

EMAB meeting  
Wekweeti, August 15, 2007

Present:  
Doug Crossley, KIA, Chair  
Florence Catholique, LKDFN, Vice Chair  
Eddie Erasmus, TG  
Claudia Haas, NSMA  
Gord Macdonald, Diavik  
John McCullum

Minutes:  
John McCullum

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Meeting started at 9:10.

Welcome to everyone from Chair.  
Opening Prayer: Florence Catholique

### **ITEM 1: Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

#### Agenda

One item to be added:

- Include discussion of LKDFN capacity funding proposal under item 9

#### Minutes

**Motion**  
**Approve minutes of May 23 & 24, 2007; and teleconference minutes from June 1, 2007 and June 20, 2007.**  
**Moved: Florence Catholique**  
**Second: Claudia Haas**  
**Carried**

### **ITEM 2: Diavik site visit discussion**

Interest was expressed to go into the pit. This is possible but DDMI needs advance notice through an email or letter to the Diavik party representative. It would also be possible for EMAB to tour the underground, although this would likely take up the entire time of a site visit and involve a fair amount of orientation.

ACTION: EMAB to request that DDMI make a presentation on underground mining at an EMAB meeting.
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Observations included:

- The rockpile is quite extensive
- Seems to be more litter than during previous visits
- Useful to have reports on revegetation plots, rockpile drainage testing
- Smoothness of bulldozed rockpile was interesting
- A member said they were not aware that the A21 causeway was being built

ACTION: EMAB to send a letter of gratitude to Scott Wytrychowski for assistance to EMAB and express regret at his departure.

ACTION: Request Eric Christensen do a short update on Diavik operations during member reports at each meeting.

Query regarding time required to replace Scott. It could take up to 6 months.

Noted that it was useful for EMAB members to be able to direct the flow of the tour.

### **ITEM 3: Water licence update**

E.D. reviews item in kit.

Discussion on WLWB not addressing EA commitments related to AEMP in Reasons for Decision:

- EMAB can take the legal route – EA is a contract
- Identify to Parties that some commitments have not been fully addressed and ask if they have concerns – mention that they were not addressed in the Reasons and the legal opinion about implications of including EA commitments in the licence
- Which commitments have not been addressed?
- EMAB can write a letter as part of watchdog role
- EA was supposed to be a means to ensure Aboriginal people were involved

ACTION: draft a letter to Parties asking about concerns about EA commitments being implemented and giving context that the WLWB did not address this in its reasons.

It was suggested that EMAB ask Diavik to hold meetings in communities on the Ammonia Management Plan: how the ROA came about, the follow up and the outcomes. EMAB could also prepare a presentation on this that can be used by Board members.

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Break 10:30-1045

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**ITEM 4: Reports**

Financial

ED walks the Board through the financial statement.

Review of Outstanding Action Items

***Motion:***

***That Shannon Hayden be given Board Approval to be a signing authority.***

***Moved: Eddie Erasmus***

***Second: Gord Macdonald***

***Carried***

Member Reports

Gord – nothing to report

Doug – KHTA is running a water quality monitoring course with 6 students as part of the program funded by EMAB. They hope to keep 1 student on during the winter to monitor in the fall and under ice

Claudia – NSMA members went on a calving grounds survey with ENR. They reviewed the EAAR as well as the AEMP, the QA/QC plan, and WEMP. They are starting a community newsletter and are working on the second issue.

Eddie – Dene Nation and Tlicho assemblies were held in Behchoko in July. The TG is starting its land use planning process and expect to have a plan ready by spring 2009.

Florence – She has been acting manager of the WLEC for the last 3 months. The WLEC is going to join with the Treaty Entitlement and Parks departments. WLEC focus is on youth training. They are doing a geoscience mapping project. There is a tentative training program for youth with DFO. Major interest in reclamation. The community update went well – lots of youth who had participated in training and hoped to get environmental work at Diavik. They also requested more site visits. People are very interested in finding out about the underground operation.

Doug – the community update in Kugluktuk went well – lots of people with lots of questions.

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Lunch 12:0- 1:30

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**ITEM 5: Aboriginal Involvement in Environmental Monitoring Workshop – draft report**

There was a thorough discussion of the best way to give participants an opportunity to review the draft report while keeping EMAB's options open to choose the final recommendations based partly on participant input. It was eventually agreed to request comments by Friday September 7 as well as input on the ideas that participants felt EMAB should consider for recommendations.

It was also suggested that EMAB consider contracting the design of a program to train community members to participate in design and implementation of monitoring programs.

ACTION: Send the draft report to all participants with a letter stating that the workshop did not have time to review all the points made, that EMAB needs feedback on the report and on the points that participants feel EMAB should consider and that responses should be submitted to EMAB by September 7. The draft letter should go to the Chair for review before being sent. The responses and report will be discussed at the September Board meeting.

**ITEM 7: CBM Risk Assessment**

DDMI had planned to start working on implementing the risk assessment recommendations by September 15 but Scott's departure will affect this.

ACTION: In light of Scott's resignation, EMAB to send a letter to DDMI following up our email from May requesting a date by which DDMI will send the necessary information.

EMAB to do whatever it can in the absence of DDMI information

DDMI will prioritise the items and send the information ASAP.

### **ITEM 9: Capacity Funding**

Discussion on LKDFN capacity funding proposal. General agreement that paying a fair rent to an individual is not in conflict of interest, but that any improvements included in the moving expenses from 2006-07 need to be reviewed before releasing that portion of the funds for 2007-08.

***Motion***

***Approve LKDFN capacity fund proposal for 2007-08 in the amount of \$23,260.50, with release of the remainder pending receipt and review of a detailed breakdown of the moving expenses for 2006-07.***

***Moved: Gord Macdonald***

***Second: Claudia Haas***

***Carried***

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Break

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### **ITEM 6: Strategic Planning**

General discussion on the attachments in item 6:

- Need to identify priorities in EA
- Strategic items vs. operational items
- Useful to have a strategic planning meeting to discuss the EA

***Motion***

***Appoint Eddie Erasmus to the Strategic Planning Committee.***

***Moved: Gord Macdonald***

***Second: Claudia Haas***

***Carried***

SPC needs to keep the rest of the members informed.

Target draft plan by December 31.

ACTION: ED to draft a letter to NSMA and TG stating that EMAB needs their input by October 31 to include it in the plan development process. Include the original letter from 2004 regarding purpose etc.

ACTION: E.D. to draft a terms of reference for a facilitator to help the SPC and Board develop the strategic plan, and to check on possible consultants.

DIAND may know of some facilitators.

**ITEM 8: Annual Report Text Review**

Some general discussion on the annual report. It should relate each activity to EMAB's mandate. A number of wording changes were noted.

***Motion***

***Accept the text of the 2006-07 annual report as amended.***

***Moved: Florence Catholique***

***Second: Eddie Erasmus***

***Carried***

Next meeting will be September 20 and 21 in Yellowknife, and include Annual General Meeting.

Meeting adjourned.