

Alesek Renewable Resource Council
Regular Meeting 02-09
February 9, 2009
6:30 p.m. ARRC Office

Participants:

Wade Istchenko-Chair
Paul Birckel
Patt Delaney
Boyd Campbell
Greg Eikland
Remie Dionne
Susan Desjardins- Recorder
Fran Graham

Approve Agenda 02-09

Motion 01-02 - Patt moves to accept the agenda as presented. Boyd seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

Delegation- Fran Graham- Coordinator of “Climate Change in Our Backyard 2”

Fran discussed with Council the invitees for the Climate Change in Our Backyard 2 workshop that will occur March 9-12/09 here in Haines Junction. CAFN and ARRC will be co-hosting this workshop. There is also a video contest for kids to take part in as well. All members of the ARRCouncil will attend, and will be available to help lead discussion as needed.

Old Business

Bear Management Planning

Wade attended a conference call to discuss next steps for Bear-Human Conflict Management in the CATT. YG has expressed that they have monies available to bring some people to the Yukon from the lower 48, to present info on bear human conflict strategies. There would be a public meeting as well as a workshop. Wade stressed to YG that an educational initiative around public safety needs to be out to the public for the spring. This could be informing the public of the Deputy CO program, reminding the public of who to call when there is a bear in your yard or in your space. Council discussed the value of a phone survey performed in the CATT to ask people how they feel that bears should be handled in a conflict situation. It was noted that there are policies that CO's need to adhere to but the difficulty lies in how consistently those policies are carried out in an inconsistent situation. A community member suggested that if the Yukon Government wants to know why bears are coming into town and want to gather information, that those bears that do come into town be collared and studied as opposed to those in the wild.

Forestry

Remie and Susan attended a forestry meeting hosted by CAFN. This meeting was part of the Spruce Bark Beetle Management Pilot Project to share the findings of the CAFN National Forest Pest Strategy Pilot Project. Firesmart activities occurred as a pilot project on two different cabins in the CATT. Costs were about \$7500.00p/ha not including administration. Ongoing maintenance will also need to occur. Other methods discussed were trenching around cabins and pump and sprinkler setups.

Bison Update

Paul attended a Bison TeleConference in Whitehorse. To date 47 bison have been harvested. Council is concerned that the target harvest won't be met this winter. Hunters were not informed until the end of September that there would not be a permit hunt. As well it has been quite a cold winter, and not many bison have been spotted in their "normal" areas. The disproportionate cost of the bison tag compared to other species was discussed.

MayoRRC Letter for Minister Taylor

The Mayo RRC sent a letter to Minister Taylor regarding site visits and the frequency that they are performed. Mayo RRC has requested that "new" monies be allocated towards flight time for the CO's to provide more coverage of the districts, especially since the "meat first" regulation was accepted under the Wildlife Act. The Minister has responded and replied "I have asked the department to assess the Council's recommendation in the context of other priority program needs and objectives". Susan will contact the CO's in the Haines Junction District and request the number of site visits performed within the CATT per year.

Action Item 01-02-09- Susan will contact the CO's office in Haines Junction and request the number of site visits performed within the CATT per year

Finance and Administration

Update

Susan attended a Secretariats Meeting in Whitehorse, hosted by YG. Topics discussed included dealing with the media, RRC mandate review, and a brief overview of the draft Forestry legislation. Also a short presentation about the YFWMB's website, and the sites for each RRC was given. It was a great chance to network with the Secretariats from other RRC's as we have had a turn over and have some new people just starting.

While at this meeting Bernice from Teslin RRC showed us the new mapping system they have been working on. It consists of a 40x40 base map with Mylar maps that go over top so that many values can be viewed at once. This would be a very beneficial system for AlsekRRC. Bernice will send more information out about it soon.

Susan is away February 27-March 16. The next meeting date to be established when she returns.

Review Workplan and Budget 2009-10

Council reviewed the final Budget and Workplan for 2009-10. Council offered Susan a raise of \$1.00 per hour at this time, which she accepted.

Motion 02-02-09- Paul moves to give Susan a raise of \$1.00 per hour. Greg seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

Motion 03-02-09- Paul moves to accept the budget with the change made by Council to account for Susan's raise. Greg seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

Finance Update

Council remains in a surplus financial position. Council discussed some plans for next year. There are some obligations that need to be fulfilled under the Strategic Forest Management Plan by the ARRC, a bird banding presentation for the community was suggested, as was an educational presentation on moose, and some community dinners.