

**April 23 – 25, 2001 Board Meeting  
Government of Nunavut Boardroom  
Kugluktuk, NU**

**Meeting Number 3**

**Day 1: April 23, 2001**

**Participants:**

Bob Turner, Chair  
Floyd Adlem, Vice-Chair  
Doug Doan, Secretary-Treasurer  
Alex (Sandy) Buchan  
Chris Nichols  
Eric Christensen  
Florence Catholique  
Francis Blackduck  
Red Pederson, Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (IEMA)  
Eric Yaxley, DIAND  
Craig Bloome, DIAND  
Hal Mills, GeoNorth  
Djhanine Bautista, GeoNorth  
Joseph Niptanatiak Kugluktuk Elder

***Prayer was lead by Joseph Niptanatiak***

***Welcome & Introduction***

- Bob Turner welcomed all and introductions were made.
- Henry Zoe from the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council had resigned as a member of the Board since he is going to be working with DDMI as Community Liaison Coordinator.
- Absent: Laurence Goulet, from the Yellowknives Dene First Nation.

***Review of Agenda***

- Frances moved that the agenda stand and Florence seconded the motion.  
Passed by consensus.

***Minutes of the Previous Meetings***

- Asked for comments or suggestions regarding the previous minutes - February 27-28, 2001 and March 14-15, 2001.

- Suggestion made to have more concise minutes.
- Suggestion to have the meetings numbered.
- Florence moved that the minutes of both previous meetings were correct and Alex seconded the motion. Passed by consensus.

### ***Business Arising from the Minutes***

- Eric Yaxley raised the issue regarding budget of the Board. He suggested that on dealing with issues directly, Board members are necessary. If there is an Executive Director, it would be easier for them.
- EMAB does not wish to have a Board member on their Technical Committee; had considerable discussion on how to interact with them.
  - EMAB has to be involved with technical matters. Parties should be obligated to bring in their experts to EMAB upon request.

### ***Incoming Correspondence***

- Eric Yaxley will make and provide copies of correspondence to EMAB office.
- Hal informed the Board that the first two pages of the incoming correspondence in the agenda were not errors but it serves as records for correspondence.
- Photos from the correspondence were yet to be printed and included.
- Chris suggested having summaries of correspondence.
- Craig to supply copy photos from presentation.
- The Board wants to know what does the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) need regarding their correspondence. Eric says that all they need to do is wait until they write to them again.

### ***Outgoing Correspondence***

- The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board was sent correspondence on Friday (April 20, 2001).

### ***Status Reports***

- Each Board member was asked to bring both some information on their interests and any other Board related issues.
- Bob Turner - signing bank accounts, purchasing office equipment and dealing with the hiring committees with Florence Catholique, Floyd Adlem and Doug Doan.
  - Still screening for applicants and doing interviews – there are 14 possible applicants and once there is an Executive Director then the decision could be made if they need office staff.
  - Staff interviews are on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April

- Hal explained that Natasha Thorpe is thinking of hiring a Metis summer student close to May 5<sup>th</sup>. Hal asked if, in terms of transition, they should continue to hire the summer student helping out the Executive Director.
- Chris said that he is leaving Nunavut, so during September they will receive a letter of resignation from him.
- Doug Crossley commented on the need for a status report from everybody and Florence agreed so that they know what everybody is doing.
- Francis Blackduck informed the Board that he was asked by Ted Blondin to come to the meeting in his place as he had other commitments.
- Sandy will be giving a talk to a high school class, trying to make sure that people / organizations have a chance to contribute to monitoring.
  - Suggested to invite all RA's to attend an EMAB meeting/workshop, get them to understand what is in the EA and their obligations. Develop an agenda, give them each a set period of time to present – set up for day before site visit.
- Alex said that community development work is part of his job and a component of it is to report the SEMA presentation to the Hamlet Office. He also informed the Board that HTO is asking about the Fisheries Agreement. Some made some suggestions and some said to put in the agenda.
- The Board had a discussion regarding the participation of DFO and DIAND in meetings. Hal suggested not to have them both at one meeting while Florence opposed Hal's suggestion, saying that she had been in meetings where you could see the overlapping of issues and see their differences regarding their responsibilities. Red recommended that they do not need everybody in one meeting since they never attend individually - the average is three people.

**Meeting adjourned 5:00 pm**

## **Day 2: April 23, 2001**

### **Participants:**

Bob Turner, Chair  
Floyd Adlem, Vice-Chair  
Doug Doan, Secretary-Treasurer  
Alex (Sandy) Buchan  
Chris Nichols  
Eric Christensen  
Florence Catholique  
Francis Blackduck  
Red Pederson  
Eric Yaxley, DIAND  
Craig Bloome, DIAND  
Hal Mills, GeoNorth

Djhanine Bautista, GeoNorth  
Joseph Niptanatiak, Kugluktuk elder  
Doris Elatiak, translator for Joseph

- Plans for public meeting tonight
  - Informal meeting to present what the Board is and does and who is involved
  - A translator would be made available

### **Monitoring Activities**

- Craig presented his inspection report of the Diavik Diamond Project under the Northwest Territories Waters Act and the Territorial Land Act, which was conducted last April 2, 2001 - Board members have a copy.
  - Alex requested to have the information such as research plans and or licenses available in CD format
  - One copy of report will be made available for the public and one for the Board.
  - Murray is to be asked for an electronic copy of the report
- Chris suggested reviewing *Mandate 4.2 d* before anything has to be finalized
- Florence said that they need to know the parties involved, even in a summarized format.
- Craig distributed the maps dated March 30, 2001 showing constructions within the site for this month and the future.
  - DIAND inspections have been done 12 times to date, sometimes overnight and usually 2-3 days at a time.
  - This winter there is not many activities involved.
  - Mine safety is carried out on a regular basis. In terms of environmental monitoring, the Stanton Regional Health Board was on site last month, but DFO has not been on site for the last two years.
  - The site's crusher, which is the biggest in North America, has a dust issue.
  - There has been snow surveys done.
  - Two fuel tanks were constructed.
  - It will be a 700 men camp after completion in mid June. There are also treatment facilities as the physical construction deadline is on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June; the North Inlet East Dike began during mid April.
  - Waste management - there will be an incinerator in the area while they are constructing another one for their hazardous materials
  - Snow removal is being undertaken for a lot of drainage.
  - Currently there are 530 people on site and the priority was to hold a capacity of 600 people, eventually there would be possibly 1100 people as a future population.
  - This month they are undertaking foundation and steel work.

- Next month (May) will be the start of the power plant, late June or July would be the dredging and on August would be the water treatment plant. This would be a very busy season according to Craig and the Board will become familiar with it when they have their site visit in May.
- Hal asked Craig what was his relationship with the Land and Water Board. Craig replied that it is mostly inspection; dealing with the Technical Committee, the Land and Water Board needs 47 different reports or plans; he said that there are already 16 approved by the Board and while there is a major construction, there is an ongoing monthly report, which was made for the Land and Water Board and 16 more that needs approval from them.
- Bob raised the issue of including Board members during field trips with the inspector to which Craig said he doesn't mind having less than 20 of them.
  - Alex commented that it might be a problem; instead of letting the inspector do his own task.
  - Eric Yaxley suggested that as long as it is planned, then it would probably be fine.
  - Bob suggested choosing Board members in random.
  - Eric Christensen asked the Board if their intentions were just to observe on the site; Bob said that they were just observers, so they will see the concerns and then they will appoint their own inspector; to familiarize.
  - Eric said that there are inspectors working directly with Diavik.
  - Alex suggested having an appointed observer for the Board that should have a verifying capacity.
  - Hal asked about a regulatory authority since EMAB isn't one of them.
  - Eric Yaxley suggested having 1 or 2 observers occasionally and even writing to the minister, if it is sufficient.
  - Florence also suggested having different types of inspection since it is not clear. They should monitor the documents then they could ask who should inspect a certain area.
  - Floyd wondered if they need an authorization to do such a task; Bob said that they wouldn't have a problem with it.
  - Somebody held that the observer issue is not related to *Article 5.4*; inspection is separated whether it is regulatory or wildlife.
  - Bob disagreed and suggested to accept an invitation or request like an open house to sort out things, tour annually or do an inspection on a monthly basis and even doing it voluntarily so they would not get a negative perception.
  - Craig added that he usually discusses findings with Diavik after each inspection, since that is his job, he has nothing to hide. Chris added that provisions were made to give knowledge to the observer so they need to see the plans and make recommendations to RWED.

**Break 10:30**  
**Resume 11:00**

### ***Work-Plans***

- EMAB now has a challenging task in terms of getting on top of monitoring activities and reports and creating a work plan
- Francis suggested that the Board should communicate with the communities in regards to the work plan and their needs
- Chris said that the fund for communicating with the communities is a long-term process so they should start working with it now. They should start looking for plans and recommendations.

### **Priorities:**

1. Aquatic Effects
  2. Wildlife
  3. Traditional Knowledge
  4. Communications Strategy
  5. Communities Strategy
  6. Capacity Building – Board and Communities
- Issue statement acknowledging the broad mandate and responsibilities under the EA. But to get started, will focus on the priorities that seem to best serve the interests of the affected communities.
  - Concentrate on searching out holes in monitoring plans over next few years
    - Gather community input
    - How to get community involved in monitoring plans?
    - Keep focus on aquatic effects and wildlife, how to build community capacity
  - Workshops (monitoring plans, not construction) bring in presenters / experts
  - Commit staffing effort to community involvement? Someone to respond / assist with community direction.
  - Chris suggested the need for a vision regarding problems and monitoring, and changes that are needed – Staff person in Yellowknife supporting / liaising with communities, a “community resource person”, find sources of funding such as Sustainable Communities.
  - Bob commented that all Aboriginal parties have to be involved in TK, probably a workshop setting, to provide DDMI with advice, have a TK workshop before addressing the TK panel.
  - Decisions:
    - Understand the monitoring programs
    - Presentations on the monitoring programs
    - Aboriginal caucus to meet on TK

- Regulatory process – day before site visit
- 1. Have regulatory process meeting
- 2. Go to site
- 3. Put work plan together re Article 4.2

Work plan:

1. *Mandate 4.2* Communication Plan
2. Responsibilities
3. Goals (priorities, time)
4. Strategies
  - Tasks
  - Estimates
  - Budgets

*What would the Board like to see done this year?*

1. Comprehensive Statement of the Environment; an annual report card
2. An annual vision statement: this is what we are about this year. Activities that can be monitored against the vision and the annual report.
3. Develop a work plan: a requirement of the Annual Report. Identify fixed costs and the balance.
4. A community resource person – someone traveling around to affected communities

**Lunch 12:00**

**Afternoon Session 1:30 pm**

***Communication Strategy***

***Press Release***

- Media spokesperson – Bob
  - Doug moved and Frances seconded that Bob be the media spokesperson. Approved by consensus.
- Moved that spokesperson, where practical, consult with Executive Director prior to media contact.
- Need a press kit – Board members, mandate in simple language, with Q&As.
- Hal to have press release and kit developed, for approval at next Board meeting.

**Adjourned 4:00 pm**

**Day 3: April 25, 2001**

**Participants:**

Bob Turner, Chair  
Floyd Adlem, Vice-Chair  
Doug Doan, Secretary-Treasurer  
Alex (Sandy) Buchan  
Eric Christensen  
Florence Catholique  
Francis Blackduck  
Red Pederson  
Eric Yaxley, DIAND  
Hal Mills, GeoNorth  
Djhanine Bautista, GeoNorth  
Joseph Niptanatiak, Kugluktuk Elder  
Doris Elatiak, translator for Joseph

**Meeting started at 9:05 am**

### ***EMAB Policies and Procedures***

#### ***Communication***

- Information Policy: would have to reflect the need for plain language communication, translation, summaries
- Circulating correspondence: to everyone if it requires an action for the Board
- Documents: circulate list, have members identify what they want and in what form
- Correspondence needs to be logged as with IEMA

#### ***Honoraria for work between meetings and travel days***

- Read IEMA Policy: 6 meetings @ 3 days each plus 1 ½ days/month to review documentation = 36 days/year
- Should have a “meeting” honoraria rate (highest rate) with a lower rate for work in the community, perhaps 1 day per month. 3<sup>rd</sup> rate for research, 2 days per month. Travel of a flat rate of \$100.
- Discretionary, with a cap of 4 days / month and a review in September / October.
- Members may claim honoraria at their discretion for work between meetings, with a cap of 4 days / month. This policy is to be reviewed in September / October. Moved by Francis, seconded by Floyd. Approved by consensus.
- Doug Doan to get Bob McLeod to write to Deputy Minister of Dept ECE re Florence’s situation

#### ***Travel Arrangements***

- The office will make all the Board’s travel arrangements including travel and hotel; EMAB should pay.

- Travel points are accumulated by the individual

### ***Travel expenses***

- Ted Blondin, via Eric Yaxley, suggested using local business including travel agencies for travelling. Bob suggested Key West unless they could find better prices.

**Break 10:20 am**

**Resume 10:30**

### ***Service Contract (Update)***

- Eric moved and Doug seconded that EMAB have the Executive Director draft a “buy North” purchasing policy, consistent with the objects of SEMA. Approved by consensus.

### ***Guidelines and procedures for hiring, evaluation and other dealings with EMAB staff***

- Moved Sandy, seconded by Francis that the Personnel Committee be authorized to make a decision on appointment of an Executive Director. Authorised to an upper limit of \$85K, beyond that requires Board approval.
- Moved Sandy, and seconded by Doug to negotiate a salary range between \$80-95K and RRSP benefit package. Approved (Frances sustained).
- Floyd raised the Chamber of Commerce package. Doug and Alex seconded. And was passed by consensus.
- Hal also suggested having a part time bookkeeper in a staff of 4 to 5 people; some of them suggested hiring one if they have not hired an Executive Director in 3 months.

### ***Site Visit***

- The Board Member’s target dates for their site visit would be May 15,16 & 17 to be confirmed with Murray. Some suggested inviting Craig to go with the Board.
- Documents for Board members: Bob to contact Murray with note requesting copies for members.

**Adjourned 12:00 noon**