Annual General Meeting – October 21, 2025
EMAB Boardroom – 50/50 Mini Mall, Yellowknife, NT – 9:00 a.m.

Minutes

Present:

Charlie Catholique, *Chair*	Łutselk'e Dene First Nation
Marc Whitford, *Vice-Chair*	North Slave Metis Alliance
Violet Camsell-Blondin, *Secretary-Treasurer*	Tłı̨chǫ Government
Ryan Arta, *Director*	Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Baba Pedersen, *Director*	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tara Marchiori, *Director*	Diavik Diamond Mines Incorporated
Sarah Elsasser, *Director* (by Zoom)	Government of the Northwest Territories

Absent:

Staff:

John McCullum, *Executive Director*	EMAB (minutes)
Daniel Fawehinmi, *Environmental Specialist*	EMAB (minutes)

Guests:

Katrina Hatogina, KIA
Ashton Catholique, LKDFN
Nathalie Oldfield, GNWT
Meera Basnyat, Auditor, EPR Accounting (via zoom)

1) Call to Order

Opening prayer – Charlie Catholique

Meeting called to order at 9:10 am

Chair opening remarks
- Year in review
- Welcome Party representatives

2) Adoption of Agenda

Review of 2025 AGM Agenda

Motion*: To approve the agenda for the 2025 AGM as presented.*
Moved: Marc Whitford
Seconded: Baba Pedersen
Motion carried.

3) Conflict of Interest

No conflicts declared.

4) Chair's Remarks

Welcomed everyone to the meeting and commented on the state of the land and the communities at large, stating that there has been lots of changes that have occurred. He further welcomed the new board members: Sarah Elsasser (GNWT); Ryan Arta (YKDFN) and the new Environmental Specialist, Daniel Fawehinmi.

- Looking forward to the closure of mine with the use of TK and Science as communities want to see positive changes in the land at the mine so that they can utilize their resources after closure.
- Thanks to the staff.

Discussion
- Noted agreement on 2025-27 budget
- Good to have Sarah be able to attend meetings in person

5) Comments from the Parties

- Violet Camsell-Blondin highlighted EMAB is a unique board, and has a positive influence to protect the environment. EMAB needs to talk about itself at conferences: Geoscience Forum, PDAC, Round-up. Need to showcase EMAB.
- Marc Whitford agreed on the need to showcase EMAB in the industry and local communities, on the work we are doing.
- Ashton noted the need to update terminology: refer to "Indigenous parties" instead of "Aboriginal parties"
    - Noted that "Aboriginal Parties" is the terminology written into the Environmental Agreement

Break for auditor to present 2024-25 audit.

7) March 31, 2025 – Audited Financial Statements

Meera Basnyat from EPR presented the audited financial statements by Zoom
- Clean audit: This is the best assessment an auditor can give
- Surplus in 2024 listed as contribution repayable; by agreement with Diavik unspent funds from the Water Licence Renewal review and Final Closure Plan review was rolled over to 2025.
- Reviewed the audit details and notes

Q: Why were there two types of cash flow with one being restricted and the other not, in the audit?
A: The restricted cash was Diavik's payment for 2025-26 that came in before the start of the year, also cash rolled over

from the previous year.

Q: Why does Jack Kaniak Scholarship show $1K in revenue but $2K in expense?
A: Diavik and EMAB each agreed to contribute $1K per year.

Q: Why was C$3000 spent on the website?
A: The host server for the website has increased their cost this year.

Motion: *To approve 2024/25 audit as presented*
Moved: Marc Whitford
Second: Tara Marchiori
Motion carried.

Motion: *to re-appoint EPR as EMAB auditor for 2025-26*
Moved: Baba Pedersen
Second: Ryan Arta
Motion carried.

BREAK

5) Comments from Parties (continued)

Baba noted appreciation for Katrina attending for KIA. Notes some changes at KIA: President Robert Greenley passed away, James Eetoolook is Acting President; Wynter Kuliktana (Lands Manager) left the organization.

- Kugluktuk residents remain concerned about water quality in the Coppermine River and want to see continued monitoring of fish and water
- Caribou harvesting from the winter road is an issue; would like to see a gate system to restrict access
- Caribou near Kugluktuk seem unhealthy: cysts, sores, pus
- Concern about EMAB's lifespan: EMAB should continue until the end of Diavik's water licence.

Marc agreed that EMAB should be in place until the water licence is complete

Violet wants EMAB to attend conferences. Opportunity to promote EMAB and understand what other organizations are doing. Conferences can provide information about legislative changes and plans. International conferences are very useful. May be able to access funding through governments.

Charlie noted it is valuable to learn about experiences in other countries, and conferences are a good way to do this.

- TK and science need to work together
- The land is really important
- Elders want the land to not be damaged
- Concerns about water and water levels
- Beverly caribou have increased by 50,000

Ashton spoke about the Water Stewardship Conference. Noted that upstream dams control the flow of water. Concerns about water levels, effects of climate and weather. Need to monitor water – concern about proposal to

release tailings in Alberta into Athabasca River.

- Seeing diseased caribou
- Fish are getting diseased and have more parasites as water temperatures rise due to climate change
- It is important for EMAB to speak about its role, and to increase awareness

Tara talked about Diavik's closure updates in communities. Diavik was in Kugluktuk in June; they will meet with YKDFN on Nov 1, LKDFN on Nov 28, meeting with NSMA TBD. Working with TG. There will be a meeting in Yellowknife on Nov 13.

Sarah noted EMAB's effective environmental protection and successful monitoring work at the Diavik mine. EMAB's work is important for good stewardship and management. Diavik has the potential to be an example of how to close a mine right. She is proud of EMAB's work and wants it to be promoted.

- It would be good for EMAB to continue through closure. Communities rely on EMAB. The Board will help future land users be confident about using the land and water at Diavik
- She would like to participate in person; unfortunate about budget limitations

6) Approval of Minutes

Review of October 16, 2024, Annual General Meeting minutes.

Motion: *To approve October* 16, 2024, *Annual General Meeting minutes as presented.*
Moved: Baba Pedersen
Seconded: Charlie Catholique
Motion carried.
Ashton abstained

8) Environmental Agreement Amendment Update

Nathalie stated that there are no updates regarding the Environmental Agreement.

- Speaking to EA section 18.3, the Minister will consult with all Parties once Diavik ceases production, then make decisions about whether to relieve Diavik of some EA responsibilities and a schedule for winding down EMAB.

Discussion

- EMAB should be around until Diavik no longer has a water licence

Action Item: include an item on EA section 18.3 at December board meeting

Discussion

- The EA can be reviewed when needed. Industry gave their word to support EMAB, when the Environmental Agreement was signed. This obligation continues. The land should be brought back to its original state.
- As long as Diavik has obligations, then EMAB has obligations to meet.
- EMAB is not required by the MVRMA, it was set up under a separate agreement
- Need to showcase EMAB

Q: what is status of TG TKMP proposal to Diavik
A: TG & YKDFN will get together later this week. This question can be raised then.

- Concern about tailings going into Athabasca River. Mining is damaging the earth
- Noted there is a need for critical minerals to develop electric cars to combat climate change
- Lithium mining contributes to damaging the land – need to prevent damage.

9) Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the 2025 EMAB AGM
Moved: Baba Pedersen
carried

noted that it would be good for Parties to give as much notice as possible when appointing someone to attend AGM.

Closing Prayer – Marc Whitford

Meeting adjourned at noon.