

**EMAB Board Meeting Minutes
Teleconference, February 5, 2004
EMAB Board Room Yellowknife, NT**

Present:

Bob Turner, Chair, North Slave Metis Alliance
Floyd Adlem, Vice-Chair, Government of Canada
Doug Doan, Secretary-Treasurer, Government of the NWT
John McCullum, Executive Director

Call-in:

Johnny Weyallon, Dogrib Treaty 11 Council
Doug Crossley, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Florence Catholique, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
John Morrison, Government of Nunavut
Erik Madsen, Diavik Diamond Mines Incorporated

Absent:

Lawrence Goulet, Yellowknives Dene First Nation

Guest:

Bertha Rabesca-Zoe, Dogrib Treaty 11 Council

Minute taker:

Michele LeTourneau

Meeting started at: 1:45.

Chair went over agenda.

Quorum check.

Item 1 – Facilitation Standing Offer

Executive Director reported on reference checks on four facilitator/contractor short-listed by the Board. The Board discussed the various proposals.

The question arose as to whether or not EMAB could have a company on standing offer and within that company, specify the facilitator on the list. The answer is yes.

The question arose as to how to choose from the list for the first offer. Answer: begin with the least expensive of the best and rotate through them. After that EMAB can rehire the most effective.

Motion # 01-04-05-02

To approve Page Burt, Louie Azzolini, Mike Bell and Pauline de Jong on standing offer for facilitation.

Moved: Florence Catholique

Seconded: Doug Crossley

Carried: Unanimously

Item 2 -- Draft Communication Section for Operations Manual

Noted for the record that Florence Catholique was unable to find the time to review the document but that she accepted the Board consensus.

Motion # 02-04-05-02

Accept the Section 4: Communications as drafted for the Operations Manual

Moved: Floyd Adlem

Seconded: Doug Doan

Discussion: Are finalized minutes included in the Public Registry? Yes.

Carried: Unanimously

Item 3 – Financial Report and Draft Budget

Secretary/Treasurer suggested a brief update, with a more in depth budget discussion to take place at Board Meeting February 11-12.

General overview: EMAB's position is fundamentally healthy. Suggest for discussion at next meeting the fact that as EMAB has become more active (ie: Traditional Knowledge Panel and Scientific Panel, staffing up the Communications Coordinator position) sources of revenues have dropped off. EMAB now receives only Diavik money (federal and territorial commitment now over) and EMAB's own surplus. It will be necessary, as EMAB develops future plans, to consider how it will sustain new activity level.

Secretary Treasurer added that in brief discussions with John McC and the executive, the following was noted: EMAB could consider dividing expenditures in two groups. Fixed costs and variable costs. Fixed costs are recurring, while variable costs would include budgets per project. EMAB could develop policies, such as when EMAB proposes to undertake a project, it could consider if there are other partners that would benefit from the project and thus agree to share costs. Another suggestion is that EMAB explore other potential sources of funding.

Executive Director speaks on final quarter budget to year-end, March 31, 2004: EMAB will probably have a surplus of \$25,000.

It was noted by a Board Member that EMAB should try to implement commitments in the Environmental Agreement. There seems to be indication from Diavik that that needs to come out of EMAB. Need to talk about that at next meeting.

Financial report accepted.

Item 4 – Review of Outstanding Action Items

Executive Director walked the Board through his handout, and updated anything that had changed from two weeks ago.

Discussion on the TK Panel on fencing. Who and how many people could go to the site. Discussion deferred to following board meeting to coincide with budget discussion.

Aboriginal Board Members expressed the desire to be responsible for any translations that needed to be done of EMAB material. EMAB staff should contact Board Members for translators when translation is required.

Item 5 -- Report Tracking Chart

Tracking chart reviewed.

Executive Director noted that he had hoped to hear from MVLWB and DFO to confirm outstanding reports. But he has not heard from them.

AEMP and WEMP reports coming up in March, as well as the Annual Water Licence report – (containing AEMP.)

Item 6 – Correspondence and Tracking of EMAB recommendations

Discussion on the letter sent to DDMI and DIAND regarding funding for interventions.

DDMI has replied in writing that they will not provide funding for intervention from Aboriginal Parties.

The Executive Director noted that he learned, via a conversation with Eric Yaxley, that DIAND will respond as promptly as possible.

The Chair summed up the issue and the letters.

The KIA representative noted that KIA will themselves follow up with some sort of response, probably in the form of letters in support of the request that DDMI and DIAND should provide the funding.

ACTION ITEM: Copies of the correspondence on this issue should be forwarded to MVLWB.

ACTION ITEM: The Executive Director should push INAC to provide written position.

ACTION ITEM: The Parties should be encouraged to respond to DDMI and DIAND's responses to EMAB's recommendation.

One EMAB member noted that new Canadian legislation regarding environmental assessment may provide for this specific funding need. E.D. to investigate.

ACTION: Executive Director to discuss the new legislation with CARC and determine if there is such intervener funding available.

Discussion on the idea that the Environmental Agreement does not deal with changes in the project itself, such as changes in the water licence. The Parties must have an opportunity to be involved directly when changes to permits and licences occur.

ACTION ITEM: A letter should be written to DIAND on this issue.

The Chair suggests that EMAB get a review of the water licence amendment application done by Wanda Goulden/Komex for \$3000.

Motion # 03-04-05-02

That EMAB hire Wanda Goulden to review Diavik's water licence amendment application.

Moved: Florence Catholique

Seconded: Doug Crossley

One EMAB member asked what would be done with the report from Komex. A discussion was held.

ACTION ITEM: The idea is for EMAB to provide the report done by Komex to the Parties, should they need it as a reference.

Also, KIA was looking to try and provide a written intervention. Time constraints were expressed in a letter to the MVLWB. KIA expects to have written response in as early as the end of next week.

Carried: Unanimously

Item 7 – EMS Auditor

Diavik is proceeding with the implementation of ISO 140001. They plan to train a number of their staff as EMS Auditors, the goal of which is to ensure compliance with the ISO.

DDMI has suggested that EMAB may wish to consider having one member trained as an auditor. EMAB would decide on a representative and send them on one of the auditor courses, which is possibly a 4-6 day course (including a written test upon completion.) However, EMAB will be responsible for all costs associated with the course: tuition, airfare, accommodations etc.

Cost of course may be about \$1000-\$1500, plus other expenses.

John Morrison noted that he is a certified lead auditor.

The Board will follow up more on this issue at next meeting, as Erik will hopefully have some dates and associated costs for consideration by the Board.

Board Reports moved to Board Meeting to be held next week.

Meeting ended at 2:45.