

**ARCTIC BORDERLANDS ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY  
BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2007  
10 am – 11:00 am PST**

**Participants:** Michael Svoboda, Mike Gill, Robert Charlie, Dorothy Cooley, Joanne Ahlfs, Kenneth Frank, Michelle Sicotte.

**Regrets:** Lisa Taylor, Jerome Gordon, Gary Kofinas, Charlie Snowshoe, James Andre, Matthew Gilbert and Wanda Pascal

**MINUTES**

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1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Joanne Ahlfs.

2. Approve Agenda

Agenda reviewed by Joanne Ahlfs.

**Moved:** Mike Gill

**Seconded:** Michelle Sicotte.

**Opposed:** none.

3. Nomination of Robert Charlie as Chair of the Board

Board of Directors had previously agreed for Robert Charlie to be Chair of the Board and President of the Coop.

**Moved:** Mike Gill.

**Seconded:** Michelle Sicotte.

**Opposed:** none.

Robert Charlie becomes chair on the call.

4. Approve Minutes of September 5, 2007 Board Meeting

**Moved:** Kenneth Frank.

**Seconded:** Joanne Ahlfs.

**Opposed:** none.

5. Review Action Items from last meeting (bottom of agenda)

**REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM SEPTEMBER 5TH BOARD MEETING:**

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ACTION	UPDATE
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1. Lisa to send email to Board requesting responses on recommendation to nominate Robert Charlie as new chair & president. As well as asking if there is anyone else who would like to put their name forward.	Everyone was in favour of the recommendation.
2. Lisa to get Board Binder to Michelle	Done
3. Lisa to check with new board members about orientation.	Done. No one felt need for conference call as this time. They will ask questions as needed.
4. Lisa to check with Randall to see if he is interested/able to be a monitor and trainer this year	Randall is in Old Crow until Feb. and is interested in doing the training but not available to be monitor
5. Michael to update the budget to reflect latest realities including adding honorarium expenses for questionnaire reviewers.	Done (sent out before BODcall)
6. Michael to send draft Terms of Reference to Board for approval	Done
7. Michael to incorporate honorarium exp for experts that are going to review questionnaire.	Done (sent out before BODcall)
8. Michael and Gary to talk more about the questionnaire review	Set up for Alaska meeting
9. Michael to send draft strategic plan to Board for comment.	Done (sent out before BODcall)

**Action:** Michael will bring a binder for Joanne when traveling to Alaska.

Michael trying to set up another meeting with the YTG Bureau of Statistics (end of October) to discuss possible collaboration on the interview (feedback on the questionnaire as a survey tool). Michael will be talking to Jadah Folliott prior to that meeting.

#### 6. Financial Update (Treasurer)

Michael Gill gave the treasurer's report. Gave highlights and flagged IFA funds. Main items – 116K anticipated. Cash flow is tight, but funds are expected to be received in the next six weeks based on information provided by our funding partners. Michael is working with partners and paper work for flowing funds. Mike Gill gave update on where funds are at and which ones have 'advances'.

Mike gave update on proposed budget. We are proposing to reduce the core operations budgets (administration, annual Gathering, Community Monitoring, Data Management/Communication) in order to find funds for our questionnaire review and synthesis project. This would result in us having to hold the Gathering in Inuvik or Whitehorse to save money and would result in a reduced number of interviews (possibly from 20 interviews per community to 15 for this year).

Alaska funding is directed for Alaska work (interviews; getting Alaskans to the Gathering, etc.) and is separate from the other funds administered by the Coop.

For this year, the proposed budget will not allow for a \$20k buffer as originally proposed. This is due to unique funding needs for this year (synthesis, questionnaire review). We have not abandoned the buffer idea and will be establishing this in subsequent years.

Proposed Budget:

**Moved:** Michelle Sicotte.

**Seconded:** Dorothy Cooley.

**Opposed:** none.

## 7. Program Director Report

**Action:** Michael will contact Randall to discuss map preparation for the interviews and will follow up with him doing the training for this year.

Meeting set up in Fairbanks, Arctic Village, Kaktovik and Venetie – face to face meetings to discuss community needs and experiences and discuss questionnaire review with Gary.

Michael met with Northern Climate ExChange to discuss collaborations. They are interested in working with us to get our results out in regards to climate change adaptation and impacts. They will likely participate at the next Gathering and could help us produce and communicate the community monitoring summary reports. They will be putting in a proposal for the IPY Communications, Outreach call coming out in a week. They can put in a piece for the Coop that supports the Coop's synthesis work – producing a video for instance summarizing the results.

EC is discussing its role in community-based monitoring. There budget reductions have resulted in a priority lowering for community-based monitoring in EC. This makes the results of our synthesis report even more important in order to show the value and output of community-based monitoring to EC decision makers. EC most interested in how the information will help decision making.

The Synthesis ToR has been circulated and Michael has approached 3 potential contractors to bid on this work. Board is encouraged to let others know about this contract opportunity. WMAC (NS) is focusing on doing the synthesis work for the North Slope and by extension, the community of Aklavik. We will build on this synthesis for a Borderlands wide synthesis, but would start the wider synthesis soon after.

YTG 15K commitment is contingent on finding leveraged funding for the synthesis work. GNWT may provide additional funds towards the synthesis.

Michael will be reviewing the GIS component of the Coop data and will be speaking with Jadah Folliott and others to understand this piece. Once up to speed, Michael would then talk to YTG Bureau of Stats and others to discuss how we can improve our spatial data collection and output.

Michael has developed a request for data access form for people to use when interested in using the Coop database. Gary is interested in reviewing the database in order to help with the questionnaire review – this would not involve publishing of the data.

Michael has submitted the ARI Research license application.

Questionnaire review – looking to begin this prior to the end of November. Step 1: What are we trying to obtain? Step 2: Review questionnaire in terms of how well it provides the information we want.

Michael traveling to Alaska this month.  
We will find out about INAC CIMP funding on October 11.

CARMA linkages? Database/questionnaire review will assist CARMA in developing community-based monitoring methodologies.

#### 8. Other Business

**Action:** Michael to circulate synthesis information, Board contact information, and questionnaire review background to the Board.

#### 9. Next Meeting

**Next Call: Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 10am Pacific time, 11am NWT time, 9am Alaska time.**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Moved: Mike Gill.**

**Seconded: Joanne Ahlfs.**