

SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD

BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 3-6, 1997

FORT GOOD HOPE

MINUTES

Location: Lower HTA boardroom, Fort Good Hope

Present:

Winter Lennie	Chairperson	George Low	DFO
George Barnaby	Board Member	Alasdair Veitch	RWED
Russell Hall	Board Member	Ross Hagen	RWED
Paul Latour	Board Member	Don Vincent	RWED
Gerry LePrieur	Board Member	Doug Doan	RWED
Ruby McDonald	Attn. Member		
Leonard Kenny	Attn. Alt. Member		
Robert Nowosad	Executive Director		

Monday, February 3, 3:15pm

1. Call to order - Chairperson, Winter Lennie called the Board Meeting to order.
2. Introduction of acting Members, Alternates and guests - Winter Lennie introduced the new acting Member, Ruby McDonald, acting Alternate Member, Leonard Kenny as well as the visiting guests Doug Doan, Don Vincent, Ross Hagen and Alasdair Veitch. (Later arrivals included George Low and Doug Chiperzak of DFO.)
3. Review and acceptance of agenda - The Board was advised that Doug Doan was attending on behalf of Andrew Gamble and wished to discuss the new Protected Area Strategy. The Agenda was adjusted to accommodate his presentation as item number 14a. The Board was also advised that representation from DFO would be arriving later in the week with their presentation schedule as item 31a on the Agenda.
SRRB 40-1997: Motion to approve the Agenda as amended - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried
4. Review and acceptance of Minutes of the previous meeting Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 1996 -
SRRB 41-1997: Motion to approve the Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 1996 Minutes - moved by Russ Hall, seconded by Gerry LePrieur. Carried
5. Business arising from the Minutes - The Executive Director provided a quick review of the Action Items outlined in the Minutes of the previous meeting indicating that several of the items would be dealt with in detail during the present meeting.

6. SRRB Members and Alternates update - Winter Lennie advised the Board as to the current status of the Board's membership. Ottawa has yet to approve the latest recommendations for Board membership however failing some unforeseen difficulties the Board should have full membership in time for the next Board meeting.
7. Agency updates - Presentations dealing with agency updates were postponed until the evening session so that the Fort Good Hope Renewable Resources Board might attend.
8. Land Claims Implementation Coordinator - Ruby McDonald outlined her new position with SSI in which she will coordinate the land claim package and take it out to the communities, work with the community land corporations and work with all the Boards to ensure they are working the way they are expected to function in accordance with the claim.
9. RWED, Implementation Coordinator - Ross Hagen outlined his new position as the RWED Implementation Coordinator, his main duties involving liaison work between the Boards and the GNWT. Ross also outlined two summer fisheries projects the first involving the sounding of Kelly Lake, the second dealing with the transplanting of adult Pickerel into Jack Fish Lake.
10. Meeting with the Fort Good Hope Renewable Resources Council - Gerry LePrieur delivered a presentation to the combined group, the Fort Good Hope RRC and the Board, dealing with fur trapping, the 1997 outlook and the international issue of using leg hold traps versus more humane traps. Paul Latour spoke on the use of lead shot and the new regulations to ban it's use as of this fall's hunting season. A question and answer period followed the presentations.

The Fort Good Hope Renewable Resources Council presented the Board with a letter outlining ten of the RRC's present resource management concerns. Discussion followed however, due to the late evening hour review of several items was postponed until the following day.

Tuesday, February 4, 1997 - 9:00am

11. Sahtu Land Claim overview and budget - Don Vincent outlined his major responsibilities and duties dealing with all land claims, not just the Sahtu Claim. He also outlined the Department's current claims budget providing and overview of anticipated expenditures during the 1997/98 fiscal year. Don suggested that the Board attempt to manage it's annual expenditures such that it eliminated any year end surpluses, a point that would become especially critical in the final year of the current five year contribution agreement as it was his understanding that the Federal Government would recover all year end surpluses.

12. Financial status report, 1996-1997 - The Executive Director indicated that the 1996-1997 projected budget had been reduced with the remaining available funds re-profiled to the 1997-1998 fiscal year. (interim financial report circulated) The current account balance as of January 31, 1997 was projected to be sufficient to maintain Board operations until fiscal year end without providing a surplus.
13. Harvest Study Funds & Wildlife Study Funds - The Executive Director indicated that the Harvest Study Funds would be accessed as of the start of the new fiscal year and would be incorporated into the Board's core funding as a separate revenue line item. Transfer of the Wildlife Study Funds from the lawyer's trust account would be undertaken once Federal approval of the Board's new Membership had been confirmed. The Funds would then be invested with Wood Gundy in accordance with the previously approved plan.
14. Draft Budget 1997-1998 - The Executive Director circulated a Draft 1997-1998 Budget for review and comment. Revisions of the Draft were to be dealt with under Agenda item #27.
- 14a. Protected Area strategy - Doug Doan provided an overview of the GWNT Protected Area Strategy, the background that led up to the present plan and an outline of the future planning process. He indicated that a key step in that planning process would be the Inuvik, Protected Area Strategy Conference planned for March 4-6, 1997. Doug also spoke on the Endangered Species Act, C-65 indicating that RWED has some serious reservations about the contents of the Act especially Section 3 pertaining to the management of endangered species.
15. SRRB/RWED supported research - Alasdair Veitch provided the Board with an update of the current status of SRRB/RWED funded projects. The GIS project was on schedule and the Muskox Survey project would begin mid March. Alasdair also updated the Board on developments associated with other research projects he and his staff were undertaking in the Sahtu area.
16. Financial assistance requests for research during 1997-1998 - Alasdair Veitch presented five research proposals to the Board, all requiring funding assistance. Two of the proposals dealt with Bluenose Caribou Herd Range Use and Herd Definition, a third pertained to Winter Distribution of the Bathurst Caribou Herd, project four dealt with Dall's Sheep Surveys in the Mackenzie Mountains and the GIS program was research project number five. The Board accepted the research funding requests for later review and discussion.
10. (continued) - The Board continued to review and discuss questions previously presented by the Fort Good Hope Renewable Resources Council, the most pressing question being that of the communities commercial caribou quote. Gerry LePrieur advised the RRC how best to go about applying to have the quote increased.

22. The Board, roles and responsibilities - Winter Lennie reviewed the two booklets by Herb Perry and Don Cain dealing with the roles and responsibilities of boards. By and large the SRRB will follow the organizational and operational methodologies outlined in the booklets.
23. Future direction of the SRRB - A lively discussion and brain storming session took place dealing with the Board's future direction. The Board felt it was imperative that a strong communication linkage be developed between the RRCs and the SRRB and to that end recommended that SRRB staff take every opportunity to hold community based workshops to help the RRCs develop their resource management ideas and concerns along project lines and to attempt to prioritize project needs for eventual SRRB consideration. A suggestion was put forth that the SRRB work toward establishing a new combined community renewable resources organization who's responsibility it would be to identify and prioritize regional resource management projects and in turn present the findings of the organization to the SRRB for consideration and where possible eventual implementation and or funding. The suggestion was developed into the following motion:

SRRB 42-1997: Motion that the SRRB attempt to establish a Regional Renewable Resources Committee (RRRC) comprised of the Presidents, or their representative, of each of the community based RRCs, who's individual function it would be to identify renewable resource management ideas and concerns of their respective RRC's and through joint discussion with the other representatives on the committee develop and prioritize projects for SRRB consideration. Further, the newly formed committee would act as a liaison organization between the SRRB and the RRCs. The committee would meet approximately four times a year, or additionally if necessary, one month in advance of the SRRB Board meetings and would send a representative of the committee to attend the SRRB Board meeting to present the committee's findings to the Board. Financial and administrative support for the RRRC would be provided and controlled by the SRRB - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried

SRRB 43-1997: Motion to approve funding for the four research projects presented by Alasdair Veitch in the following amounts and with the following conditions:

- **Bluenose Caribou Herd Range Use and Herd Definition - replacement radio collaring project 1996/1997 - funded to a maximum of \$6,500.00**
- **Bluenose Caribou Herd Range Use and Herd Definition - satellite-tracking and analysis - purchase and deployment of five (5) additional radio collars onto Bluenose caribou, 1997/1998. The five caribou are to be collared in the Sahtu region and the SRRB to retain ownership of the five collars - funded to a maximum of \$48,843.00**
- **Winter Distribution Of The Bathurst Caribou Herd - purchase and deployment of fifteen (15) radio collars on Bathurst caribou at various locations throughout their winter range, five (5) collars assigned to the Sahtu.**
 - **1997/1998 funded to a maximum of \$40,000.00**

- 1998/1999 funded to a maximum of \$12,000.00
- 1999/2000 funded to a maximum of \$19,000.00

Five of the radio collars are to be placed on Bathurst caribou located within the Sahtu region and the SRRB to retain ownership of the five collars.

- Dall's Sheep Surveys in the Mackenzie Mountains - conduct surveys and train observers in three additional study sites annually - 1997/1998 funded to a maximum of \$38,250.00

Moved by George Barnaby, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried

24. SRRB Operating Policies & Procedures - The Board undertook a paragraph by paragraph review of the draft document. Wording changes, additions and deletions were noted and will be incorporated into the final document which will be presented to the Board for review and acceptance.
17. SRRB Staffing Additions - The Executive Director circulated a document outlining the SRRB - Staffing Summary Overview. The three new scientific staff will all be in Norman Wells by March 15, 1997 and should be fully operational by the start of the new fiscal year.
18. SRRB/SSI employee benefits package - The Executive Director outlined the employee benefits package available through the SSI group plan, the Canadian Indian Nations Umbrella Plan (CINUP). The Board agreed that the plan should be cost shared with the employee on a 50/50 basis.
19. SRRB move to Tulita - Winter Lennie advised the Board that he had been approached by a second Tulita based group interested in building the new board offices and staff housing. Details of their plan were not available at this time. Winter also assured the Board that the original building group, headed up by Danny Yakeleya, had not as yet finalized their joint office/hotel construction plan. The group was also looking into the possibility of arranging housing leases for privately owned houses currently or soon to be vacant, that could be leased by SRRB staff. As of this date no formal office rental commitments have been made with either group.
20. Federal/GNWT permit and license application review procedures - Board staff will deal with federal/GNWT license application reviews in house, referring particularly sensitive applications to the Board. (Federal/GNWT permit and license applications are circulated to all potentially affected parties throughout the Sahtu for comment and review, the SRRB being merely one of many recipients.)
- 31a. DFO fisheries presentation - Doug Chiperzak, a biologist with DFO, presented a fisheries research proposal and funding request, Inconnu Migration Study. Doug was seeking proportional funding from the three western claimant groups to continue a project started the previous year in the Peel and Arctic Red Rivers. A second research funding request dealt with using scanning proton microprobe (SPM) strontium

analysis on previously collected inconnu otoliths and relating the findings to habitat use. The Board accepted the two proposal for later review.

26. Staff needs, 1997/1998 and beyond - Winter Lennie led a general discussion concerning staff needs, immediate and in future years. The question of how best to address the GIS staffing situation was resolved by the Board agreeing to including the GIS technician position as a SRRB staff person.

SRRB 44-1997: Motion to include the GIS technician position as a SRRB staff employee - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried

SRRB 45-1997: Motion that the SRRB contribute \$30,000.00 toward the 1997/1998 operating cost of the Sahtu GIS mapping project - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried

27. SRRB Budget, 1997/1998 - the Board reviewed the 1997/1998 draft budget and made suggestions as to how best to adjust the budget in keeping with the proposed projects and plans that had been discussed during earlier segments of the Board meeting. Recognizing that the Board's management activities were already over a year behind the original proposed start-up date and that the SRRB was entering into it's second year of operation all agreed that the SRRB must become more proactive. Therefore a rather optimistic budget outline was encouraged and the Executive Director was directed to develop a final budget and operational plan that would permit maximum SRRB operational activity and flexibility.

SRRB 46-1997: Motion to accept the draft budget as presented and to incorporate the financial changes discussed and agreed upon during the Feb.3-6, 1997 Board meeting, to reflect an aggressive and proactive 1997/1998 operational program. The resultant final budget to be faxed to all Board members for review with notification of individual acceptance of the budget to be by phone or return fax confirmation on or before Feb.25, 1997. The approved 1997/1998 budget to be sent to Ottawa by Feb.28, 1997 - moved by Russ Hall, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried

28. Revenue Canada/GNWT treatment of honoraria payments - GNWT 1% payroll tax deductions will now be applied at source to all honoraria and Member's work payments. Revenue Canada T4A slips will be issued annually for all such Member's payments.

29. SRRB Chairman - short term training plans - Winter Lennie advised the Board that he would be out of town for approximately the next four months while taking helicopter training in Penticton BC. Winter agreed he would maintain contact with the office on a regular basis via phone and fax during that period. The Board agreed to continue providing the Chairman with a \$1,000.00/month, Member's Work Allowance, during the period he was out of town.

31a. DFO fisheries presentation - George Low provided the Board with an overview of DFO projects undertaken in the Sahtu region during the past summer. Stock assessment work data reports should be available during the spring of 1997. George once again addressed the concern previously expressed that DFO and the Dept. of Health must attempt to work more cooperatively and in a timely manner, to provide data interpretation suitable for presentation to the communities. At the present time it could take years between the date the samples were collected and analyzed by DFO and then interpreted by the Dept. of Health. George also presented a funding request for a research study proposal dealing with Sahtu Mackenzie Whitefish Biology and Stock Monitoring Training Program. The Board accepted his research funding proposal for later review and suggested that George discuss the proposal with the Fort Good Hope Renewable Resources Council before the SRRB made a final decision concerning supporting the funding request.

SRRB 47-1997: Motion to return the Sahtu Mackenzie Whitefish Biology and Stock Monitoring Training Program proposal to the author, Dr. Ross Tallman, with instructions for him to rewrite the proposal, provide more thorough information, a realistic budget and to make greater use of available Fort Good Hope RRC personnel. The proposal should have RRC support before being presented once again to the SRRB. Consideration will then be given to partially funding the proposal during the 1998/1999 fiscal year - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried

SRRB 48-1997: Motion to accept the two DFO research funding requests presented by Doug Chiperzak and support the proposals as follows:

- Inconnu Migration Study, 1997/1998, funded to a maximum of \$11,000.00
- SPM Strontium Analysis of Otoliths, 1997/1998 funded to a maximum of \$2,500.00

Moved by Russ Hall, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried

25. Suggested research study priorities - It was recommended that establishment of research study priorities be delayed until such time as the newly constituted Regional Renewable Resources Committee met and had an opportunity to establish regional priorities.

30. Correspondence - Copies of the recently received Fisheries Management, Partnering Concept pamphlet were made available to the Board.

32. Next Board Meeting - It was decided that the next meeting of the Board should include both Members and Alternates and should be held in Norman Wells April 21-24, 1997. The main purpose of the meeting will be a "workshop" dealing with the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement with special attention given the portion of the Claim dealing specifically with the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, its duties, responsibilities and operational relationships with other Sahtu Boards and Government agencies. The Board will also meet with representatives of each of the Renewable Resource Councils and Committees to

receive their regional research priority suggestions and operational support requests. It was suggested that a summer Board meeting be held in Colville Lake the week of July 14-18, 1997.

31. Executive Director six month review - SRRB 49-1997: Motion to go in camera - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried

SRRB 50-1997: Motion, that the Board re-evaluate the salary level for the current Executive Director and that the new salary be increased \$6,000.00 effective Feb.1, 1997 guided by the following conditions; an administrative officer be hired by March 31, 1997 along with a casual office clerk, as and when required and that office hours be maintained from 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday - moved by Russ Hall, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried

34. Adjournment - SRRB 51-1997: Motion to adjourn the Fort Good Hope Board Meeting - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried

This was the end of the Agenda and all associated SRRB business as of 10:55pm Feb.5,1997

ACTION ITEMS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</u>
1. Additional caribou tags for Fort Good Hope	Gerry LePrieur/ RRC
2. Bluenose Caribou Co-management Advisory Committee - membership	SRRB/ SSI
3. Commercial fishing, Fort Good Hope RRC	Gerry LePrieur/ RRC
4. Review possibility of having oil exploration monitors with Steve Deschene	Winter Lennie
5. Determine status of RRC/ Wilfred Jackson contaminants letter with Steve Deschene	Winter Lennie
6. Inquire of RRCs their interest in establishing a Regional Renewable Resources Committee and if positive arrange the first meeting	Executive Director Gerry LePrieur

April 21, 1997

