

**Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency
92nd Meeting of the Board of Directors
Yellowknife, NT
December 8, 2015
Summary of Discussion**

Directors

Bill Ross
Tim Byers
Jaida Ohokannoak
Arnold Enge
Emery Paquin
Doug Doan
Kim Poole

Staff

Jessica Simpson A/Executive Director

Meeting commenced at 9:00 am on December 8.

AGENCY BUSINESS

Information Updates

Bill: Since the last board meeting in September, he has attended the technical sessions, and community hearings for the Jay Project. Bill also met with Rick Bargery, DDEC. At that meeting, Rick indicated that at the public and community hearings, DDEC would make commitments to cumulative effects management of caribou

Regarding IEMA's position on the timing for DDEC submission of the AEMP Review, Bill called Harry O'Keefe, DDEC, and left a voicemail and there has been no communication since.

On October 1, after the hearing, DDEC held a 1 day workshop to discuss compensatory mitigation on caribou (cumulative effects management). The Mackenzie Valley Review Board had an observer who asked for the minutes to be submitted to the Board.

Kim: Participated in a number of Jay related activities including, the technical report, public hearing, Behchoko community meeting, caribou offset meeting, and Agency closing arguments.

Emery: Participated in work relating to the Jay Project and incinerator management. Coming out of the technical session, there was an undertaking by the GNWT on incineration monitoring. The Agency raised the issue of continuous emissions

monitoring (CEM). The only variable DDEC currently monitors is combustion temperature, While one can argue that's a good measure, the GNWT was asked to describe CEM requirements of other Canadian jurisdictions. From GNWT's response it became apparent that the company's monitoring would not satisfy most jurisdictions' requirements. A new recommendation was included in the Agency's Closing Statement suggesting DDEC revise their Waste Management Plan to include CEM of incinerator performance and emission gases.

Emery also reviewed the Jay Project Aquatic Effects Management Framework and the company's waste management plans (WMP). Recommendations on the WMP were submitted to the WLWB in the form of a comment table.

Tim: Worked on the Jay Project technical report, and helped review the Agency presentation on water and fish for the public hearing. Peter Unger from the Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN) sought Tim's support in trying to understanding some of the issues with the Jay Project, e.g., meromixis and caribou Zone of Influence. Tim and Kim participated in a LKDFN community meeting September 10 via Skype that addressed a number of community concerns regarding the Jay Project, caribou and water.

Arnold: Kept the books and minutes in order this past year and continues to provide updates on the status of the other diamond mine environmental monitoring agencies. He continues to provide grammatical corrections when recognized. He participated in the recruitment for the new Executive Director. Interviews were held December 7, 2015.

Jaida: For the Jay Project, Jaida attended the public hearing on air quality and the community hearing in Kugluktuk - her report was circulated to the Directors. She also participated in writing the Agency's closing arguments. Jaida also worked on the recruitment for the new Executive Director.

Doug: reviewed the work of other Directors and participated in the recruitment for the new Executive Director

Recruitment for New Executive Director

The Selection Committee completed the interviews on December 7th and have made their choices. They will be making an offer soon and hope to have someone in the position beginning in January.

Financial and Variance Report

Directors reviewed the Expenditures Year-To-Date and the Variance Report covering expenditures to October 31, 2015. The Agency anticipated and realized an over expenditure in the Separate Fund with our participation in the review of the Jay Project. Directors directed that a letter be prepared to DDEC advising the company of the anticipated shortfall, reasons for the shortfall and request additional funds for 2015-16.

Bill Ross's Term

The GNWT and DDEC have not yet appointed a person to replace Bill. Bill's term as a Director and Chairperson will be finished as of the AGM, December 10, 2015.

Because of the recent election in GNWT Government, there is an expectation a new Member will not be appointed until there is a new Minister of ENR.

Communications Update:

Jessica explained that she has been back to work since just after Thanksgiving and worked part time until November 19th, at which point she started to work full-time and became the Acting Executive Director.

Jessica's main projects since then have been to organize this board meeting, the AGM and the Environmental Workshop. She is also maintaining the finances, such as processing invoices and financial statement.

Jessica will maintain the financial duties until an Executive Director is hired. In January she will begin cleaning out and organizing of the office, such as transferring files from the very old computers to the server, organizing the annual reports in the storage room, and making sure the old and new websites are up to date.

Jay Project – Analysis of the Hearings

The Report of Environmental Assessment (REA) is due in January. For the purposes of the Agency's annual report, Directors will review their sections.

Directors discussed their observations from the community and technical hearings. Tim observed that community hearing in Lutselk'e seemed to be much more "anti-Jay" than Behchoko or Kugluktuk. It was also mentioned in Lutselk'e that there are only 2 people from the community that work at Ekati. The community also feels that traditional knowledge wasn't being used to its full potential. Tim's analysis is that the folks who

work at DDEC might not really understand what traditional knowledge is. All of DDEC's senior staff was in attendance.

Lutselk'e questioned the effect of meromixis (where layer of water do not mix) - what if it does not work (and all the water in the pits mix up) and the pit water is very salty, will this potentially create a situation where the lake ice does not freeze thick enough for caribou to cross at Lac du Sauvage?

Jaida commented that the community hearing in Kugluktuk was not well advertised by the Mackenzie Valley Review Board. It seems that they did not take NIRBs advice, such as using radio advertisements. People only found out about the hearing because they saw everyone walking from the airport to the community hall. DDEC has a community liaison for the area who was not effective. A lot of the people who should have been there were not, and it was only the Hamlet that had anything to say. The Hamlet's statement was not specific to DDEC or Ekati Mine, but more about their general concerns for the area.

Agency's Annual General Meeting

The Agency will be hosting its AGM on December 10, 2015. One of the agenda items is Changes to the Society By-Laws. Changes to the by-laws can only be made by the Agency's Society Members. Jessica sent out the proposed changes (by e-mail) to our Society Members a few weeks ago for their review.

Directors discussed the agenda and their roles during the AGM. Bill said that the AGM is not a meeting for the Directors, but rather a meeting for our Society Members, with the chairperson facilitating. At AGM's, Director often gain insight and or get some direction or focus for the year to come.

Although Bill's term ends at the AGM, he offered to chair the meetings subsequent to the formal AGM, including the meeting with Aboriginal Society Members and the Agency meeting to select their new Executive Committee.

Following the AGM, Directors will meet with any Aboriginal Society Members to hear if there is anything they wish to discuss without the presence of government or the company.

Proposed Changes to the Environmental Agreement

The Agency has accepted the legal opinion of Gavin Fitch (McLellan Ross). The Agency has asked 1 lawyer for 2 opinions (one of which was an updated opinion). Bill will discuss the Environmental Agreement when he makes his presentation at the AGM.

Other Business

Next Board Meeting: The Agency would like to pair its March Board Meeting with a Community Visit, either in Behchoko or with the North Slave Métis Alliance. Jessica will send a doodle poll to see what dates suit best for Agency Directors.

Annual Report Writing Session: Directors decided that the next session will be May 4,5 and 6 and it will be in the North. Jessica will scout some locations and get some estimates.

Jessica will send gifts to Tony and will make a card for Tee and Kevin.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm on December 8, 2015.

Action Item # 1: Jessica will send Directors a Doodle Poll to see what dates work best for the next Board meeting.

Action Item # 2: Jessica will create estimate for the next Annual Report Writing Session.

Action Item # 3: Jessica will send the gifts to Tony and will make farewell cards for Tee and Kevin.



**Summary of Discussion Approved by
Kim Poole, Secretary Treasurer.**
