



PEEL WATERSHED
 PLANNING COMMISSION
 TOGETHER FOR THE PEEL • CHUU TL'TI GEENJIT KHETOK

**Peel Watershed Planning Commission:
 Meeting #4 Minutes**

August 25-26, 2005
 Triple J Hotel – Dawson City, Yukon

Meeting #4 August, 2005

In Attendance:

Peel Watershed Planning Commission

Albert Genier – Chair
 Steve Taylor – Member
 Marvin Frost – Member
 Sam Wallingham – Member

Support Staff

Brian Johnston – Coordinator/Land Use Planner
 Kathleen Zimmer – Office Administrator
 Gerald Isaac – Meeting Facilitator

YG Staff

John Spicer
 Jim Bell

Agenda Item #1: Welcome

Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting began at 9:05 pm Gerald Isaac provided welcoming remarks. 	

Agenda Item #2: Review Agenda	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission members reviewed agenda. • Commission members agreed to add 4.1 Members Report to include a report from Albert Genier and Steve Taylor regarding their trip to the GTC General Assembly. <p>Motion #1: To accept the agenda as presented with the addition of 4.1 Members Report Moved: Steve Taylor 2nd Marvin Frost All in Favor Passed by Consensus</p>	

Agenda Item #3: Delegates	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<p>Issues and Interests Presentations from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackenzie River Basin Board (oral presentation) • Regional Economic Development – YG (oral presentation) • Hunt Oil (written submission) • Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) (written submission) 	<p>1. Brian to obtain DIAND-Yellowknife water survey results.</p>

Agenda Item #4: Review Minutes and Action Items	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission members reviewed the minutes and agreed that a description of the meaning of the Peel Watershed logo under Item # 8 Logo should be included. <p>Motion #2: To accept June 2, 2005 Minutes with the addition of the description of the meaning of the logo. Moved: Marvin Frost 2nd Sam Wallingham All in Favor Passed by Consensus</p>	<p>2. Gerald and Kathleen to work on descriptive meaning and add to minutes.</p>

<p>4.1 Members Report</p> <p>Albert Genier and Steve Taylor reported on the GTC General Assembly that they had attended in Inuvik August 24th, 2005.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albert Genier read a report at the General Assembly that was provided by Brian Johnston regarding the progress to date for the planning commission. • Albert Genier said that it was a good meeting; it was good for the profile of the PWPC, and that the Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) was willing to move forward with the process. • Brian Johnston offered to make available copies of the report he provided to Albert Genier. • Albert Genier and Steve Taylor both commented that there was interest among the GTC members regarding the nomination of another commission member for the GTC. • Marvin Frost commented that he had heard talk of Aklavik's interest in having input into the process and asked Steve Taylor and Albert Genier if that had been brought up at the General Assembly. • Albert Genier replied that they had not heard anything. • Gerald Isaac explained that Aklavik would have input through the GTC and the appointment process. • Sam Wallingham asked what the status was on the Yukon Government appointment. • Gerald Isaac speculated that it could take until Christmas before the commission had additional members. • Brian Johnston and Gerald Isaac explained that the GTC process included: nomination, screening, and then endorsement from GTC. • Gerald Isaac commended Steve Taylor and Albert Genier for making the effort and long drive to attend the GTC General Assembly. 	
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Agenda Item #5: Director's Report	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Johnston read his report to commission members and highlighted the effort made by staff to involve industry in the consultation process. • Albert Peter, YLUPC chair, told the commission that the Council had met with the Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Mines and that the Council had expressed concern over the lack of interest by industry and the Chambers in particular. The Chamber replied that it was not lack of interest but lack of time that had stopped them from participating, but they expressed the desire to 	

Agenda Item #5: Director’s Report	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<p>keep the channel of communication open.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Johnston reviewed the highlights of the written submission from the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP). • Steve Taylor commented that large companies have their own studies and that the results should be submitted to the commission and that those reports would be more useful than commenting on process issues. • Brian Johnston explained that many of CAPP’s comments are accepted planning principles already discussed by the commission i.e.: open and accountable, preexisting rights etc. Brian Johnston did agree with Steve Taylor that business should contribute all they can to the data collection. • The commission discussed the need for additional public consultation. Brian Johnston suggested that perhaps he and possibly one board member visit each community again in a less formal way mid to late October. This may be able to be tied into data collection. Marvin Frost agreed that going back to the communities was necessary. • Albert Genier expressed concern that new commission members may bring new issues to the attention of the Commission, after the “Issues” phase is complete. He also expressed concern that big industry’s perspective may not be received if they fail to participate in the planning process. • Brian Johnston assured commission members that after the Commission reviewed and approved the issues report, it will be sent to <u>all</u> stakeholders to review and comment upon. • Albert Genier reiterated that a formal endorsement from leadership regarding the issues was necessary. • Albert Peter told the commission that Angus Robertson, Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines and Resources had requested an issues briefing and an update on all land use planning and this would be an opportune time to ensure buy-in from senior officials, SLC and elected representatives. • Brian Johnston reported to the commission about the NatureServe Margaret Lake field trip that he, John Ryder, Ron Cruikshank, and Joella Hogan had the opportunity to participate in. To date, very little is known about the ecology of the Peel Watershed and the summer’s research was very basic. NatureServe will be providing a report to the Commission on the findings of the preliminary field trip. Brian Johnston expressed how important and valuable it was to see the area for which the plan is being developed. He expressed how difficult it would be to develop a plan without having some personal familiarity with the place. 	

Agenda Item #5: Director’s Report	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albert Genier and Sam Wallingham questioned the value of travel on the land and the related costs. • Brian Johnston, Gerald Isaac and Jim Bell all agreed the plan would lack credibility if the senior planner and the Commission members had never stepped foot within the planning region. First hand knowledge of the land was critical. • Albert Genier added that such experience could be valuable as long as it is not detrimental to the budgetary needs for fulfilling the planning exercise. He suggested supplementary funds could be found from other sources for such travel. • Brian Johnston went through the Information Requirements Table (<i>see attached</i>). He advised the commission that the choice of targeted subject areas for data collection would depend upon the advice of both the scientific and aboriginal communities. There is currently no large mammal data for the Peel region. Which mammal they concentrate on may depend on First Nation priorities. • Steve Taylor related that it was also important to get out and talk with the elders. They often have knowledge that is not found at First Nation offices. • Marvin Frost said that this was true in Ft McPherson also. • Albert Genier recommended the collection of more economic information, perhaps from the Department of Economic Development as to what economic opportunities are available in the Peel. • John Spicer talked briefly about the upcoming Opportunities North Conference September 20 – 21, 2005 and handed out information sheets. • Albert Peter suggested the possibility of a joint NYPC, PWPC and YLUPC booth and suggested that it was a good opportunity to promote land use planning. 	<p>3. Sam Wallingham to research free booth for the Commission.</p> <p>4. Brian Johnston to research more information on economic opportunities in the Peel.</p>

Agenda Item #6: Review of TWG Meeting	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Johnston reviewed the results of the TWG meeting (held July 1, 2005), the role of the TWG. • The next TWG meeting will possibly be in October to coincide with the YESAB workshop. • Albert Genier wanted Roads to Resources added to the TWG meeting notes under sources. He also explained that the Dempster Highway has recently received national designation and that this may change the issues surrounding the Dempster corridor. 	<p>5. Brian Johnston to invite</p>

Agenda Item #6: Review of TWG Meeting	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Johnston suggested that a request for a presentation from Department of Highways would be a good idea. 	Dept of Highways to make a presentation to the Commission.

Agenda Item #7: YESAB – The Commission’s Role	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ron Cruikshank reviewed possible planning commission recommendations with respect to their role in the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Review Process. He asked the commission to review the recommendations and provide feedback and approval. No motions were passed at this time. No discussion took place. 	6. Commission members to review and provide feedback.

Agenda Item #8 Commission Finances	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kathleen Zimmer reviewed the prior year financial statements and the current year state of finances with the commission. She explained that it would be a challenge to ensure that data collection costs do not exceed budgetary constraints in the upcoming months. Commission members discussed the provision that states that the commission may cover “extraordinary costs” for the participation of TWG members. Steve Taylor stated that he does not want the commission to cover the participation costs of any TWG members. 	7. Jim Bell and John Spicer will research the possibility of getting financial help from the Ad Hoc Trans boundary group for the costs of the Ft McPherson TWG member. The group may also help with data collection.

Agenda Item #9: Correspondence	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence was reviewed without comment. 	

Agenda Item #10 & 11: Issues Scoping	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Johnston reviewed the Issues Report and the Issues Summary Table with the Commission. A number of planning issues were presented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goals and objectives should be included at the beginning of the Issues Report. Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) had money available to do some data collection and analysis for the PWPC. YLUPC, NYPC and PWPC are still working on a Land Designation System. The current application from Hunt Oil for seismic exploration in the Turner Wetlands was still under negotiation with Yukon Government to follow established “best practices”. Baseline data was needed to determine water quality. Making regulations is not a PWPC mandate, however, PWPC can make recommendations. The Issues Report and the meeting minutes will be circulated to the TWG members. The Commission needed agreement on the Issues Paper. Albert Genier commented that possible future export of water, hydroelectric, uranium mining and First Nations harvest rights should be considered in the issues. There are uranium leases in the Watershed. Strong regulations are needed. Albert Genier and Sam Wallingham recommended that the TWG read and comment upon the Issues Report and the data collection table before the Commission reviews and approves it. They commented that each community has different priorities and they want to make sure that each community has input. Brian Johnston commented that the issues contained in the paper are the issues the PWPC heard in each community. Sam Wallingham and Albert Genier requested that the Issues Summary Table be sent out to the 	<p>8. Brian Johnston to distribute the Issues Report to the TWG members for comment. They will have a two-week deadline.</p>

Agenda Item #10 & 11: Issues Scoping	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<p>TWG members for ranking. Give them a two-week deadline and ask them if the issues paper reflects the issues, is organized in an appropriate way, and the priorities are noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Commission is to revisit the Issues Report for approval at the next meeting. 	

Agenda Item #12: Annual Activity Report and Audited Financial Statements	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Johnston reviewed the Activity Report and Kathleen Zimmer reviewed the Financial Statements with the Commission. <p>Motion #3: To accept the Annual Activity Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2005 as presented. Moved: Sam Wallingham 2nd Marvin Frost All in Favor Passed by Consensus</p>	

Agenda Item #13: Chair Appointment and Memberships	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albert Genier suggested that the Commission should wait to vote on a new Chair until the new members are appointed. He is willing to continue as interim until that time. <p>Motion #4: To accept Albert Genier continuing as interim Chair until new appointments are present. Moved: Marvin Frost 2nd Sam Wallingham All in Favor Passed by Consensus</p>	

Agenda Item #14: Next Steps	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate draft Issues Report to the TWG members and give them a two-week deadline for comments. • Brian Johnston and Jim Bell will rework the Issues Report before circulating to the TWG. • Letter to the Deputy Minister, Angus Robertson regarding data sharing and including data collection in budgetary considerations for each partner department. • Meet with Mark O’Donoghue regarding wild life data collection. • Further community consultations. • Build maps that show the existing data that has been gathered for the land use planning process. Present these maps at the next commission meeting. • Opportunities North Conference – Albert Genier would like to attend on behalf of PWPC. 	

Agenda Item #15: Next Meeting	
Discussion Topic	Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Whitehorse after October 17th but before October 31st. 	

Meeting adjourned at 3.45 pm		
Approval of Peel Watershed Planning Commission Meeting # 4 Minutes (August 25-26, Dawson City, Yukon)		
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Chair	Coordinator / Land Use Planner	Date