whalers Meeting

The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board is requesting \$10,555 to enable its Executive Director and an Executive Committee member to attend the General Assembly of the World Council of Whalers in Victoria in March.

Jim Noble noted that Levi Evic attended the inaugural meeting of this organization in Berkeley a year ago. The Council has a political rather than a managerial orientation. It might be useful to be aligned with this Council in preparation for the forthcoming bowhead hunt. NTI has also been invited to the meeting and they have requested the advice of the NWMB on whether they should attend.

Gordon Koshinsky suggested that the Council appeared particularly well oriented to the mandate and interests of NTI, and that NTI's participation should be encouraged. The QWB proposal is a bit troublesome for the NWMB because of the lack of management orientation and because whaling issues in the NSA are not confined to the Baffin Region. Harry Flaherty suggested that it might be more appropriate to send a member of the Pangnirtung HTA than to send officials from the QWB.

The Board decided to approve the request in principle, but instructed the Executive Director to negotiate with QWB and NTI in an effort to address the Board's concerns and if possible to reduce the Board's financial exposure. **(Resolution 98-094)**

12.A.3 NIC: Abilities Conference

The Nunavut Implementation Commission is sponsoring a conference to examine issues of concern to persons with disabilities. The conference is scheduled for Iqaluit in mid March, and funding support is requested.

Members were generally sympathetic to the concept of such a conference, but struggled somewhat to deduce points of relevance to the mandate of the Board. David Tagoona noted that handicapped people can and often do play vital roles in the disposition of the catch: skinning, butchering, cooking, sewing etc. Michael d'Eça pointed out that the concerns of disabled persons wishing to assign their harvesting rights would be a concrete point of interaction with the NWMB.

The Board decided to provide a donation of \$5,000 to assist with the costs of the Abilities Conference, and to suggest wildlife-related topics for possible inclusion in the agenda. **(Resolution 98-095)**

13. Other Presentations

13.A KHTA Report

Isaac Klengenberg, President of the Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association (RWO) at Kugluktuk, tabled his report of 14 January 1998. He noted that while problems persist, the overall status and outlook of the organization has greatly

improved over the past year. The local (Gjoa Haven) HTO is currently in the worst situation, being apparently overspent by \$16,000. Training remains an urgent requirement.

Todd Roche, Regional Liaison Officer also based at Kugluktuk, provided an update on training initiatives underway or planned. He advised that “Board Development Workshops” are soon to commence, and administrative manuals are being updated.

14. Meetings, Workshops and Other Pertinent Events

14.A Reports and Briefings: Past Events

Jim Noble referred the Members to the notes in the briefing material. There were no requests for elaboration and there were no comments.

14.B Review and Participation: Upcoming Events

Jim Noble led the Board through the tabulation of forthcoming items as at January 30, with additions. The following decisions were reached with respect to attendance:

- Peary Caribou Recovery Planning Wkshp, February 27: Harry to attend
- Polar Bear Tech Comm Mtg, February 15-17: Dan and Harry to attend
- Fed/Prov Atlantic Fisheries Wrkg Group, February 19-20: Ray to attend
- Keewatin Wildlife Federation AGM, February 23-25: Jim to attend

It was also explicitly decided and/or recognized that:

- No NWMB representative would attend the World Council of Whalers meeting on March 2-4.
- It would not be possible for Ben to attend the DFO Science Advisory Council meeting on March 12-13 on account of the conflict with the Board's Special Meeting No. 7. It was agreed that Ben should contact Kathryn Bruce to enquire if there was any possibility of changing the meeting date.

15. New List of Assignments

Jim Noble announced that the list of assignments arising from this meeting would be completed and distributed within the next couple of days.

In-Camera Session

The Board decided to go *in-camera* to consider the matter of making a nomination for the position of Chairperson. Resolutions were passed in connection with this session as follows:

- To go *in-camera*: **(Resolution 98- 096)**
- To close the *in-camera* session: **(Resolution 98- 097)**
- To nominate Ben Kovic for re-appointment as NWMB Chairperson, to take effect when his current term expires: **(Resolution 98- 098)**

16. Date and Location of Next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next (18th) regular meeting of the NWMB at Broughton Island the week of 11-15 May 1998. **(Resolution 98- 099)**

17. Adjournment

The 17th meeting of the NWMB adjourned at 12:00 noon. **(Resolution 98- 100)**

Minutes Approved by: _____
Chairperson Date

Document updated (GK) 08 February 1999

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLUTIONS: MEETING No. 17

Gjoa Haven, 10-12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 082

Resolved that the agenda for NWMB Meeting No. 17 be accepted as presented.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty Seconded by: Pauloosie Keyootak
Carried Date: 10 February 1998

Resolution 98- 083

Resolved that the minutes for NWMB Meeting No. 16 conducted at Coral Harbour in November 1997 be adopted as amended.

Moved by: Makabe Nartok Seconded by: Joan Scottie
Carried Date: 10 February 1998

Resolution 98- 084

Resolved that the minutes for NWMB Conference Call No. 35 conducted on 19 December 1997 be adopted as presented.

Moved by: David Tagoona Seconded by: Makabe Nartok
Carried Date: 10 February 1998

Resolution 98- 085

Resolved that the interim financial report as at 31 December 1997 be accepted as presented, and further that financial reports henceforth include an explanation of any significant variances.

Moved by: Gordon Koshinsky Seconded by: Harry Flaherty
Carried Date: 10 February 1998

Resolution 98- 086

Resolved that the NWMB operating budget for 1998/99 be accepted in the total amount of \$4,938,620, with the inclusion of a line item for Public Hearings in the amount of \$100,000.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Harry Flaherty
Carried Date: 10 February 1998

Resolution 98- 087

Resolved that for the 1998 fishery for striped pink shrimp in the Nunavut Settlement Area, the NWMB:

- Establish a quota of 500 metric tonnes; and
- Establish a total catch limit of 1000 metric tonnes.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty Seconded by: Meeka Mike
Carried Date: 10 February 1998

Resolution 98- 088

Resolved that the NWMB reduce the Grise Fiord quota of polar bears from the Kane Basin population to one bear for the 1997/98 hunting season, on the understanding that the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development will negotiate a new MOU for polar bear management with the Aiviit HTA prior to the 1998/99 hunting season.

Moved by: Gordon Koshinsky Seconded by: Harry Flaherty
Carried Date: 11 February 1998

Resolution 98- 089

Resolved that the NWMB approve and adopt the recommendations developed by the Southeast Baffin Beluga Management Committee at its December meeting, in summary that:

- Biological sampling of harvested beluga to be discontinued until existing samples are fully analyzed and reported.
- The beluga tagging program in Cumberland Sound to be attempted again in 1998, subject to approval of the Pangnirtung HTA.
- Beluga population surveys to be delayed until 1999.
- The NWMB to publish the results of the Traditional Knowledge Study.

- The NWMB to take the lead in developing educational materials to teach hunting methods.
- The NWMB to provide guidance to the HTAs on making and enforcing local by-laws to control aspects of the hunt.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Meeka Mike
Carried Date: 11 February 1998

Resolution 98- 090

Resolved that the NWMB adopt the revised Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty Seconded by: Pauloosie Keyootak
Carried Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 091

Resolved that the NWMB designate Harry Flaherty as a signing authority for financial documents on behalf of the NWMB until staffing is completed for the vacant position of Director, Finance and Administration.

Moved by: Makabe Nartok Seconded by: Pauloosie Keyootak
Carried One abstention (Harry Flaherty) Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 092

Resolved that the NWMB approve the payment of a performance bonus of 3.39% to Pierre Chartrand for the fiscal year 1997/98 up to the effective date of his resignation, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: David Tagoona
Carried Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 093

Resolved that the NWMB adopt a policy of not paying performance bonuses to employees upon resignation in future, for periods of less than one year worked.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Harry Flaherty

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 094

Resolved that the NWMB approve in principle a grant in the amount of \$10,500 to the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board to send two delegates to the forthcoming meeting of the World Council of Whalers in Victoria, but that the Executive Director work with QWB and NTI in an effort to rationalize attendance at this meeting and to reduce the Board's financial exposure.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty

Seconded by: Pauloosie Keyootak

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 095

Resolved that the NWMB provide a donation in the amount of \$5,000 to assist with the costs of an Abilities Conference to be held in Iqaluit in March; and

That the NWMB provide suggestions to the Conference organizers on wildlife-related topics for possible inclusion in the Conference agenda.

Moved by: David Tagoona

Seconded by: Meeka Mike

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 096

Resolved that the NWMB meet *in-camera*.

Moved by: Meeka Mike

Seconded by: Kevin McCormick

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 097

Resolved that the *in-camera* session be closed.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick

Seconded by: Joan Scottie

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 098

Resolved that the NWMB nominates Ben Kovic for re-appointment to the position of Chairperson of the NWMB, effective when Mr. Kovic's current term expires.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick

Seconded by: Joan Scottie

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 099

Resolved that the next (18th) regular Meeting of the NWMB be conducted in Broughton Island the week of 11 to 15 May 1998.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty

Seconded by: Pauloosie Keyootak

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998

Resolution 98- 100

Resolved that the 17th Meeting of the NWMB be adjourned.

Moved by: Pauloosie Keyootak

Seconded by: Meeka Mike

Carried

Date: 12 February 1998