

Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

102nd Meeting of the Board of Directors

Yellowknife, NT – December 4th, 2018

Summary of Discussion

Directors

Jaida Ohokannoak
Emery Paquin
Tim Byers
Ron Allen
Kim Poole
Jesse Jasper
Bill Slater

Staff

Marc Casas, *Executive Director*
Shannon Moore, *Communications & Admin Specialist*

Meeting chaired by Jaida.

December, 4th, 2018. Start time: 9:01am

Agency Business

Chair/Director Updates

Directors have been reviewing company documents as they've been sent out, as well as the Agency's outgoing letters. One of our directors has been asked by the GNWT if he is interested in continuing as the Agency representative of GNWT, Canada, and DDEC for another 3-year term – he has indicated that he is.

Kim Poole attended North American Caribou Workshop in Ottawa in October – over 500 people participated. The workshop focused on boreal caribou, but many presentations and discussion related to barren-ground caribou and sensory disturbance. Ron Allen attended an Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (land claim groups looking at status) in November – caribou were a focus at this meeting as well. Government management of tags and hunting is problematic in NWT.

Staff Updates

The Executive Director met with Dominion during the NWT geoscience Forum in November, DDEC reported that Ekati budget and expenses are being watched closely due to budget restrictions and poor diamond prices. Layoffs have been occurring, and accounting functions are moving offshore.

Because Dominion is no longer publicly traded, less information is flowing out to the public about projects and financial backing.

Communications:

The Communications and Admin Specialist reviewed numerous actions and updates that have happened since September, 2018. This includes a revamping of the Ekati Monitor (Agency newsletter) template, major upgrades to the Ekati Timeline, constant updating of links and structure of the Agency website, and the completion of translated versions of the Agency video (Wìlìideh, Chipewyan, Tłıchǫ, and Inuinnaqtun). The videos have been uploaded to the Agency website, and will be loaded onto thumb drives for distribution to communities.

Financial Report

2018- 2019 Year-to-Date Expenditures and Variance Report – an updated Variance Report and YTD Expenditures were presented. Four board meetings were budgeted, but only 3 held, and this will make a difference in projected expenditures to year-end.

Review of Audited Financial Statements Report: The report was summarized for directors.

RFPS for a new auditor were sent out to 5 companies this year, and replies received from 3 of them. Selection of a new auditor will be discussed with Society members at the AGM.

ACTION ITEM 1: Get clarification from one of the applicants on their breakdown of costs – for AGM discussion.

Correspondence

Incoming correspondence since the last board meeting was reviewed.

ACTION ITEM 2: Circulate the response from the GNWT declining Dominion's request to separate securities for land and water activities to the Agency Board.

Review of Previous Action Items

Action Items from our last board meeting were reviewed and discussed. Actions were either completed, or determined to be unnecessary (i.e. purchasing a new external hard drive for back up is not necessary as we already have one).

See Action Items file in the 101st Board Meeting folder for further details.

Current Items/Out for Review

- Potassium Toxicity Study Design Plan and Response Framework v 2.0 – December 7, 2018
 - Temperature issues – metabolic rate makes a difference in organism sampling.
- AEMP Response Plan – Fish v1.2, Phosphorous v 1.3, and Chloride v1.2 – January 17, 2019
- Jay AEMP Design Plan and Response Framework – January 31, 2019
 - The RF doesn't include a drinking water aesthetic guideline BM. This topic will be deferred to the ICRP comment process.
 - DDEC indicates a BM is only required for closure and reclamation – but the ICRP says a benchmark is not appropriate because it's too subjective.
- ICRP v 3.0 – Technical Workshop to be held Jan. 22-23, 2019
 - Final comments – due February 21, 2019

Policy Review

Risk Management Plan (Last Updated – December 2017)

- Added “Data Breach” — to consider our digital information

As part of the Risk Management Plan, add Occupational Health and Safety will be added (see WSCC report in board meeting folder)

- Identify and manage all hazards in the workplace.

Motion to approve revised version: Emery Paquin

Seconded by: Kim Poole

All in favour – carried.

Other Business

Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan 3.0 Community Visits & Presentation

Directors discussed and agreed that a series of community visits on the ICRP by IEMA staff and selected directors would be worthwhile, to inform the communities on the content of Ekati closure and reclamation plans, particularly changes and matters that may be of concern to them. Tentative dates from Jan 8 to late February were suggested, subject to community interest and availability.

ACTION ITEM 3: Compile general community visit costs/rates for future budgeting.

Election of Officers for 2019/20

- Chair – Jaida (acclaimed)
- Co-Chair – Emery (acclaimed)
- Sec-Treas – Kim (acclaimed)

TK Elders Group Status

- IEMA hasn't been receiving information on these (more info needed, desired)

Dropbox

- Review Documents – becoming difficult to navigate
 - Divide into subdirectories based on topic
 - Example: 6 directories for Jay project (will be combined)

Future Meetings

- Board Meeting (fiscal planning) – Tentatively March 4th-8th, 2019
- Annual Report writing session – Tentatively May 6-10, in a Tlicho community
- AGM – special meeting (by telephone) required for quorum/approval of meeting minutes and new honorarium rates

Meeting Adjourned by Jaida: 3:10pm, December 5, 2018