

# **Porcupine Caribou Management Board Minutes of Meeting**

**February 10 and 11, 2016**

**Trondek Hwech'in Community Hall  
Dawson City, Yukon**

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## **In attendance**

### **Members/Staff**

Joe Tetlich, Chair  
Ed Taylor, Alternate, Trondek Hwech'in  
Wilbert Firth, Gwich'in Tribal Council  
Ian McDonald, Government of Canada  
Billy Storr, Inuvialuit Game Council  
Steven Buyck, Nacho Ny'ak Dun  
Marsha Branigan, Government of the Northwest Territories  
Nicole McCutchen, Government of Yukon  
Kirby Meister, Alternate, Government of Yukon  
Deana Lemke, Executive Director  
Matthias Lemke, Assistant

### **Regret**

William Josie, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

### **Presenter**

Mike Sutor, Environment Yukon

## **Call to Order**

Chair Joe Tetlich called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

## **Review Agenda and Minutes**

The agenda was reviewed by the Board and accepted.

The Minutes of the December 11 and 12, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board, as amended.

***Motion to accept Minutes of the December 11 and 12, 2015 meeting as distributed***

***Moved by Wilbert Firth***

***Seconded by Marsha Branigan***

***Carried***

## **Chair's Update**

Chair Joe Tetlichy advised the Board that he provided a PCMB presentation for IGC on December 18, 2015. Since IGC is under new leadership, Joe felt it would be wise to introduce himself and provide an overview of the Board, as well as answer some questions about the Harvest Management Plan. A PCMB update was also given at the Regional RRC meeting in Inuvik in January.

Joe related that he also recently explained HMP milestones and process in Old Crow and that Wilbert Firth will be making a PCMB presentation to the Tetlit RRC.

## **Administrative and Financial Report**

Executive Director Deana Lemke updated the Board as follows:

- E-mail notices regarding expiring terms of some members have been sent out to affected parties. Steve Buyck's term will expire at the end of May and Art Christiansen's term at the end of March. Joe Tetlichy's term as Chair will be expiring at the end of October. A notice regarding appointment of a Chair will be sent out before that, following the Board's review of the process for Chair appointments.
- Mary Gamberg's contaminants information was distributed by e-mail to the Board. If anyone has comments they are requested to let Deana know.

The Board's financial variance report was reviewed. While the budget is underspent in some areas, others are overspent. By the end of the fiscal period, Board expenditures are expected to be almost on budget for expending all of the core funding, as well as going into some of the surplus funds, as anticipated. Lindsey Staples' contract will be funded from the HMP budget allocation.

***Motion to appoint M. McKay and Associates as auditor for 2015-16***

***Moved by Marsha Branigan***

***Seconded by Billy Storr***

***Carried***

In response to feedback from the Board, Kelly Milner developed additional harvesting posters to provide a positive message in contrast to the previous posters regarding ethical harvesting (Respect – No respect). The posters were reviewed and members commented that they looked very good.

As a follow-up to the last meeting, correspondence was sent to NWT parties about the regulation changes which were co-sponsored by PCMB and YFWMB. Nothing has been heard back in response. The next step is to advise YG that the Board is in support of seeking the Minister's approval for the changes. Then a joint letter to the Minister of Environment will be drafted by YFWMB and PCMB. Nicole McCutchen noted that the minister is waiting to hear back from the two boards. It is expected that he will make respond separately to each regulation change proposal, as he also needs to respond to YFWMB's recommendations on other regulation change proposals.

## **Herd Update**

### **Government of the NWT Update**

Marsha Branigan provided the following update to the Board:

- Sample collection from hunters was very successful this year; many kits have been received.
- ENR will be attending and participating in the upcoming caribou hunter education workshop in Fort McPherson.

### **Government of Yukon Update**

Mike Suitor provided the following update to the Board:

- Preparations for the annual spring collaring work are underway. Collaring will start mid- to end of March, pending some issues with the helicopter contract. Regular monitoring — the calving survey, for example — will be done in the spring.
- YG will be attending workshops in Fort McPherson and will provide presentations and posters on Hart River regulations, hunting rights along the highway, body condition monitoring, and the overall monitoring program for the PCH. YG will also have some hunter education-related presentations.
- YESAB returned a recommendation to send NYC's project to the Executive Committee level as they are not sure whether the project will have significant impacts on the PCH and they are unable to determine how the PCH would interact with project. Within the North Yukon Land Use Plan there are provisions to develop access plans prior to development; however that work was apparently not done. A cumulative effects assessment for caribou was also not completed. NYC's application has not been moved forward.

Kirby Meister added that Environment Yukon is getting ready for monitoring a spring hunt on the Dempster. They are currently short-staffed, but will be hiring conservation officers before summer. They hope to have officers on the highway in March and April. Work is continuing on investigations regarding the abandonment of four bulls that were shot in October 2015. The matter is before

the Department of Justice to decide how to proceed. An update may be available to present at the upcoming workshop in Fort McPherson.

## **Next Meeting and Closing Prayer**

The next Board meeting will be held in Aklavik on April 29 and 30, 2016.

A closing prayer was offered by Joe Tetlich and the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.