

Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board

Annual General Meeting – December 2, 2015

EMAB Boardroom – 50/50 Mini Mall, Yellowknife, NT – 9:00 a.m.

Approved Minutes

Present:

Sean Richardson, <i>Chair</i>	Tlicho Government
Charlie Catholique, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Arnold Enge, <i>Secretary Treasurer</i>	North Slave Metis Alliance
Julian Kanigan, <i>Director</i>	Government of the Northwest Territories
Jack Kaniak, <i>Director</i>	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Napoleon Mackenzie, <i>Director</i>	Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Gord Macdonald, <i>Director</i>	Diavik Diamond Mines Incorporated

Staff:

John McCullum, <i>Executive Director</i>	Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board
Also <i>Minute Taker</i>	

Guest:

Kate Witherly, <i>Manager</i>	Government of the NWT, ENR
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Agenda Item	Discussion	Motions/Action
1) The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.		
2) Remarks from the Chair	Sean Richardson opened the meeting with a welcome to the invited guests and Board of Directors to the Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board Annual General Meeting.	
3) Introductions and comments from the Parties	The Chair asked participants to introduce themselves and invited any comments. Kate is Manager of the EA Group at ENR.	
4) Approval of the Agenda	The 2015 AGM Agenda was presented. Motion: <i>To approve the agenda for the 2015 AGM as presented.</i> Moved by: Jack Kaniak Seconded by: Arnold Enge passed	

5) Conflict of Interest

No conflicts declared.

6) Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the September 18, 2014 Annual General Meeting were presented.

Motion: *To approve the September 18, 2014 minutes of the Annual General Meeting as presented.*

Moved by: Arnold Enge

Seconded by: Jack Kaniak

Motion Carried

7) March 31, 2015 – Audited Financial Statements

Arnold Enge, EMAB’s Treasurer, presented the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015.

John Laratta, Managing Director from Crowe MacKay LLP was present as the auditor

The report included 2015 Financial Highlights regarding the revenues, expenditures, overall results and financial position.

There were a few queries about details of various line items.

- Higher contract wages was for temps to upgrade the library
- Would like more information on the community consultation line under Board in future audits

Motion: *To approve the audited financial statements as presented for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015.*

Moved by: Julian Kanigan

Seconded by: Napoleon Mackenzie

Motion Carried

Query about the TK Panel and whether transfer of the Panel to Diavik complied with the Environmental Agreement. Noted that the EA allows for EMAB to set up a TK Panel, but that the Panel under Diavik is no longer part of the EA.

Break

9) Environmental Agreement Amendment / Review

Kate Witherly updated the meeting on behalf of the GNWT.

- GNWT has more responsibility after devolution; AANDC has delegated its authority under the EA to GNWT until the EA is amended.
- GNWT started discussions with the Parties in June; some Parties don't want to remove AANDC from the EA
- DDMI wants to open up the EA
 - GNWT will only support this if all Parties agree
 - Meanwhile GNWT wants the devolution-related changes to the EA soon, as a separate process from opening up the EA
- Query about dispute resolution; GNWT feels these changes are fairly simple

Gord Macdonald arrives at meeting and provides an update on DDMI's views on the EA

- DDMI has been meeting with Aboriginal Parties on the
- Intent is to get best value from EMAB for Aboriginal Parties
- DDMI met with Land-Environment representatives at the end of October and reviewed 6 options
 - One option was chosen to pursue
- Communities want technical reviews done and summarized into "what matters"
 - Land-Environment reps are overwhelmed with the amount of information they receive
 - They believe a technical board, along the IEMA model, would be better
- The group would like to add a process where the Board can interact with the Parties on proposed nominees to the Board to provide a range of expertise
 - There is some concern about the EA requirement that either the Board member or alternate be from the north
- The group is considering EA amendments or a separate MOU among the Parties
- The Aboriginal Parties don't want to have to trade off on removal of AANDC from EA
- DDMI would like to amend the funding clause to make it simpler
 - They think a technical board would be cheaper than the current board
- DDMI would like to remove the Additional Security in the EA
- DDMI will come back with specific language in 1st quarter of next year

Query regarding how well the Land-Environment staff represent the Parties' views. Understanding is that they have a mandate to discuss options.

NSMA needs EMAB to provide oversight of environmental management plans at Diavik.

EMAB can set up a Science Panel under the EA – this could be the technical board

Noted that the Additional Security is the cost for government to mobilize if they have to do clean-up at Diavik. DDMI believes this cost is already in the Reclaim model, so in the Security Deposit.

Noted that the Security sections are complicated.

Also noted that the Parties can appoint whoever they want so there is no need for changes to the EA to allow for this.

Noted that the community base of the Board is important and should be retained, so the Science Panel approach would be preferable.

Noted that SLEMA has a Panel. This is an Elders Committee; they do not have a Science Panel.

DDMI is expecting draft wording before Christmas with a response from the Aboriginal Parties by end of January.

Noted that Land-Environment staff are particularly concerned about closure.

Suggested that EMAB contact the Land-Environment staff about a possible meeting with EMAB.

Query about the EA Assessment that GNWT committed to at the last AGM. GNWT still plans to do this.

Action: ED to draft a letter to the Parties requesting a meeting with EMAB, copied to: Ginger Gibson/Sjoerd vanderwielen – Tlichio; Geoff Clark – KIA; Mike Tollis – LDFN; Todd Slack – YKDFN and Shin Shiga - NSMA

8) Election of Officers

The process for election of officers commenced for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair & Secretary-Treasurer. ED took over the Chair

Motion: to open nominations for Chair

Moved: Gord Macdonald

Seconded: Jack Kaniak

Passed

Jack nominates Sean

Sean declines

Sean nominates Julian

Charlie nominates Arnold

Julian declines nomination

Motion: to close nominations for Chair

Moved: Jack Kaniak

Seconded: Sean Richardson

Passed

Motion: to open nominations for Vice-Chair

Moved: Sean Richardson

Seconded: Charlie Catholique

Passed

Arnold nominates Charlie

Julian nominates Sean

Sean declines

Gord nominates Jack

Jack declines

Motion: to close nominations for Vice-Chair

Moved: Jack Kaniak

Seconded: Gord Macdonald

Passed

Motion: to open nominations for Secretary-Treasurer

Moved: Julian Kanigan

Seconded: Sean Richardson

Gord nominates Julian

Motion: to close nominations for Secretary-Treasurer

Moved: Sean Richardson

Seconded: Jack Kaniak

passed

EMAB Executive for 2015-16:

Arnold Enge: Chair

Charlie Catholique: Vice-Chair

Julian Kanigan: Secretary-Treasurer

10) Responsibilities of Board Members

GNWT representative made a presentation reviewing relevant sections of EA, by-laws and Operations Manual.

Action: ED to circulate Conflict of Interest declaration to all Board members

Action: update Operations Manual to clarify responsibilities of Board members to keep their Party updated, consulting with their community etc.

Noted that Board members should make presentations at conferences

Action: when sending letters to Parties, copy Land-Environment Managers. ED to provide briefing notes to Board members for updating Parties.

Noted that some Board members may not be aware of the contents of the EA, By-laws and Operations Manual

Action: Add a Members Report as a regular item on the Board agenda. This could be part of Community Concerns

7) March 31, 2015 – Audited Financial Statements (cont.)

Motion: To re-appoint Crowe-Mackay as EMAB auditors for 2015-16

Moved: Gord Macdonald

Seconded: Sean Richardson

passed

11) Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn the 2015 AGM

Moved: Gord Macdonald

passed

Chairman

Vice-Chair