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17 REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

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19 Fenton O. Rexford, Chairman

20 Ray F. Koonuk, Sr., Vice Chairman

21 Harry K. Brower, Jr., Secretary

22 Terry L. Tagarook

23 Gordon C. Upicksoun

24 Ben Hopson

25

26 Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

27

28 FISH and GAME COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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30 Fenton O. Rexford, Chairman

31 Gordon Upicksoun

32 John Miller

33 Elijah Attugana

34 Mark Ahmakak

35 Edward Hopson, Sr.

36 James Kignak, Sr.

37 Sam Rulland

38 Rossman Peetook

00111

P R O C E E D I N G S

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(On record)

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good morning, everyone. I'd like to
6 call our joint meeting of the North Slope Regional Advisory
7 Council and the North Slope Fish and Game Management Committee
8 meeting back to order after overnight recess. We did a lot
9 yesterday and hopefully we'll get done before late afternoon.

10
11 The second page under old business will take us about
12 half an hour to 40 minutes, so this morning we'll start off
13 with the proposals. I think we have four or five proposals
14 that we need to take a look at this morning for consideration
15 and forward them on to the Federal Subsistence Board for action
16 and deliberations. We'll probably take each proposal
17 individually and act and deliberate on each proposal as they
18 come in, so we'll be going through the order of 9A, Barbara
19 will be introducing the proposal.

20
21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Helen.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, Helen. It's on the first page
24 under Tab Q. And then the biological socioculture analysis,
25 Helen will also be doing that. Summary of written public
26 comments.

27
28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Helen.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen, okay. Then the floor will be
31 open for public comments on the proposals. After that is done
32 we'll hear from the various agencies, under agency comments and
33 some pertinent data that go along with the proposal from the
34 Federal and State of Alaska. And then the Council will
35 deliberate and make action and forward and make recommendation
36 to the Federal Subsistence Board.

37
38 To my understanding, the Federal Subsistence Board will
39 be meeting toward the end of April so any information you have
40 on the proposals will really help. Bring them along and
41 discussion is encouraged on the subject, so at this time we
42 have Helen to discuss the proposal to change Subpart C, c&t use
43 determination and Subpart D for seasons, harvest limits,
44 methods and means for the Federal subsistence regulations.

45
46 Helen, the floor is yours.

47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We'll start
49 under Tab Q, as Fenton said. If you look at page three under
50 that tab there's a summary of the proposal I'll be discussing.

00112

1 It's RFR, which stands for Request for Reconsideration, R97-16.
2 I'll go into a little bit more detail about this since we have
3 the Committee here today and they aren't familiar with this
4 proposal from last year.

5
6 This is a proposal we dealt with last year, voted on,
7 so the Board passed and the State has come back with a Request
8 for Reconsideration. Any person or group or agency has the
9 right to come back to us and say, we don't agree with this and
10 we would like you to reconsider it. Just as a point of
11 information, we are attempting to change that process, because
12 if there's no new information our office feels that they
13 shouldn't be coming back just because there's a disagreement
14 with the decision. And in this case it was a disagreement with
15 the decision.

16
17 The proposal is for all of Unit 26 for a customary and
18 traditional use determination for sheep. And you probably
19 remember we had a lot of discussion about this last year. We
20 went into a lot -- I tried to get as much information as I
21 could from the Council about sheep use. And it was passed by
22 the Board but as I said, the State disagreed with that
23 decision. They're Request for Reconsideration follows that
24 page three of the executive summary, if you wanted to quickly
25 look at that. On the format they have here is the format is
26 the format we have for Request for Reconsideration.

27
28 The main dispute they have with it is that there isn't
29 adequate information for the communities of Atqasuk, Barrow,
30 Nuiqsut, Point Lay, Wainwright, and Point Hope to provide a
31 customary and traditional use determination. Now, they did not
32 have a problem with the portion of the proposal that included
33 the Unit 24 villages of Chalkyitsik, Venetie, Fort Yukon,
34 Arctic Village. That wasn't part of their RFR. Actually I
35 called Elizabeth Andrews to verify that because it wasn't
36 mentioned. Their problem -- and they didn't have a problem
37 with Anaktuvuk Pass or with Kaktovik. They only has a problem
38 with the remainder villages, Atqasuk, Barrow, Nuiqsut, Point
39 Lay, Wainwright and Point Hope.

40
41 And the way we do customary and traditional use
42 determinations, for the benefit of the Committee, since they
43 haven't been a part of this, is we have eight factors that we
44 have to look at and those -- and the State of Alaska Fish and
45 Game felt that we didn't fulfill those eight factors and that's
46 why they were having a problem with them.

47
48 And just to summarize those eight factors, it's a long
49 term consistent pattern of use; a pattern of use recurring in
50 specific seasons for many years; a pattern of use consisting of

00113

1 methods and means of harvest, characterized by an efficiency of
2 an economy of effort; and consistent harvest and use of fish or
3 wildlife as related to past methods and means of taking; or
4 reasonably accessible from the community. That's so that
5 you're going in an area that's close by. Means of handling,
6 preparing, preserving and storing fish and wildlife that's
7 traditionally been used by past generations. A pattern of use
8 which includes the handing down of knowledge of fishing and
9 hunting skills, values and lore from generation to generation.
10 Sharing in the community and reliance on a wide diversity of
11 fish and wildlife resources.

12
13 This analysis that I'm going to go over doesn't go
14 through all the eight factors because that was in our previous
15 analysis, so I summarized it in here. There is a table on the
16 -- if you turn then to after the RFR for the State, then page
17 -- the page numbers are a little strange in here, they don't go
18 consecutively, but then there's the draft comes next that says
19 Draft Staff Analysis on the top of the page. On the third page
20 of that there is a table that there is a table that summarizes
21 what was the c&t determination prior to last year and prior to
22 last year -- it's page nine, it's next to the map.

23
24 Prior to last year Anaktuvuk Pass, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut
25 and Wiseman had c&t for sheep for Unit 26(A). And that, after
26 the Board meeting last year, was expanded to include all
27 residents of Unit 26, Point Hope, Anaktuvuk and it removed
28 Wiseman, and that was upon the recommendation of the Eastern
29 Interior Council or Western Interior Council. And that was a
30 member from Wiseman who said they don't go into 26(A) on a
31 regular basis.

32
33 Then in 26(B), prior to last year, it was residents of
34 Anaktuvuk Pass, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut and Wiseman and now it's
35 expanded to include all residents of Unit 26, Anaktuvuk Pass,
36 Point Hope and Wiseman.

37
38 And then in 26(C), prior to last year, it was Kaktovik,
39 Nuiqsut, Arctic Village, Chalkyitsik, Venetie and Fort Yukon
40 and it was expanded to include all the residents of Unit 26,
41 Point Hope, Anaktuvuk Pass, Arctic Village, Chalkyitsik, Fort
42 Yukon and Venetie.

43
44 There was -- we, and I say all of us, the Council,
45 myself, the staff, we left out Anaktuvuk Pass from Unit 26(C)
46 and so that was corrected last summer when it became apparent
47 that it has just -- I think because we keep kind of forgetting
48 that it's not in 26 that it's in 24 because it on the boundary.
49 It was just an administrative error, I think, that it didn't
50 get put into the motion by the Council and nobody caught it.

00114

1 So that was added after April of last year and put in in July.

2

3 The summary of the proposal analysis we did last year,
4 there was plenty of evidence that Kaktovik, Anaktuvuk Pass,
5 Arctic Village and Wiseman met most of the eight factors.
6 There weren't any real questions over that and the State didn't
7 have a problem with those. Where we had some -- a fair amount
8 of discussion here, was we discussed Nuiqsut's uses and the
9 thing the State gets kind of hung up about a little is that we
10 don't have information in the literature, in research that's
11 been done. And I guess I want to emphasize that I think if we
12 can get more information here, that it might help. I did have
13 some -- I quoted from our transcript last year the information
14 that was discussed at the meeting last year. And Mr. Long from
15 Nuiqsut was providing us with the information last year. And
16 said that there are people who are going hunting for sheep but
17 we just don't have any record of it. And I think that the
18 Council and the Board felt that was probably adequate to give
19 them a c&t determination. And Fenton also had talked last year
20 about knowing people who had gone sheep hunting, who were going
21 from Nuiqsut over to Canada.

22

23 Barrow is kind of an interesting situation where there
24 was a subsistence use study done in Barrow by Steve Braund in
25 the late '80s and they did find some people who hunted sheep,
26 but they tended to be people who were not subsistence users,
27 that sheep was the only thing they were hunting and they were
28 traveling by plane and there was some question about whether or
29 not it was truly a subsistence use or it was more of a sport
30 hunt. But Harry, I believe, at the Council meeting last said,
31 you know, that it was possible there were people and Barrow is
32 a big place and it's hard to know if people are going sheep
33 hunting.

34

35 There also -- I think yesterday you were talking about
36 this, Mr. Hopson, there -- we do know historically that people
37 hunted sheep, I don't think that's actually an issue really,
38 it's whether or not they do it today, and it's a continuing
39 practice. And that's up to the Council to make that decision,
40 you know, how they feel about it.

41

42 Then in Point Hope we -- I have found some more
43 information about Point Hope people -- well, we -- there was a
44 researcher who had written about -- in the 1800s that there
45 were more sheep in the area then and that people were sheep
46 hunting, and my guess is that probably people weren't going
47 after sheep as much in Point Hope until just recently, as
48 Mr. Koonuk very carefully advised us last year, that people
49 have started up sheep hunting some more and that seems to be
50 from what you said, Mr. Koonuk, last year that the sheep

00115

1 hunting is going on from Cape Lisburne down to Cape Thompson.
2 So it does appear that there's some sheep hunting in Unit 26,
3 probably on the border and that most of it may be more in Unit
4 23.

5
6 For Point Lay last year Mr. Upicksoun talked about
7 Point Lay's sheep hunting uses and we're going to discuss this
8 more, we have another proposal for the one that you made in the
9 fall for going -- Point Lay people going into 23, so we'll get
10 more into that in a little while, but I guess my one question I
11 have on this one is, you have talked specifically about going
12 into the Noatak Preserve and I would be -- which is in Unit 23,
13 it would be useful to know if you think people are also getting
14 sheep at all in Unit 26. That kind of information for the
15 record would be really, really good.

16
17 We don't have any information about Atqasuk sheep
18 hunting use and Wainwright. I think, Terry, last time, you had
19 said you had never heard of anybody getting sheep in
20 Wainwright, but if they saw one and they needed one, they would
21 take one. If I'm remembering the way you phrased that.

22
23 In terms of new information there have been some
24 harvest documentation reports that Harry and Taqulik are doing
25 that have come out, that they're doing for the North Slope
26 Borough Wildlife Department. And I always emphasize with
27 these, that these are one year, little snap shots of what's
28 going on and, in fact, one of my comments when I reviewed the
29 first report they did was that that needed to be emphasized
30 because people will sometimes take those one year reports as
31 kind of the word of God, that this is what they do all the
32 time, when really it's what people did during one year. And,
33 as you know, things vary every year. But in the study they did
34 in Atqasuk as well as in Point Lay there weren't any sheep
35 harvest reported.

36
37 I also spent a little bit of time talking to Sver
38 Pederson who's from the Subsistence Division in Fairbanks for
39 ADF&G and he's done -- had done some subsistence mapping on the
40 whole North Slope back in the late '70s and this was a point
41 that Sver brought up. When they did that mapping, they went to
42 the villages and they, you know, asked what do you harvest?
43 Where do you harvest it? They had those maps reviewed by the
44 city councils and leaders in the village and that was when
45 sheep had not been included for those communities, so that's
46 why they feel pretty strongly -- that ADF&G feels pretty
47 strongly that sheep are not a subsistence resource for these
48 communities.

49
50 But Sver also agreed with me that, you know, things

00116

1 change and use patterns change. Point Lay, for example, is a
2 relatively newly resettled community where people's uses are
3 going to change, technology changes, people have more powerful
4 snowmachines, the sheep harvest could -- the sheep population
5 can be up and so that it's possible things have fluctuated.

6
7 So what I think what I'm looking for here is any more
8 information that you can give me to help strengthen the
9 analysis that was done previously. Mr. Upicksoun gave actual
10 names of people, which was really good. If I could get maybe
11 years of when they may have gone and maybe numbers of sheep
12 that they may have taken, it would strengthen it. You know,
13 the difficulty were in is that with these eight factors, and I
14 think you so wonderfully pointed it out, I remember so well
15 last fall you said, well, what happens if we have no
16 information for any of the eight factors? And I said, well,
17 that's a good point. And I understand what the Council wants
18 is to have the same determination for the whole Slope and that
19 makes sense to me. It makes if -- because we're kind of, at
20 the moment, restricted by this eight factor problem. It makes
21 it difficult to make the determinations. The Board is, I
22 think, willing to not have all those eight factors fulfilled
23 because they obviously supported the Council's recommendation
24 last year.

25
26 I did not come up with a conclusion or a recommendation
27 because I felt I wanted to come back to the Council for
28 additional information to see where you wanted to go on this.
29 How you felt about it. And with that, I'll turn it to the
30 Council for deliberation.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Helen. (Inupiaq)

33
34 So we've heard the introduction and proposal on RFR
35 97-16, the State of Alaska, again real quickly, has gone back
36 to the Board, although this was passed by the Federal
37 Subsistence Board feeling it was sufficient from our testimony
38 and comments that we made last fall were prior to their meeting
39 was sufficient enough for the Federal Subsistence Board to okay
40 this regulation, but the State has some headaches of no written
41 history. Let's see, I think that's the brunt of it or the
42 short end of it there that we should exclude Barrow, Atqasuk,
43 Nuiqsut, Wainwright, Cali (sic) and Point Hope from hunting in
44 other areas. And I know.....

45
46 Mr. Hopson.

47
48 MR. E. HOPSON: I don't understand about Atqas -- I
49 mean Point Hope, that area. What did you say? I missed your
50 last statement. Are they included or excluded?

00117

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: They're excluded from all of Unit
2 26. What we're trying to do is get all of the communities.

3
4 MR. E. HOPSON: Can you take comments now or.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

7
8 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. Mr. Chairman, it has been
9 my concern when they exclude those that means that from Point
10 Hope to Barrow and this area is off limits, closed season for
11 sheep in the regulations? Is that what it means?

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It means that people could hunt
14 under sport hunting regulations, but not as a subsistence
15 hunter for sheep.

16
17 MR. E. HOPSON: I'm sorry, I got hearing aid, but
18 I.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (Inupiaq)

21
22 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, I'm not speaking for myself on
23 this issue. Is it so much wrong, out of order if they were
24 just left along? No closed season, no open season? You
25 believe that means that we have to go to Kaktovik, get on the
26 airplane, come back and go get a moose, I mean, sheep. I not
27 speaking for myself. See, Wainwright can be taken -- take off
28 in Wainwright in the morning and during that day they can get a
29 sheep. In that one day, that's one day trip. Point Lay, too,
30 I guess.

31
32 So that's my concern. Along with these regulations
33 you're going to impose penalty. A regulation is never without
34 a penalty for violators. (Inupiaq) Now my -- you can either
35 include all these villages -- and one question I should have
36 asked before was, has there been a reporting for taking sheep
37 before?

38
39 (No audible responses)

40
41 MR. E. HOPSON: All right, they have taken. I make
42 ulus once in a while and just last week I called my
43 brother-in-law in Wainwright, he sent me a sheep horn. They're
44 not very old, I can tell a new freshly and a year or two old on
45 a sheep horn. So they have never been a reporting requirement?

46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Maybe I can clarify that. Not only
48 -- it's not that they haven't reported, but when studies have
49 been done, there was a long term two year subsistence use study
50 in Wainwright that Steve Braund and Associates did with in

00118

1 conjunction with the North Slope Borough and that they never
2 showed any sheep. But like I said, it's only two years and so
3 sometimes that infor -- because if it's not very frequent use
4 then it won't show up.

5
6 But this kind of information that you have about your
7 brother having a sheep horns is exactly what we need to give
8 some evidence. I don't think that the Board will necessarily
9 go against this, but they have to reconsider it because it's
10 been asked. And so any information you can give, if you,
11 yourself, have gone sheep hunting before, if you can put that
12 into this record, it would help. So any information you can
13 give of people you've known who've gone sheep hunting would
14 really help.

15
16 MR. E. HOPSON: So that, Mr. Chairman, I really want to
17 express -- let my concern known because you can -- I don't
18 think there's anything wrong with whoever make these
19 regulations, just to omit it, just leave it the way it is.
20 That doesn't mean that because there's no closed season on this
21 area we better go and take all the sheep, it don't mean that.
22 People will take what they need, Wainwright and Barrow.

23
24 I have know that people used to travel, they go
25 upstream from Coville River go up into the mountains, they come
26 in from Kobuk area, there's a podi (ph) up there, where they --
27 all they had to do to pack your stuff over to the other river,
28 you come upstream from the Kobuk side and you're down stream
29 from the Coville. Use to be that traffic, you know. We all
30 know that.

31
32 And my parents they used to do a lot of trading. My
33 parents participated and my father did. So they has been some
34 sheep taken along this area and I don't see any -- you either
35 have to leave it the way it is, no regulations or you just have
36 to include it in all the North Slope area, including Anaktuvuk
37 Pass. Treat all these villages the same. So I don't want to
38 have to become a sports hunter, go to Kaktovik, get a sheep.
39 That cost money. I'm looking for subsistence, to survive in
40 subsistence and this still is a main portion of our livelihood
41 is subsistence. So either leave it the way it is or include it
42 within all the North Slope villages, same.

43
44 That's my concern. I'm speaking for my kids and my
45 grandkids and everybody. I don't know how you feel, but
46 (Inupiaq) Transportation is getting better. I know that my
47 grandkids going to be -- my grandchildren already from
48 Wainwright are making almost a round-trip to mountains from
49 Wainwright, you know that, Rossman.

50

00119

1 MR. PEETOOK: (Nods in the affirmative)

2

3 MR. E. HOPSON: My son's in Wainwright, he's got two
4 sons that are very capable now. So include them, treat them
5 same way as all the North Slope communities in the regulations.
6 I don't want to be left out. I'm not going to do it, but my
7 children and my grandkids are going to be doing it. Technology
8 is getting better and better, we're going to be entitled to
9 better transportation yet. I think snowmachines are coming out
10 good.

11

12 By the way when I first bought that first snowmachine
13 Tom Brower bring in six first Polaris, they call Mustang. And
14 my oldest son was going to school, I had him -- as a painter
15 trainee, in the summer time I work trucks and foreman. And I
16 bought a snowmachine, and by the way I went to Brower Store,
17 get out my wallet, paid that machine in cash. I still have
18 some money in my pocket, about \$850, but here's what I did.
19 They come in with a seven and a half engine and some of them --
20 half of them with 14 horsepower. I told my son I got a machine
21 down at Brower's, go pick it up but be sure to get the seven
22 and a half because don't by the 14 horse, that's dangerous.
23 Now they have, what, 60, 70, 200 horsepower in the
24 snowmachines, whatever it is.

25

26 But anyway, again, include Point Hope, all the villages
27 down the coast including Barrow and Atqasuk. Same way as you
28 make regulations as far as sheep. And then I don't have to --
29 and then I will not see my grandkids fined and maybe some jail
30 time for taking sheep. Is that clear?

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You're clear, Edward, thank you,
33 Mr. Hopson.

34

35 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Terry and then Mr. Upicksoun.

38

39 MR. TAGAROOK: When you look at the map and you see
40 Wainwright along the coast what Eddie is saying is true. We
41 have people that are up there in the mountains now. They have
42 cabins up there in Carbon Creek and go to Eskimo Hill, maybe
43 even go on to the other side. And if they see a sheep, by
44 chance, I think they will get sheep.

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do you know of anybody who's taken
47 any recently?

48

49 MR. TAGAROOK: Not recently, but I know for sure they
50 will.

00120

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: How about, Rossman, do you know of
2 anybody in Wainwright taking sheep?

3
4 MR. E. HOPSON: The problem I think some people are
5 misled about is there have never been a reporting requirement
6 for taking sheep.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Mr. Upicksoun and Mr. Koonuk.

11
12 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman. They lump these four
13 villages together because we must satisfy factors one and four.
14 I can give you written testimony regarding how an individual
15 took his son sheep hunting. I'll give you testimony from
16 residents of Point Lay how they have gone sheep hunting with
17 their dad. You mention the fact that we had a meeting this
18 fall, you failed to recall that the fact that I was at Cape
19 Lisburne in July, sheep were spotted in Cape Lisburne last
20 summer in July. You failed to mention that I mentioned that
21 during our fall meeting.

22
23 You failed to mention that. I can provide you
24 information regarding how this individual took his son sheep
25 hunting, they're currently residents of Point Lay. Now, they
26 hunted in Unit 23. Now this problem of units come up. They
27 are relatives but then they hunted sheep in Unit 23. I spotted
28 -- I was with people at Cape Lisburne, they say, Gordon,
29 there's sheep up there at the top of that cliff. I was right
30 there in Cape Lisburne in July when they told me that. I
31 mentioned that last fall, you failed to recall it in your --
32 you mentioned the fact that you needed more information.

33
34 Mr. Chairman, that's what I wanted to provide.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Mr. Koonuk then
37 Helen.

38
39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Can I just ask Gordon a question?
40 I'm just curious, was that -- when you saw the sheep at Cape
41 Lisburne, is that something unusual for you to see them there?

42
43 MR. UPICKSOUN: This is not for me to determine,
44 there's elders here, there's residents of Point Hope here also.
45 That's about halfway between Point Lay and Point Hope.
46 Residents of Point Hope, maybe Ray, maybe Mr. Attugana can give
47 you more information regarding sheep in our area. Regardless
48 of whether it's in Unit 23 or 26, they can provide you further
49 information, Helen.

50

00121

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right. See, I've been wondering if
2 maybe just there are more sheep now and.....

3
4 MR. UPICKSOUN: That might be the case, we don't know.

5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. And I'm thinking that -- see,
7 I have a theory that people don't hunt what's not there, that's
8 true, right? They're not going to hunt if it's not there.

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay, we've discussed the regarding
11 Nuiqsut area where people have been -- their parents have lived
12 in that area.

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

15
16 MR. UPICKSOUN: It's not recorded so. And then we
17 touched on introduced species. We make regulations regarding
18 musk-ox. How about sheep? Where is the line, Helen?

19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, I think your statement is really
21 good. I think that it's really true. I think -- and see, I
22 want you to know that I don't have a problem with it, I
23 mean.....

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: I know you're trying to give us
26 information on and we're trying to provide you input.

27
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: I want a positive determination for
31 Point Lay and for the other three villages also, but then
32 there's some way we got to satisfy factors one and four which
33 they were put together, those two factors weren't satisfied and
34 why do they lump all four together, what aspect of it do we
35 have to satisfy? I can provide you written testimony regarding
36 how this dad took his son sheep -- they're residents of Point
37 Lay. And then also the fact that I was with people in Cape
38 Lisburne, which is halfway between Point Hope and Point Lay in
39 July where there were sheep right there. So is there a history
40 written? You want written, our written history doesn't go that
41 far back.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Upicksoun.

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I have one more question for --
46 Mr. Upicksoun, when the people who you gave testimony last fall
47 who had been sheep hunting and that is in the Proposal 94
48 analysis, when was that? Like what decade? It doesn't have to
49 be exact year. Was it 1980s, 1990s, 1960s?

50

00122

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: They hunted right now.....

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They're doing it now.

4

5 MR. UPICKSOUN: Where they hunted they still hunt.
6 That's in the Noatak area, in Unit 23, they still hunt sheep
7 there, Helen.

8

9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay, that's what I needed to know,
10 is whether this was happening right now. And do -- well, I'll
11 get to that one when got to the next proposal.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Upicksoun.
14 Just for your information. It's not recorded in the last
15 analysis, but for the record your statement on sighting sheep
16 is in the minutes of -- the ones we just adopted yesterday.

17

18 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. I brought up the fact that she
19 did not recall.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, it's not in the executive
22 summary.

23

24 MR. UPICKSOUN: I mentioned at the fall meeting,
25 Mr. Chairman, but she did not recall the fact that it was
26 mentioned.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's not in the draft analysis, but
29 it is recorded in the minutes that we adopted for the Council.

30

31 Mr. Koonuk.

32

33 MR. KOONUK: Yes, for the record, there has been a
34 couple of guys, I think last summer, that have caught sheep. I
35 don't know if I should give you the names but I'll just say a
36 couple of guys that caught the sheep. And also in the past
37 about my grandfather, back in the '60s, when he didn't have any
38 ivory he would use the sheep horns, you know, to carve out of
39 the horns, you know, to make his baleen baskets. So he would
40 use those. I can recall that.

41

42 And there's some local guys that carve sheep on ivory,
43 I'm pretty sure they hunted sheep. And maybe Elijah might want
44 to.....

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The guys who got sheep last summer,
47 do you know where they got them?

48

49 MR. KOONUK: Right around -- probably around Cape
50 Lisburne area.

00123

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Cape Lisburne, okay. Great, that's
2 what I need.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ray. See if Mr. Attugana
5 has anything to add.

6
7 MR. ATTUGANA: (Inupiaq)

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Elijah. Okay, I'll try
10 and -- well, I'm not going to try it, but I will translate here
11 what he was saying.

12
13 He remembers as a young boy not quite be able to follow
14 and hunt. His relatives and fathers were around Wevuk (ph)
15 which is Inupiat term for Cape Lisburne, and it was in the
16 summer, there was no caribou caught for a while, they'd take
17 some sheep back to the village for food and subsistence. They
18 would bring them back to the community to share.

19
20 But recently when he was able to start going out
21 hunting by himself or with his family, the sheep declined,
22 there was hardly any sheep that they sighted, but since about
23 eight years ago they started seeing sheep around their hunting
24 grounds. And just two years ago he counted 17 sheep that he
25 counted at Cape Lisburne around someone's subsistence camp,
26 Lane's subsistence camp.

27
28 So the younger generation who may have been looking at
29 them or just looking at them need to -- have not eaten them or
30 hunted them, but there's been occasion where they did catch
31 sheep and taken it back to the elders for their food. But this
32 new younger generation -- he mentioned that due to the fact
33 that they haven't hunted or learned how to hunt it, but the
34 generation before that was very efficient in catching sheep.

35
36 But they've been start -- sighting -- every year now
37 they sight sheep around Cape Lisburne and south of Point Hope
38 around the rivers in the foothills or the mountains there in
39 the wintertime. So if I've missed anything, let me know.

40
41 Mr. Upicksoun.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Chairman, the Board of Game may
44 this determination that we've not satisfied factors one and
45 four. I had the pleasure of -- I was lucky to attend the last
46 Board of Game meeting in Nome. We saw how the Board of Game
47 acts, how they make these determinations. We had
48 representatives from the Slope attending every hour of the
49 week-long Board of Game meeting. I just talked to talked to
50 Taqulik, Taqulik was there every hour of every -- of that

00124

1 week-long meeting. She was there too. I just told her, you
2 know, when -- had we been there when they made the
3 determination that we did not satisfy factors one and four, we
4 would have been able to provide testimony and maybe they would
5 come up with a positive determination. We had the pleasure of
6 seeing how the Board of Game operates. And we got to attend
7 more Board of Game meetings when our proposals are being
8 addressed.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Okay. This was in front of
11 the Subsistence Board, but the State requested for
12 reconsideration. It hasn't come up before the Board of Game.

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right, exactly. Yeah.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Who had their hand up? We'll
17 give you time here in just a little while, Mike. We'll need
18 your public testimony for the record and then Taqulik.

19
20 Was there a hand on this side? Mr. Hopson, Patkatok
21 and Ms. Hepa. Mr. Hopson.

22
23 MR. B. HOPSON: You know within the last several
24 seasons I've noticed some Barrow residents coming within the
25 Anaktuvuk Pass area to hunt sheep recently. And I haven't see
26 their, like, documentation of their hunt published on paper or
27 anything. But I've noticed several hunters making use of the
28 Anaktuvuk area for sheep. These were Barrow hunters.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: May I ask.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Ben, were they coming by plane, by
37 snowmachine?

38
39 MR. B. HOPSON: By snowmachine.

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: By snowmachine.

42
43 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah.

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. That's great information to
46 get, thanks.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Mr. Mike Patkatok has a
49 comment, offering his views on the sheep.

50

00125

1 MR. PATKATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Board. I think
2 it was in 1959 that my parents -- my father who was working for
3 the DEW lines sites moved to Barter Island. And as a little
4 boy there that was my first taste of sheep. And I remember my
5 brother, Arnold Kittick, Sr., who we buried 10 years ago this
6 month, God bless his soul, went out and hunted sheep with a lot
7 of men from Barter Island. I was too young to follow, but I
8 would follow them around seeing them prepare for a hunt.

9
10 Then we moved back to Barrow and still I was too young
11 when Arnold had those, what you call, Weasels, those track all
12 terrain vehicles. And in the early '60s as I became old enough
13 to follow my father forced me to go to school when this type of
14 sheep hunt was going on. And -- well, to this day I thank my
15 father for forcing me to go to school at the expense of going
16 sheep hunting. And when they came back they would detail their
17 hunts of having to take a two-day travel, they'd have to sleep.
18 Well, the foothills they call Kimelura (ph) would be a full
19 day's trip and then the next day they would reach the mountains
20 and begin scoping their hunt for sheep.

21
22 And still the same story as the late '60s came around,
23 I was still forced to go to school when my brother would
24 prepare hunts from here, from Barrow. When they went for immak
25 (ph) and my father used those sheep horns for ulu handles and
26 for a series of other artifacts, you know, my father's a
27 carver. And if you see some of his carvings at the University
28 of Alaska that they put up there, and some of his artifacts
29 that he gave, you'll see that he used sheep horns then. So
30 that can be used as direct evidence of the hunts of my brother
31 and my father who followed along during those sheep hunts.

32
33 Then as I -- well, as the story keeps going, I was
34 either in school or directly becoming a provider for own family
35 and becoming a plumber and then work prevented me from going
36 out sheep hunting with them. Then in the mid-'60s, my brother
37 acquired an airplane, a four-seater Maul, a cloth covered
38 four-seater. I was living in Kotzebue and working there when
39 he flew in and began to excitedly tell me stories of his hunts
40 near Howard Pass. He said he discovered an area right around
41 Howard Pass where he could land, which was a lot closer to
42 sheep.

43
44 And all during that time, from 1959 on, I've had sheep.
45 I acquired a taste for it and to this day I limit my hunting to
46 the ocean and I always tell them, I'll leave that sheep hunting
47 to those that are adept at running around, up and down
48 mountains. But I'll tell you, I got a lot of muktuk to trade,
49 Ben. Fenton. I like sheep, I like the stuff. And to this day
50 I'll -- you know, the friends that I did develop have either

00126

1 moved on from Anaktuvuk that I used to trade with and either in
2 Noatak where they catch a lot of sheep, some of those folks
3 that I did trade muktuk with or oolook (ph), seal oil and ilik
4 (ph) with, for sheep, have passed on, so therefore I have to
5 develop new contacts for this sheep.

6
7 So for -- so there is a lot of unrecorded sheep hunting
8 and customary trade and use with this area up here. Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, than you, Mr. Patkatok.
11 Ms. Hepa.

12
13 MS. HEPA: I was trying to make a couple of phone calls
14 to some people I know from Barrow that do travel to the
15 mountains to harvest sheep and I just talked to one. And he
16 said that growing up as a young man that he actively traveled
17 to the mountains, either by dog sled or by snowmachine to go to
18 harvest sheep. And this guy's not that old, he's getting close
19 to 50.

20
21 And actually he was getting ready to go up -- he was
22 planning his trip to go up to the mountains today, he should be
23 leaving within the next couple of days. And he said, you never
24 know, if he comes across a sheep, moose, whatever, he might
25 just happened to harvest one.

26
27 And you're taking about people who use planes that
28 harvest -- that live in Barrow. From some of my conversations
29 with these people, and I know some of them, that do harvest the
30 meat, they're not just going out there to see who gets the
31 biggest horns, so I know that they bring them back and they
32 share with their friends that live in Barrow some of the meat
33 that they harvest.

34
35 And I think one of the people is a Native person, I
36 think -- he lives in Barrow, he's a pilot, he might have been
37 one of those people that harvested a sheep, and he does fly to
38 the mountains to do subsistence hunting.

39
40 And, again, Mike brought out a good point about the use
41 of sheep in these villages and sharing and trading amongst the
42 communities is proof that people do use sheep, you know, it
43 doesn't mean that they have to go up there and harvest it
44 themselves, but sharing is a real important part and that shows
45 that people do use it from those communities.

46
47 And Gordon Upicksoun brought up a good point. When we
48 were at the Board of Game meeting the people near Nome were
49 trying to make c&t findings for the use of musk-ox and they
50 were looking at all kinds of little things even, you know,

00127

1 stories from elders, even though it wasn't real documented but
2 they were looking for anything and that -- you know, just that
3 little part of information that they had of old memories or old
4 stories would have helped them in making a positive c&t
5 finding.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ms. Hepa. I might want
10 to add, before you speak, Mr. Hopson, that a Barrow relative of
11 ours went and hunted with our relatives in Kaktovik before
12 Thanksgiving. They stayed up there more than a week, it was
13 dark, it was hard to get, but they managed to get sheep. And
14 this is just this last year that a Barrow resident, relative of
15 ours, spent more than a good week following us, learning how to
16 hunt it, and he learned. We taught him because he's determined
17 to get for his elderly parents, who can't provide it, also
18 acquired the taste in bartering and trading. I think this is a
19 very good example, too.

20
21 Like Mike pointed out, walrus is hard to get at
22 Kaktovik or maybe in Anaktuvuk Pass, it's a very good evidence,
23 even though he's stated that they don't to out there and hunt,
24 it's used here in Barrow. But for a matter of fact, just
25 recently, a Barrow of resident, a relative of ours, went and
26 hunt with us and we taught him. The villagers taught him how
27 to hunt over there.

28
29 Mr. Hopson.

30
31 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman, I have to get up to.
32 First of all, let me ask, are we, as a Committee, joint
33 meeting, able to take some action on whatever we need to and
34 approve?

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, sir.

37
38 MR. E. HOPSON: Because the reason why I ask that is
39 because there's some good discussion on this issue that we
40 have, you know, not even recorded on these proposed
41 regulations.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, sir.

44
45 MR. E. HOPSON: This is a start from the State and
46 Federal agencies that subsistence way of life, they're
47 subtracting taking of sheep, excluding in the regulation for
48 subsistence for Point Hope, for Barrow. That's a start.
49 Sometime down the line you're going to lose everything. It's
50 going to be taken over by sports hunters. And we all know

00128

1 that. Whenever the State or Federal make regulations they get
2 a chance to get management of game or whatever, they going to
3 advertise to sports hunters. Permits are issued. There's an
4 income in that.

5
6 Now what I'd like to say is to protect your
7 subsistence, you still are protected by it. Subsistence is
8 protected today. I'm not going to see it, but sometime down
9 the line people are going to suffer for taking game. It's
10 going to be taken over by somebody. Hang on to it if you can.
11 Pretty soon -- you see, the situation if this regulation on
12 sheep comes about, and it started today, in order to take sheep
13 -- I love sheep meat, I grew up around Barter Island area in
14 the '20s. Was up there for about five, six, seven years and my
15 parent take it back to Barrow in the summer of 1929. By that
16 time I was nine years old.

17
18 So the thing is hang on to this subsistence way of life
19 unless something happened and the commercial fishing and you're
20 able to sell fish that you take. In the meantime you have to
21 get a permit and license to do all of that, that cost money.
22 And it's going to be like that sometime down the line. Even
23 Alaska Natives Claims Settlement Act was -- sometime people
24 talk about it, it's going to dissolve. Land claims was
25 engineered so that all the Native owners of the property will
26 lose it.

27
28 So I tell you keep the regulations same on the North
29 Slope for sheep. I never ask anybody, but how is the sheep --
30 anybody keep track of it? There could be more sheep from here
31 down to Point Hope, all the way down to Cape Lisburne. Then
32 the other side. Just like Elijah said, they're sighting more
33 and more sheep.

34
35 So with that, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion
36 to treat North Slope on the sheep issue, same, all the way from
37 Point Hope to Kaktovik for subsistence use. And fellow Board
38 members, I urge you hang on to it, pass it on to your next
39 people that are going to replace you. I was in order to make a
40 motion, Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

43
44 MR. E. HOPSON: Is motion in order?

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, sir.

47
48 MR. E. HOPSON: All right, I move that the sheep issue
49 for subsistence will include Point Hope and all of North Slope
50 eight communities be treated the same for subsistence.

00129

1 Mr. Chairman, I move.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Mr. Hopson.

4

5 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, second that motion.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. Time for
8 deliberation on this matter. I know we've heard some agency
9 comments, I know there was opportunity, maybe at this time, to
10 hear from the other agencies for input.

11

12 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

15

16 MR. UPICKSOUN: Could I make another comment before the
17 agencies present their views?

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

20

21 MR. UPICKSOUN: I'd like expand on what Taqulik said at
22 the State Board of Game meeting in Nome when they were trying
23 to make a.....

24

25 MR. E. HOPSON: (Indiscernible) Mr. Chairman, is my
26 motion seconded?

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes, it has.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray, yes.

31

32 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes, it has. Mr. Chairman, when the
33 State Board of Game was trying to determine customary and
34 traditional use determination for Noatak area regarding musk-ox
35 they cited two pieces of information that were very important.
36 There was a book written in the 1800s, they mention a musk-ox
37 skull. Another information that they use and they were
38 thankful for that got them a positive c&t determination for
39 musk-ox for Noatak, the fact that the elders had written school
40 books for the young children and those books were being used by
41 the school district. That was positive in the eyes of the
42 Board of Game.

43

44 Maybe the Subsistence Board will be receptive to that
45 type of information also, Helen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Just for
48 information, too, that in times when the resource is limited or
49 sustainable yield is gone below what can be caught in terms of
50 population or the numbers of animals taken, having a c&t

00130

1 determination for the residents of the North Slope Region will
2 have priority over the sports hunt. The sports hunt can be
3 closed in times of shortage, so this will help the residents in
4 Region 10, that in times when the numbers are low, that they
5 can close down sports hunt for the benefit of the subsistence
6 users of sheep or any other animals. So it's important that we
7 make this determination and pass that one for our future
8 generation in case the sheep count gets too low, and under this
9 program we will have priority to get sheep.

10
11 Mr. Koonuk.

12
13 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Since Point Hope is
14 sitting in Unit 23, I want to know what the Board members in
15 that area -- they talk about this issue too, Barbara or.....

16
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I can't remember.

18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We -- well, because you're on this
20 Council they didn't because it wasn't -- there aren't villages
21 in Unit 23, except for Point Hope, that come into 26 that I
22 know of or that we've got included in here. We did discuss the
23 Point Lay -- the Proposal 94, the Point Lay one, that one was
24 discussed. But not this one and that was because Point Hope is
25 on this Council. It affected Point Hope, but you're here, so
26 they didn't discuss it.

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, Mr. Upicksoun. I'm sorry,
31 Mr. Upicksoun and then Mr. Hopson.

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Before the agencies present
34 their position on this issue, may we have a 10 minute break
35 after Mr. Hopson addresses the meeting.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

38
39 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman, just a question about
40 Point Hope, their area. They're in a different unit. How does
41 that going -- if -- they may have to have a choice to stay over
42 there in that unit area or North Slope. I really don't know
43 how they operate, who they -- just Fish and Game regulation,
44 regulating to that area, Point Hope area, or how was that? I
45 think pretty soon, maybe as fast as you can, if you prefer
46 change that boundary change, but try and do that as soon as
47 possible.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that was his point, whether
50 Unit 23, which is NANA region area, Region 9's jurisdiction,

00131

1 was his question, so.....

2

3 MR. E. HOPSON: So we don't have too much differences
4 between our area and NANA, so.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: This will be good for the record for
7 them to look at our deliberation of our historical use of sheep
8 in other terrestrial animals, they can follow our suit or
9 follow what we've done for Kivalina and Point Hope in Unit 23.

10

11 Mr. Koonuk.

12

13 MR. KOONUK: The reason I ask that, you know, Kivalina
14 is just right next door and they go hunt around that mountains
15 and I'm pretty sure they caught some sheep. You know, the
16 reason I asked is that, you know, they might have records,
17 documents.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 26?

20

21 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, before -- from Unit 23 anyway, but
22 that could help us, you know.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Mr. Koonuk. Who
25 was next? Ms. Armstrong then, and then Mr. Peetook.

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to clarify for
28 Mr. Hopson that whenever there's a village outside of a unit
29 there's -- we don't have any problem with -- if that Regional
30 Council adds to the c&t determinations. And we have cross
31 overs like that all over the state and right now the existing
32 determination also allows Fort Yukon, Chalkyitsik, Arctic
33 Village and Venetie to come up, and Anaktuvuk Pass is outside
34 Unit 26 and Point Hope. So we just include them wherever the
35 Council has made that recommendation to include them. It's not
36 a problem if they're outside the unit.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you, Ms. Armstrong.
39 Mr. Peetook.

40

41 MR. PEETOOK: (Inupiaq)

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, we'll -- let me just translate
44 real quickly what Mr. Peetook has said about the current
45 generation at Wainwright. Although their parents did hunt
46 early fall and early winter when the meat is at its best for
47 sheep -- you said maybe there should be a system that we should
48 allow getting permits for sports hunters from this unit rather
49 than from the State of Alaska or the Federal Program, not only
50 for sheep but for -- permits for other terrestrial animals from

00132

1 this area, rather than from the State or Federal program. So
2 that's a summary of what Mr. Peetook has said from Wainwright.

3
4 At this time there was a request for a 10 minute break.

5
6 MR. TAGAROOK: Aren't we on a motion here?

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we're on a motion.

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: We're addressing -- we're on questions
11 on Mr. Hopson motion, right, Mr. Chairman?

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: And we'll have more questions after the
16 break on his motion.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, let me just quickly summarize
19 his motion. Mr. Hopson, your motion was to be equal all across
20 the North Slope, like they have access for Kaktovik, Anaktuvuk
21 Pass and our neighbors on the south range. I puzzled as to why
22 the State did not question the folks on the south side, but
23 anyway, you want equal -- be treated equal from Point Hope,
24 Cali (ph), Wainwright, Atqasuk, Barrow and Nuiqsut.

25
26 MR. E. HOPSON: The eight communities.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Including Anaktuvuk Pass and
29 Kaktovik which make eight. I think that is the summary of his
30 motion.

31
32 MR. E. HOPSON: Anaktuvuk Pass is in a different unit,
33 right? And are they.....

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 24, I think.

36
37 MR. E. HOPSON: Would they be covered?

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

40
41 MR. E. HOPSON: Under this motion?

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

44
45 MR. E. HOPSON: All right.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: They're already -- the Board already
48 acted or included -- them folks from Anaktuvuk Pass.

49
50 Mr. Koonuk, before we go on a break, did you have

00133

1 something?

2

3 MR. KOONUK: No.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The Chair will entertain a 10 minute
6 break and then we'll finish the discussion and deliberation or
7 have the opportunity for other agencies to comment on the
8 motion.

9

10 (Off record)

11

12 (On record)

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, ladies and gentlemen, let's
15 find our way back to our seats. There was a request to make
16 public comment while we're deliberating here and we'll also
17 provide an opportunity for agency comments while we're in the
18 middle of a motion from any other Federal agencies, but at this
19 time the floor is open for public comments. And Mr. Upicksoun
20 requested that he be added for public comments. State your
21 name for the record, Mr. Upicksoun.

22

23 MR. JOE UPICKSOUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name
24 is Joe Upicksoun and I've been involved with the leadership in
25 the Arctic Slope. We have three organizations that pretty much
26 cover the boundaries of the Arctic Slope Native Association,
27 some 88,000 square miles. The Arctic Slope Native Association
28 claimed all of the lands north of the Brooks Range going to
29 Chukchi Sea as well as the Beaufort Sea to the Demarkation
30 Point.

31

32 Within that boundary also we were able to create a
33 regional IRA corporation, the only one existed in the United
34 States where it covered all of the same boundaries that ASNA
35 claimed. Thirdly, we have an Alaska State Constitution
36 provision of a municipality that covers the same boundaries
37 where in our borough concept we have the area-wide powers that
38 cover taxation, education, planning and zoning.

39

40 Mr. Chairman, Council members, I am here to support
41 Edward Hopson, Sr.'s motion as well as his comments. There has
42 been, twice, in the last 20 years that I've commented on
43 subsistence because I've always had confidence in the
44 leadership of the Inupiat people to cover specific issues, like
45 subsistence. In my talks to the Inuvial (ph) Village in the
46 Canadian side when they had some concerns about subsistence, as
47 well as our late representative Eileen McClean, when the
48 subsistence became an issue at the State Legislature, then I
49 had to come out and say that there is very definite definition
50 of what subsistence is.

00134

1 And clearly when you listen to our leaders here on this
2 issue, it simply states that subsistence is a total absence of
3 economics. It is a total absence of economics. From that you
4 can hear some statements from our elders saying that hunger
5 knows know law. Now, we addressed the issues of hunting,
6 fishing and trapping. The hunting part covers pretty much all
7 of what subsistence is because we're providing food for our
8 families, as well as clothing. Now, where regulations come in
9 is when economics come in where you have commercial trapping,
10 commercial fishing, then you have to regulate those.

11
12 Now, I've listened to what you had to say about the
13 Migratory Bird Act of 1916 where the three nations that were
14 involved in the treaty, Mexico, United States and Canada, when
15 they made that provision we were never involved in it. And in
16 that treaty it specifically says that if one nation abrogates
17 then the rest of them can. And what we have been doing all
18 along was getting those migratory birds when they're up here,
19 they were not in season. So in a sense, we were abrogating
20 that treaty and I just wondered how embarrassed the United
21 States was for not including Alaska in that treaty.

22
23 So what Edward Hopson, Sr. has been telling you about
24 subsistence and how his dad was involved in many, many of the
25 subsistence activities to feed the family then we have to
26 realize that our ancestors did all that so that we are living
27 today and we are living testimony to they, as providers, for
28 our families.

29
30 I have some reservation about State agencies and also
31 the Federal agencies because the hard work that the Council
32 does on subsistence issues, it's how they analyze them and come
33 out with rules and regulations that are cumbersome. I want to
34 remind the Federal government that they've had over 500 years
35 in dealing with the reservation Indians as well as the treaty
36 Indians. And then the last 130 years in dealing with the
37 Alaska Natives became something -- they're trying to apply the
38 laws and rules and regulations that they had with the Lower 48
39 Indians and try to apply them up here, it's just cumbersome.

40
41 So, Mr. Chairman, these were my comments to support
42 Edward Hopson, Sr.'s motion as well as statements.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Eddie Hopson. Okay. Thank
45 you, Mr. Upicksoun.

46
47 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a very
48 short statement.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Mr. Hopson.

00135

1 MR. E. HOPSON: Very short. Ladies and gentlemen,
2 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act did not pass unanimously.
3 When they make the final vote, all the 12 regions, there was
4 one person that said out loud, no. And that was my President
5 of Native -- Arctic Slope Native Association, my President Joe
6 Upicksoun is the only one that said no to the land claims
7 because Arctic Slope Native Association did not agree with the
8 distribution they did on the proceeds, so Alaska Native Claims
9 Settlement Act never passed unanimously. Just the same,
10 President Nixon signed the bill.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Hopson.
13 Ms. Armstrong.

14
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. (Inupiaq)

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Always a little afraid to
18 state any names, but now that I know there's no liability, for
19 the record, so that they won't get their hide and skull taken
20 away, which is our subsistence way of life. I think for the
21 record I can state Wainwright resident, Ray Ahmaowak (ph), God
22 bless his soul, worked in Kaktovik area and supported his
23 family and sent sheep in our area. And there's records that
24 Rossman said that their forefathers hunted in 26(A). Nuiqsut
25 folks, I know, go further south in 26(B) area. And also hunted
26 there, but for the record, Ray Ahmaowak (ph), I know from
27 Wainwright hunted sheep in 26(C).

28
29 Frank Weehok (ph) resident from Nuiqsut, was another
30 person, God bless his soul, worked in Kaktovik area, flew there
31 and also with our snowmachines and our help provided food and
32 sheep for his relatives in Nuiqsut. I was recently -- it was
33 just recently established. Arnold Kittick was another one from
34 Barrow that Mr. Patkatok stated caught sheep and provided for
35 their families here in Barrow. Nate Nayukok, the late Nate
36 Nayukok, husband of Sadie Nayukok went to Kaktovik, dog teaming
37 days. Waldron Jokiliak (ph) present residence in Kaktovik
38 provided for his family, in from Barrow, caught sheep, sent the
39 sheep home.

40
41 A resident from Anaktuvuk Pass who have moved to
42 Kaktovik, Thomas Gordon, was a resident of Anaktuvuk Pass, now
43 moved to Kaktovik with his wife, Rachel Mekiana, maiden name,
44 Mekiana, M-e-k-i-a-n-a, also Anaktuvuk Pass resident provides
45 sheep for their family. Elijah Rock, Allen Rock from Point
46 Hope also hunted sheep in Kaktovik and transported or sent food
47 from Kaktovik area to Point Hope for his family.

48
49 There may be records of those that may have worked in
50 Kaktovik from Point Lay, but I can't recollect at this time.

00136

1 That have worked in our area. But to exclude in case there's
2 no names for Point Lay, to exclude them, I think Mr. Hopson's
3 motion wants to have everyone of the villages be equal.
4 Mr. Hopson may be able to provide more information for that
5 area around Anaktuvuk Pass, but these are the names that I for
6 record.

7
8 Neil Allen was also another resident from Canada that
9 moved, lived in Kaktovik, made residence in Nuiqsut, travels
10 between Nuiqsut all the way to Canada, hunted sheep, provided
11 family -- for his family. Recently Nate Nayukok son, last
12 fall, George went to Kaktovik, hunted sheep with our friends
13 and relatives last winter, provided food and sheep for his
14 relatives to share here in Barrow.

15
16 So we could go on and on naming names of who caught
17 sheep in 26(C), 26(B), also in 26(A). Visa versa, Thomas
18 Gordon was arrested in Kaktovik, moved and lived in Anaktuvuk
19 Pass, caught sheep, bartered caribou back and forth with the
20 residents of Kaktovik. So we could keep going on and on on
21 that part, so I don't know what else to add, but I think that
22 would be sufficient enough record for that.

23
24 So any other comments or any agency comments pertinent
25 to this proposal?

26
27 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Let me just check with the agencies,
30 here. Any agency comments on this proposal? State or Federal?
31 Okay, Geoff, then we'll get to you, Mr. Upicksoun.

32
33 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, as far as this Request for
34 Reconsideration, I don't think there is a real biological
35 problem involved here, you know, it's something that was --
36 it's more of a procedural thing that, you know, some of the
37 people that work in Anchorage or Juneau felt that, you know,
38 the step weren't very -- you know, weren't strictly adhered to
39 and particular they felt that there wasn't proper documentation
40 of people from some parts of the Slope hunting sheep in other
41 parts of the Slope.

42
43 But, you know, what's needed here is exactly what
44 you're doing is giving some good specific examples of people
45 from, you know, the other villages, for instance, hunting in
46 26(C) or 26, you know, or out of Anaktuvuk and, you know, I
47 think you're taking the right step to satisfy this. You know,
48 I think you've provided some very good documentation that
49 people from the Slope do hunt and they do hunt sheep in other
50 areas of the Slope.

00137

1 So that's about all I have to say.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Yeah, I think we've
4 spent enough time on this matter and I wish that whoever
5 requested the Request for Reconsideration should come up and
6 defend their Request for Reconsideration. I think the authors
7 or those people responsible, I know Geoff's from here, but
8 those that were responsible for putting this on the paper and
9 doubting us, we spent a couple hours now on this one proposal.
10 We should hear their side of the story as well.

11

12 Mr. Upicksoun, then we can move on to a vote.

13

14 MR. UPICKSOUN: I wanted to add one more thing,
15 Mr. Chairman. During the break I spoke to my brother, our dad
16 used to travel by dog team and hunt and then my brother, 10
17 years my senior, recalled that when he was a kid he use to wear
18 sheepskin pants. I spoke to Helen, did he hunt in Unit 23 or
19 26, the DeLong Mountains. We did not have any units back then.
20 But my brother does recall wearing sheepskin pants. Our dad
21 used to travel and hunt. Now whether it's in 23 or 26 there
22 was no units back then, he hunted, he lived a subsistence
23 lifestyle. That's one more comment I had to make,
24 Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Mr. Upicksoun.
27 Mr. Hopson from Anaktuvuk.

28

29 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah. For the record the Barrow
30 resident that hunted sheep in Anaktuvuk area and harvested
31 sheep was Johnny Brower.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Brower?

34

35 MR. B. HOPSON: Um-hum (affirmative).

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other discussion on this
38 motion?

39

40 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman, call for question.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. All in favor of
43 supporting and making all the North Slope residents equal, like
44 Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk Pass and Barter Island, signify by
45 saying aye.

46

47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

50

00138

1 (No opposing responses)

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Let's see how many more
4 proposals do we have here?

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, if you want to make this
7 easy, I would like to suggest doing Proposal 94, skipping ahead
8 in the book, because it's on sheep and maybe we can just kind
9 of do it a little more rapidly since we've already discussed
10 it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: An additional sheep?

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's page 45 and this is the
15 proposal that deals with Point Lay residents going into Unit
16 23, so it's the same topic we've just been talking about.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay, this proposal was made by this
21 Council last fall by Mr. Upicksoun and it -- I guess -- I don't
22 -- maybe in the interest of time, would you like me to just
23 kind of summarize what this is about and not go through the
24 whole analysis?

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I see nods. Okay. The.....

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Page 45 under Tab Q.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: When we were looking at c&ts last
33 fall we realized that Point Lay wasn't included in Unit 23's
34 c&t determination for taking sheep, so this Council made the
35 proposal. And at that time Gordon Upicksoun did provide some
36 information about the Stocker family and their dad and their
37 two boys hunting sheep in Noatak National Preserve and provided
38 some discussion about his Grandpa Tingook. Did I get the
39 spellings of these right, Gordon? On page 48, you might just
40 check it because I want to make sure I had these correct in
41 here.

42

43 MR. UPICKSOUN: They're spelled right.

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. And talked about past
46 residents -- I think since we've talked about sheep plenty this
47 morning we probably don't need to go into this in any detail,
48 but I -- there was some information that there had been sheep
49 in the region in the 1800s and that the sheep population had
50 decreased and then as we were discussing earlier, Ray had

00139

1 talked about Point Hope residents starting to sight more sheep
2 and hunters getting sheep.

3

4 I will add the information that came out this morning
5 to this analysis to make it a little bit stronger, too. And I
6 will also add the information you provided that these people
7 are still -- are hunting sheep right now, because I didn't have
8 a time reference, which I needed, you know, to be able to say
9 they're doing it right now makes this also stronger.

10

11 We didn't have information to fulfill the other
12 factors, so what I did was I just talked about, for example,
13 since I didn't have anything in the literature about sheep
14 hunting going on in specific seasons, you know, I just talked
15 about that it does happen with other resources, so I made
16 comparisons, the same with sharing, the same with information
17 being passed from generation to generation. But there really
18 wasn't any information specific to that.

19

20 I might ask, Gordon, when do people go sheep hunting?
21 The ones you know that are going sheep hunting in Noatak, when
22 does that happen?

23

24 MR. UPICKSOUN: Pardon?

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What season, what part of the year
27 does that happen when people are.....

28

29 MR. UPICKSOUN: I have no idea, it's probably similar
30 to Anaktuvuk Pass, Helen, when the meat is good in the
31 falltime, I imagine.....

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In the falltime probably, that's

34

35 MR. UPICKSOUN:the same season.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's what I thought too. I
38 recommended adopting the proposal especially, I think, with the
39 additional information I've gotten from you today, I think that
40 strengthens it quite a bit. And that's a brief summary.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you very much, Helen.
43 Okay, we have before you Proposal 94.

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, and the Northwest Arctic did
46 support this proposal, it was.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Pardon?

49

50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This proposal was brought to the

00140

1 Northwest Arctic Council and they did support it.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. The floor is open for public
4 comments on Proposal 94.

5

6 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

9

10 MR. E. HOPSON: How does that motion we just
11 passed.....

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It'll be similar, they're going to
14 use our similar testimony that we have for this proposal. They
15 go hand and hand.

16

17 MR. E. HOPSON: I mean I really don't understand how
18 the motion we just passed affects this.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we're dealing with separate
21 proposals but this will allow Point Lay residents to hunt in
22 Unit 23, customary and traditional use determination.

23

24 MR. E. HOPSON: All right.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So the floor is open for public
27 comments on this proposal. Any public comments?

28

29 (No audible responses)

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: If not, we'll go on to agency
32 comments pertinent to this proposal. The floor is open for
33 State or Federal agencies to comment.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, there were ADF&G -- I
36 mean ADF&G had written comments on our proposals, but they
37 deferred comment.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Can you summarize that for us real
40 quick?

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, they deferred comments on this
43 one, so we don't -- and we didn't have any comments from the
44 public.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. The floor is open or the
47 Chair will entertain a motion to support Proposal 94.

48

49 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, so moved.

50

00141

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Moved by Mr. Ray Koonuk.

2

3 MR. MILLER: Second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Mr. Miller. The motion
6 is to support Proposal 94 submitted (98-32) in support of rural
7 residents of Unit 23 north of the Arctic Circle and Point Lay.
8 I think that'll be pretty much the resolution in support of
9 this proposal. That clear enough?

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any comments or -- Mr. Upicksoun.

14

15 MR. UPICKSOUN: Do we have to insert the fact that she
16 will provide further information towards this proposal and the
17 comments that she heard this morning?

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that is my understanding, yes.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I will do that, yes.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think for the record, it's good
24 that you bring it up during this deliberation that the comments
25 we made in early Request for Reconsideration the data is
26 pertinent toward this proposal to allow residents in Unit 23
27 including Point Lay to be able to hunt sheep in that area.

28

29 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any further comments?

32

33 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman, call for question.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. All in favor of
36 proposal, we're supporting Proposal 94, signify by saying aye.

37

38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

41

42 (No opposing responses)

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, the joint Committees and
45 Council support Proposal 94.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want
48 to thank the Council for providing information, it was really
49 helpful and always, I really enjoy working with this Council.
50 Thank you.

00142

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I wonder which one -- I know that
2 musk-oxen will take us beyond lunchtime, it's - I know it's a
3 hairy issue. So what is the wish of the Council? We've got
4 musk-oxen before us and we have this moose proposal. Do you
5 know how long moose -- or who's going to be presenting the
6 moose portion?

7
8 MS. DEWHURST: I can do it.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So what is the wish of the Council?
11 Do you wish to consider the moose proposal now and then maybe,
12 if time permits, start with the musk-oxen after lunch? Or what
13 is the wish of the Council?

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, our agenda is flexible, I
16 think Donna is prepared to make presentation on the moose and
17 we can defer the musk-ox.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. So we'll discuss it after
20 lunch on the musk-ox.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Donna Dewhurst is before
25 us to present.....

26
27 MS. DEWHURST: This will be Proposal 78, so it's page
28 37.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Page 37.

31
32 MS. DEWHURST: The map is a couple of pages over, this
33 map doesn't show it real well. This is dealing with Units 24,
34 which is the unit below 26, so unfortunately I don't have map
35 of 24, but it's everything below this line, so everything south
36 of there. The map is a couple of pages later, looks like this
37 in your book, it's a couple of pages later in your book.

38
39 This is a pretty simple proposal, it is just to align
40 the Federal season with the State season. Basically the State
41 season was more liberal, and somebody pointed that out, and so
42 we're trying to liberalize the Federal season to match the State
43 season. So the subsistence season is actually the same length
44 of time as the sport season, which makes sense.

45
46 So it's a fairly simple proposal. This is for moose,
47 like we say, it's Unit 24. If you look on page 37 it gives the
48 summary. It's probably the clearest way to look. There's the
49 executive summary. What you see is -- what the original
50 regulations are, are the ones that are lined out, there's a

00143

1 line across them. And the changes are written next to it, so,
2 basically, the change is to go from this antlerless season that
3 used exist -- the change is that from September 5th, to change
4 that to September 1st, so move it ahead four days. And make it
5 one moose instead of antlerless moose, so it's liberalizing it.
6 Basically it's just changing it to what the State already has.

7
8 It's a pretty simple proposal really. And there aren't
9 any biological concerns as far as the moose population and,
10 obviously, the State hasn't felt there are any because the
11 State has a more liberal season, so there aren't any biological
12 concerns as far as we're concerned about changing the dates and
13 changing the season, so we don't have any objections to it at
14 all, we're -- as far as the Federal staff goes, we support it.

15
16 Rosa, you were at the Interior meeting, did they
17 support?

18
19 MS. MEEHAN: Yes, they did.

20
21 MS. DEWHURST: Okay, so the Interior already met and
22 they supported this proposal. So this is brought to you
23 because of the overlap in the areas and it's up to you. You
24 could defer to the Interior and their decision or you could
25 make your own action and support or oppose or whatever on it,
26 yourself.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Donna. The floor
29 is open for public comments on Proposal 78. Any public
30 comments?

31
32 (No audible responses)

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Hearing none, the floor is open for
35 agency comments, either Federal or State.

36
37 (No audible responses)

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: None. The Chair will entertain a
40 motion to act on Proposal 78, deliberation and recommendation.
41 Mr. Hopson from Anaktuvuk.

42
43 MR. B. HOPSON: I make a motion that we pass Proposal
44 78.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Ben Hopson makes a motion to
47 support or pass Proposal 78.

48
49 MR. H. BROWER: Second the motion, Mr. Chair.

50

00144

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Mr. Brower.

2
3 MR. UPICKSOUN: Call for question.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, the reason -- just real
6 quickly, Mr. Upicksoun, before question is called. The reason
7 why we've been included in this proposal is that Anaktuvuk Pass
8 is right on the borderline of Unit 24, that is why we have to
9 act or support this proposal. And the information given to us
10 is only to change the season or align the State and Federal
11 hunting season, so just a very simple adjustment here on that
12 area. So again, Anaktuvuk Pass is within Unit 24, that is why
13 we -- this proposal is before us. It was introduced by the
14 Western Interior Regional Advisory Council and our fellow
15 residents from Anaktuvuk Pass reside near or on that unit.

16
17 Fairly straightforward and if there's any other
18 comments -- Mr. Upicksoun called for question, or any other
19 comments?

20
21 MR. UPICKSOUN: Question.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: I call for question.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. All in favor of
28 supporting or passing Proposal 78 signify by saying aye.

29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

33
34 (No opposing responses)

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Both the Subsistence Regional
37 Advisory Council and Fish and Game Committee support or pass
38 Proposal 78.

39
40 I want to break off at 11:30 before we get into to any
41 more proposals. I'd like to take care of some housekeeping
42 items until lunchtime or right around 11:30 and come back at
43 1:00 o'clock, maybe have early lunch and be here at 1:00. The
44 reason we want to do that is I know it's quite lengthy and we
45 want -- we'll be pretty much with the agenda if we take care of
46 Items -- starting on the next page under old business, there's
47 some housekeeping matters. And would there be any objections
48 to that?

49
50 MS. DEWHURST: Mr. Chairman, there, I think, was one

00145

1 agency report that it's up to the Council whether they want to
2 hear it, but I think it got missed yesterday, too. Just to
3 bring this to your attention and that was there was originally
4 a request to get some information on steel shot. And we do
5 have a gentleman, Mr. Cegelske, is here. And it's up to the
6 Council whether or not they want to -- but I just bring that
7 up, that I think he got missed yesterday.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah, we were going to bring
10 that under -- near the end of the proposal and we haven't
11 forgotten you. Just thank you for sticking by with us. And
12 thanks for reminding me, Donna.

13
14 Again, we want to shift our agenda here this morning to
15 accommodate discussion and keeping it close to each other here.
16 I prefer to discuss the musk-ox proposal after lunch and take
17 care of housekeeping matters, training material, coordination,
18 the charter restructure, and so on and so forth.

19
20 No objection to that? I didn't hear any objections, so
21 Barbara, can you help us out on that?

22
23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Which one? You want me to.....

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Take care of.....

26
27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We can do the steel shot first, if
28 you want?

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The gentleman on the steel shot, you
31 want to go ahead and -- or who was going to give the
32 presentation on the steel shot?

33
34 MR. CEGELSKE: My name is Jerry Cegelske, I'm a Special
35 Agent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service out of Fairbanks
36 and I provided each one of you with this brochure on
37 subsistence waterfowl hunters. And it states, all subsistence
38 waterfowl hunters in Alaska are required to use non-toxic shot,
39 such as steel shot, beginning the 1st of March, which was last
40 Sunday.

41
42 And there's some information on that -- in there also
43 on the hunting of white-front geese, black brant and cackling
44 Canada geese, emperor geese and spectacled or steller's eiders.

45
46 And then on one of the last pages it has a comment on
47 getting involved in the subsistence hunting amendments and it
48 provides some information there on where you can send your
49 responses to that.

50

00146

1 There's also a letter in there on sending your comments
2 in there and it states that, for Edward there, it may take as
3 long as five years before final regulations are in place.
4 Until that time enforcement during the closed season will
5 continue in accordance with the Service's policy for
6 subsistence hunting of waterfowl during the spring and summer
7 and provisions of Yukon-Kuskokwim Goose Management Plan.

8
9 MR. H. BROWER: Excuse me. Can you speak up, please,
10 our elders can hardly hear you.

11
12 MR. CEGELSKE: Okay. Basically what will happen is
13 that we will be enforcing this statewide and we will be
14 responding to complaints for violations. In instances where we
15 contact people with lead shot we will be seizing the shells and
16 taking them from them. And then if we decide it's necessary we
17 will be issuing tickets for those violations. So that is --
18 there is no plan to bring in from out of state for that.

19
20 And one comment a little bit off of this is, if you
21 hear any rumors of what we will or will not do, please feel
22 free to call one of these law enforcement numbers that's on
23 this and tell them what you've heard and then ask them what the
24 real facts are on that and if I don't know the answer for you,
25 I'll get ahold of somebody that does and get an answer to you
26 on that. But for right now, we will be enforcing the lead shot
27 rules in Alaska and this will be, basically, the first time
28 that the whole United States will be having lead shot, steel
29 shot, whichever you want to call it, rules enforced. In the
30 Lower 48 that's been going on for 20 some years and the policy
31 will be enforced completely in the nation.

32
33 So any questions on anything?

34
35 MR. E. HOPSON: I heard a little bit of what you said,
36 but at the last meeting we were talking about that lead shots
37 versus the other stuff. Is that ban now in effect? Is the law
38 now that you can't shoot the waterfowl or duck with lead shots?

39
40 MR. CEGELSKE: Since Sunday, yes.

41
42 MR. E. HOPSON: And, you know, I been using -- shooting
43 ducks down for 70 years using nothing but lead. Now the
44 problem I'm having is -- you probably do a study where there's
45 a lot of ducks, wounded ducks, fall down, with the lead shot in
46 the duck that died and everybody seems to say that it died from
47 poisoning from lead. I say any duck -- you probably find a lot
48 of dead ducks forcing from that other one, the protected shot.
49 You probably translate those, they died from a wound. And
50 anytime you see a duck with a lead shot in it, you interpret

00147

1 that to say that died for poisoning.

2

3 MR. CEGELSKE: What kills most ducks. If you're
4 shooting them and they're wounded and you break a wing, it
5 really doesn't make much difference whether you shot the bird
6 with lead or with steal. The bird is going to die. One of the
7 things that is a concern is that there's secondary poisoning
8 with the lead shot in raptors and eagles that eat those ducks
9 that have the lead in them after that. There's been many cases
10 that they've documented where eagles have eaten ducks that have
11 been shot with lead and then the eagles come down with lead
12 poisoning and it affects them.

13

14 MR. E. HOPSON: I don't know.....

15

16 MR. CEGELSKE: The ducks that die of lead poisoning, a
17 lot of times, they picked it up when they're feeding and
18 they're picking up grit and it gets in their system, they grind
19 the lead up, there's immediately a release of lead into their
20 system and it poisons them that way. The lead poisoning would
21 not be gotten from being shot with lead, just as they wouldn't
22 get it from being shot with steel.

23

24 MR. E. HOPSON: What do you call that other, is that
25 out of -- that other shot versus lead?

26

27 MR. CEGELSKE: Well, the most popular one is steel,
28 there's a bismuth shot that they're working on, there's about
29 three different ones that they're working on. The problem with
30 most of those is that you're talking, I think, with bismuth,
31 somewhere around \$3 a shot.

32

33 MR. E. HOPSON: What is the penalty for shooting a duck
34 down with a lead shot?

35

36 MR. CEGELSKE: I believe penalty for possession of lead
37 shot is around \$250.

38

39 MR. E. HOPSON: \$50.00 a duck.

40

41 MR. CEGELSKE: No, it's a flat penalty.

42

43 MS. DEWHURST: Can I add something, too? Part of the
44 issue, too, it's -- you know, these guys aren't going to be
45 standing behind every hunter and hiding in bushes, there aren't
46 a whole lot of bushes to hide behind up here, number 1. But
47 the reason why it should be followed and the reason why people
48 should take it upon themselves is we're talking about eiders up
49 here, and eiders are your ducks. These eiders don't go to the
50 Lower 48. Spectacled eiders, king eiders, they stay in Alaska

00148

1 their entire lives, as most of you well know. And so if you
2 poison the eiders with lead you're only hurting yourselves.
3 You know, these are the birds you're eating.

4
5 And there's been a lot of talk about contamination.
6 Lead is a contamination and people can get it secondarily but
7 it's pretty rare, but what happens with the ducks is they --
8 and we know it's a factor and we know it's already happening in
9 Alaska because there was a study done in the Yukon Delta just
10 recently where they X-rayed some spectacled eiders and they
11 found lead shot in them. They are picking it up, it gets in
12 the marshes, it gets in the wetlands, they eat the lead as part
13 of their food, they don't know the difference, it's something
14 they're picking up with their food. They accidentally eat the
15 lead, it gets in their stomachs or gizzards and it starts to
16 poison them, it's a poison. And it's very slow nasty dead,
17 I've see ducks that die of it and it's not something pleasant
18 to see. It happens over a long period of time.

19
20 And we know it's already happening in Alaska, that's
21 the important part, we know it's happening to eiders already.
22 So, you know, this is a thing, you know, yeah, the other shot
23 is more expensive, but if you keep using lead shot you're only
24 hurting yourselves, because if you poison your own ducks, you k
25 know, these are ducks that you're counting on to eat for
26 subsistence and so you'd like the ducks, I'm assuming, to be
27 healthy and fat and have a lot of meat on them and not be sick
28 ducks.

29
30 So that's kind of the issue here, it's -- yes, it is
31 against the law, but it's also a thing that if you poison
32 eiders you're only hurting yourselves, you're not hurting
33 anybody else because these birds are only in Alaska, they're
34 staying up here all the time. And these are basically your
35 ducks.

36
37 MR. E. HOPSON: Does the people that see those lead
38 shot in the store already know about this? They going to be
39 selling what they have in the stock, whatever it is, lead or
40 the other type. They can't just throw them away in the ocean.

41
42 MR. CEGELSKE: We've been contacting many stores and
43 asking them to carry extra supplies of steel shot for waterfowl
44 hunters and they've been working a lot in Delta over the last
45 10 to 15 years to get people to switch over to steel shot.

46
47 MR. E. HOPSON: I don't know, I.....

48
49 MR. CEGELSKE: The support in for the Delta
50 (indiscernible - interrupted).....

00149

1 MR. E. HOPSON: You should have a regulation not to
2 penalize me because he sells me the lead shots. I think the
3 guy that should be penalized is this guy that sell me the lead
4 shots shots.

5
6 MR. CEGELSKE: It's legal to use lead shot for
7 ptarmigan hunting or grouse hunting, so it's up to you to
8 follow the rules in hunting waterfowl. It's a voluntary
9 situation, it's.....

10
11 MR. E. HOPSON: I know. I try to avoid breaking laws,
12 I try to avoid that, even though I break a lot of regulations
13 an all of that, sometime knowingly and sometime not knowing
14 what the regulations are, just like you and I, just like you
15 and everybody else. But the thing of it is, why take it out on
16 the hunters? Put some strict regulation to the guy that sells
17 those lead shots shells. I'm not trying to make you laugh, I'm
18 serious.

19
20 MR. CEGELSKE: I know you are.

21
22 MR. E. HOPSON: If I buy a box of ammunition I'm not
23 going to check to see what kind of shots they got, I'm going to
24 spend them on ducks. And when you catch me using shots, I'm
25 going to be penalized and the guy that sells me that box for
26 \$25 clapping, hey, hey, hey, I got away and put that guy --
27 that hunter in jail. I think regulations should be pointed
28 strictly to the person that sells lead shots because they are
29 responsible, not me.

30
31 MR. CEGELSKE: No, the responsibility is on you in this
32 because what the regulation.....

33
34 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, I'm talking for nothing because
35 you make your own regulations.

36
37 MR. CEGELSKE: Here, I have a question. They've done
38 studies on lead all over the United States. Lead was in paint,
39 they've outlawed it in paint. It was in gasoline, they've
40 outlawed it in gasoline. Lead has been used in plumbing,
41 they've made some determinations that the lead that's used in
42 plumbing is poisoning people. Now what I'm wondering is how
43 many people know what happens to lead when you put it out in
44 the ocean? What happens to that? Does that change into a salt
45 which gets into the food chain and then is used? And do the
46 seals pick this up?

47
48 There's contaminant studies that were mentioned today,
49 there's contaminant studies on polar bears, there's contaminant
50 studies on whales. Nobody can tell me what happens to the lead

00150

1 that's in that. And what I'm wondering why would you want to
2 take and put a poisonous substance in an area where you are
3 getting your food from? You're using seals, you're using
4 whales, you're using walrus, you're using polar bear. You're
5 putting lead, which is a poison, in the ocean and nobody knows
6 what's happening to that.

7
8 MR. E. HOPSON: I understand. My point is who you
9 going to penalize, the guy that shoot the duck down, right?
10 Forget about this guy that sell me the lead shots, he's got
11 nothing to fear, all they want to do is make money sell these
12 shots. They have them in stock now.

13
14 MR. CEGELSKE: Should we penalize the store, should I
15 go over there and penalize the store owner who sold.....

16
17 MR. E. HOPSON: That's what I want to see, penalize the
18 store.

19
20 MR. CEGELSKE: Should we go to Bethel and penalize that
21 store owner in Bethel that sold the shotgun shells to that boy
22 that went out and killed those people in the school? Should we
23 penalize him for what that student did? The store owner didn't
24 kill those people, the student did. He is the one that has to
25 pay the penalty, he has to accept responsibility for his
26 actions. It's not the store owner that killed those people.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ms. Armstrong and then.....

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Let me see -- it's okay. Maybe -- I
31 understand what you're staying, totally, and I understand what
32 Mr. Hopson's saying. I think what we're saying is, like, when
33 lead was in paint, the people who painted didn't get into
34 trouble for using leaded paint. It was the responsibility of
35 the manufacturers to take it out.

36
37 I mean, I think what Mr. Hopson's saying is that -- I
38 mean maybe there's a balance here, that yes, it's the
39 responsibility of the hunters, but that maybe we could also
40 work with the storekeepers, the people who are selling that
41 they should be letting people know when they sell it, you
42 understand this is illegal. That you should be going both
43 ways.

44
45 MR. CEGELSKE: If you want, I think -- if you feel this
46 way, either you or we could contact all the stores here and say
47 that we want you to carry nothing but steel shot, from this
48 point on nothing but steel shot is sold in all the villages up
49 here. That means you will be using steel shot for hunting
50 ptarmigan, for hunting grouse or any other wildlife that you

00151

1 use a shotgun for. That can be done. And I think the stores
2 would like that in the fact that it would simplify their record
3 keeping and ordering practices. So for them it would probably
4 save them money if all they're going to buy is steel shot.

5
6 MR. E. HOPSON: One more, Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Ahmakak. Okay, Mr. Hopson and
9 then Mr. Patkatok.

10
11 MR. AHMAKAK: What are you doing to the rifles?

12
13 MR. E. HOPSON: Cod breaches, they have a combination
14 of copper, soft point, got a lead point. Rifle ammunition that
15 we use for all game, walrus, seal, what are you doing to them?

16
17 MR. CEGELSKE: I don't know of any studies that have
18 been done on that, I don't know of any action that's being
19 taken on that. As far as I know there hasn't been any
20 documentation of wildlife deaths related to that. As far as
21 human usage, in most cases, hunters are able to determine
22 damaged areas of meat which would have bullet fragments in it
23 and remove those parts from that.

24
25 MR. E. HOPSON: You know you don't have a study on the
26 rifle bullets, I think.....

27
28 MR. CEGELSKE: There is a move out.....

29
30 MR. E. HOPSON: That makes me believe they are
31 poisonous, too.

32
33 MR. CEGELSKE: There is a move out to outlaw lead
34 sinkers from the fishing industry in the United States, so
35 that's something that's going to effect all of us if they keep
36 pushing it.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Ahmakak and then Mr. Patkatok.

39
40 MR. AHMAKAK: I can't begin to rationalize and take
41 what you're saying to me -- if this lead shot is banned and
42 then it's still on the open market, I'm wondering the quality
43 of the steel shot -- there's a tremendous amount of difference
44 between steel shot and lead shot. See, steel shot tends to be
45 a little lighter than what we're accustomed to the lead shot
46 pellets.

47
48 MR. CEGELSKE: Um-hum.

49
50 MR. AHMAKAK: So the steel shot, since they're lighter,

00152

1 they're not as much as effective then the lead shot pellets, so
2 you use up a lot more bullets to get your waterfowl.

3
4 MR. CEGELSKE: One of the recommendations is that you
5 go up two shot sizes larger. If you traditionally used a
6 number 6 lead shot, then switch to a number 4 steel shot, the
7 weight of the pellets should be equivalent and it should be
8 just about the same.

9
10 MR. AHMAKAK: You may tell me what shot size to buy,
11 but I think I would just rather stick to the most efficient
12 lead shot pellet to get my game. I don't want to be wasting
13 dollars and dollars of checking out different size -- pellet
14 size, steel shots.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Very good. Thank you, Mr. Ahmakak.
17 Mr. Patkatok.

18
19 MR. PATKATOK: I just heard an argument on -- your
20 argument and clarified by Ms. Armstrong and Mr. Hopson. It's
21 seems kind of redundant that if you're going to enforce these
22 lead rules and you're going to only enforce that law on the
23 hunter when the manufacturer and the people the sell them in
24 the store should be penalized for it also. The argument that I
25 heard on behalf of the people that sell these lead shots was
26 that inland it doesn't make much sense, I mean, it's still
27 allowed to use on inland fowl, but it seems kind of redundant
28 because there are some tributaries snow melt that'll carry that
29 lead downstream and into the rivers, and then from the rivers
30 into the oceans.

31
32 Your argument seems pretty redundant in terms of fact
33 that you're going to penalized the hunter but not the
34 manufacturer and the stores that sell them. If that's going to
35 be the case I'd like to see a program where you institute a
36 replacement program. In areas that are not as fortunate as the
37 North Slope you're going to run into villages that are
38 economically depressed. And that shot that they bought several
39 years ago means a lot of money to them. And I'd like to see
40 where you have an exchange program, you turn in the lead shot
41 for steel shot. And that quell the argument quite a bit if you
42 ask me.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Patkatok. Any other
47 comments or questions for.....

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

50

00153

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun and then Mr. Brower.

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: I was going to move to accept Jerry's
4 report on lead shots.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, there's a motion by
7 Mr. Upicksoun to accept the report on the lead shot.

8

9 MR. KOONUK: Second.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. Any further
12 discussion?

13

14 MR. H. BROWER: I have a question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Motion to accept the report.....

17

18 MR. H. BROWER: I'd like to ask a question.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Mr. Brower.

21

22 MR. H. BROWER: Jerry, you know, we have price
23 difference in the steel and the lead shot, and that is still a
24 burden to the hunters and yet the enforcement agencies wants us
25 to go ahead and start using steel shot right off the bat
26 without making comparison of the amount of money the hunter has
27 to spend in purchasing these steel shots. I think if you go
28 over to the stores and take a comparison of what we would have
29 to pay for -- on the prices of the shotgun shells, you'd be
30 surprised as to how much we have to pay -- a lot of differences
31 between lead and steel.

32

33 And in making your case stronger for yourself, I think
34 you are trying to tell us, go ahead and supply the steel shot,
35 which is more expensive to the hunter. But then we see a
36 problem with the use where we do our hunt and where the folks
37 down South do their hunts, and basically on wetlands and that's
38 where most of the problem occurs, but there's -- yet we see the
39 regional differences in our area.

40

41 I think that needs to be taken into consideration and
42 more educational information needs to be brought out to the
43 public instead of placing enforcement policies without really
44 getting the people to know consequences are on this
45 enforcement. I think that needs to be taken into consideration
46 also, rather than just taking enforcement action out in the
47 field to the people that really haven't heard of what the
48 consequences are yet.

49

50 I think the enforcement agency needs to take that step

00154

1 in getting more educational material out to the public and have
2 some training where comparisons in the -- within that
3 educational materials of the differences between lead and
4 steel.

5
6 MR. CEGELSKE: We have had educational shooting
7 programs where we brought people out to villages and let
8 hunters shot lead and steel together and showed patterning
9 differences with the different type of shot and run educational
10 programs on that. We have checked prices of lead and steel in
11 a lot of villages and in some of them there's no difference in
12 price on it from (indiscernible - interrupted).....

13
14 MR. H. BROWER: There's a big difference here on them
15 in our stores.

16
17 MR. CEGELSKE: What I think will happen is that as
18 steel gets used more and more that the price will come down on
19 it and it should be very competitively priced with the lead
20 stuff.

21
22 MR. H. BROWER: I think that should be made aware of to
23 the manufacturers as to what the price costs and how they're
24 managed here throughout the retailers that, you know, it
25 shouldn't be a burden to the hunter to pay the extra costs for
26 that is being enforced or need to follow that we have to abide
27 by. I think it should be the manufacturer and the resource
28 manager to discuss what the differences are and compromise on
29 what needs to be done for the hunters.

30
31 MR. CEGELSKE: It's interesting, a lot of hunters have
32 great resistance to changing to steel. I worked in California
33 the first year that they had the steel shot regulations, I
34 checked 12 hunters. Out of those 12 hunters nine of them were
35 using lead and from those nine hunters I seized 10 and a half
36 boxes of lead shot. And all of them were issued tickets. I've
37 worked on the Mississippi River out of Wisconsin, and you see
38 the same type of resistance for that. But I think after people
39 start using it and become familiar with it and comfortable with
40 it and understand how to use it, that they won't find that much
41 difference. I have shot steel and I shot better with steel
42 than I do with lead.

43
44 MR. H. BROWER: Because you've had -- you've been more
45 exposed than we have. You can say that right offhand, but
46 there's still people here that still need to learn how to use
47 that steel shot. And all the community members and even though
48 you've had your training sessions in comparison to steel and
49 lead, it might have been just for a short period and just a
50 couple of days, and yet this things been going on for years and

00155

1 years and those couple of days don't make sense in making
2 comparisons and taking advice from those training sessions on
3 steel and lead shot.

4
5 MR. CEGELSKE: If you give me the name of somebody here
6 that can be a contact person, I'll have some of our people
7 contact them and see about setting up the training session and
8 they'll bring the steel up here and let the hunters use it.
9 And do that -- they've had that program -- I think last year
10 they went through 10 different villages, and they'd be glad to
11 come up here and give that presentation.

12
13 MR. H. BROWER: Jerry, I think that would be the North
14 Slope Borough Wildlife Management to the North Slope Borough
15 could be a contact. We have our Director and our staff.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Brower. Any other
18 comments? Mr. Carroll and then we'll proceed with the vote.

19
20 MR. CARROLL: Geoff Carroll, Alaska Department of Fish
21 and Game and, you know, I do think it's just, you know, crazy
22 to continue spraying this poison into the environment. We
23 don't want to poison our animals. And, you know, there's a
24 couple of things here. I mean it would be -- as I understand,
25 you know, we have had shot clinics here in the past and we
26 publicize them and not very many people show up, has kind of
27 been the result, I think.

28
29 If you guy can, you know, embrace this and the Wildlife
30 Department, for instance, can really make a point of promoting
31 this and pushing it, it would be a very good thing to expose
32 more people to using lead shot. You know, after a day or two
33 of shooting -- I mean shooting steal shot, I'm sure, a day or
34 two of shooting it, it really does make a dramatic difference
35 in your ability to shoot using the right, you know, the right
36 size shot and all that.

37
38 We had a guy name Tom Roster up here last summer who
39 usually teaches these clinics, he's an excellent teacher, but
40 one point he made was, you know, when they manufacture these
41 different types of shots, it's about the same price, you know,
42 coming out of the factories and for some reason somewhere
43 between there and the retailers it get much more expensive to
44 but the steel shot. I -- it seems to me like it would make
45 sense for group to, like -- and maybe put forth a resolution to
46 the store owners on the North Slope, at least, that -- you
47 know, they make prices equal, you know, one way or another,
48 even if they have to, you know, make a little less of a profit
49 on the steel shot than they do on the lead shot. It just seems
50 like a public service that they store owners up here could

00156

1 provide.

2

3 And, you know, I guess that's my two points. Maybe it
4 should be a goal of this body to promote shot clinics in each
5 of the villages so people do have chance to get exposed to the
6 proper way to shoot steel shot and, you know, in some way put
7 pressure on the store owners to come up with a reasonable price
8 for steel shot.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Geoff. The Chair will
11 now entertain a motion to act on -- we're question on the
12 motion, so we can proceed.

13

14 MR. H. BROWER: Call for the question, Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. All in favor of
17 supporting the report on the steel shot say aye.

18

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

22

23 (No opposing responses.)

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you.

26

27 MR. CEGELSKE: I'm going to go over and check prices at
28 the store this afternoon and one other thing. I've been shot
29 with lead and I've been shot with steal and steel hurts just as
30 bad as lead does.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you.

33

34 MR. CEGELSKE: Thanks very much, Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. For your information,
37 fellow Council members and Committee members, the items that we
38 were going to do housekeeping on I'd rather take on at 1:00
39 o'clock, and that's the Regional Council members. The North
40 Slope Borough Fish and Game Committee members can come back at
41 1:30, but the Regional Council, we'll break off here for lunch
42 early now and come back at 1:00 o'clock to take care of the
43 housekeeping matters. The North Slope Borough Fish and Game
44 Committee members can come at 1:30 and the Regional Council
45 here at 1:00 o'clock.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 (Off record)

50

00157

1 (On record)

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll call the North Slope Regional
4 Advisory Council meeting back to order and at about 1:30 our
5 Fish and Game Committee colleagues will join us for the meeting
6 and working on the proposals. So I'll turn the floor over to
7 Barbara.

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Under Tab R you have your Annual
10 Report for 1997. You know, every year in the fall I always
11 write you guys and ask you guys, see if there's any issues that
12 you guys want mentioned on the Annual Report. And Fenton gives
13 me the information and he wanted the proposals written down on
14 the Annual Report so I did that at this time, as you will see.
15 There's Proposal 55, Proposals 58B, 60, 74 and 75 and 76.

16

17 And then under the regional subsistence issues he
18 mentioned the National Park Service Subsistence Management
19 Program review that you guys have seen for the last two years.
20 (Inupiaq) BLM could go into NPR-A on an EIS and number 3,
21 musk-ox. (Inupiaq)

22

23 And then from you guys -- I'm sure you read this Annual
24 Report, I need an approval from you by motion, and accepting
25 the Annual Report that Fenton did for you.

26

27 MR. H. BROWER: So moved, Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Moved by Harry to approve the Annual
30 Report.

31

32 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded it by Terry. Any further
35 discussion? Yeah, I'd like your input in the future, Annual
36 Reports, we try and catch you, but most of the minutes we've
37 tried and included on issues that we've covered over the past
38 years, and I'm glad that Barbara was able to help us out on
39 that.

40

41 So briefly, again, the points that she brought out on
42 some of the regional subsistence issues that we face yearly and
43 periodically. Any questions or comments on the Annual Report?

44

45 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. All in favor of
48 approving the Annual Report say aye.

49

50 IN UNISON: Aye.

00158

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed.

2
3 (No audible responses)

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Barbara.

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, the second one is under T,
8 your charters. You've got a draft charter right there after
9 this explanation right there in the front. You know, you've
10 been discussing for the last couple of years also on what or
11 how you want to change your charter. And this is the report
12 that is given to you right here and there's a draft in the back
13 and you -- and on this draft charter you guys were also
14 discussing alternates, having alternates on your Council for
15 your Council.

16
17 And at first I remember the Council wanting alternates
18 for each member from each region. And then the last time I
19 think you discussed it, that you would like to have two
20 alternates from Barrow. Now I need to have that clear from you
21 to see what you want to do on alternates.

22
23 And then on their rural residency. At your last
24 meeting there was a letter given out to you from the Solicitor
25 saying that rural -- what did he say now? I'll read it word
26 for word. He said, the Solicitor provided a formal legal
27 opinion in January 1997 saying that a rural residency
28 requirement for a Regional Council was not allowed under
29 ANILCA. (Inupiaq) pass out the letter, but if you would like
30 to read it again, I can also send it to you. So I need -- even
31 if you do say that you still want rural on your charter, the
32 Solicitor has written that letter in saying that this is what
33 they will abide by.

34
35 And on the -- there was a question on whether someone
36 that moves away from their region, from the village, would be
37 still considered being on the Council. (Inupiaq) and only for
38 medical reasons (Inupiaq). And unless it's temporary and it
39 would be up to you to let us know whether it's temporary or
40 medical or whichever, but it can't be permanent, then that
41 member would have to resign.

42
43 (Inupiaq)

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You have before you the North Slope
46 charter. We've discussed this, it also deals with
47 compensation. When this program started it was funded -- or
48 the funding was provided by Congress and the only thing that
49 receive is a per diem of \$200, we do not receive loss of pay or
50 honorarium. We are provided travel and including travel per

00159

1 diem, it's within the recommended changes of the charter. So
2 is that in an another -- maybe Rosa can help us on the
3 deliberation on the compensation.

4
5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: On the honorarium? That letter --
6 there was two letters written (Inupiaq) to the Secretary of
7 Interior -- is it the Secretary of the Interior or in D.C.?

8
9 MS. MEEHAN: The Secretary of Interior who is in D.C.,
10 yeah.

11
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Two letters, I think, were
13 written to the Secretary of the Interior, it keeps stopping
14 there, so it still ongoing until we hear from them. So until
15 we hear from them, that's all they're -- and hang on there for
16 a long time. So it's over there, he's got the information, but
17 then we haven't heard from there. And we don't know or have an
18 idea when we are going to hear from him regarding that request
19 on compensation.

20
21 MR. H. BROWER: I have a question, Mr. Chairman.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

24
25 MR. H. BROWER: Barbara, on this first page regarding
26 renewal of Council charter, it's the fifth paragraph, about in
27 the middle, last sentence it reads, this correspondence was
28 distributed at the winter 1997 Regional Council meeting and as
29 a result this proposed change cannot be included in the draft
30 charter. Regarding this rural residency.

31
32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think they're talking about --
33 Rosa, correct me if I'm wrong. I think they're talking about
34 that letter that the Solicitor has written. I think that
35 letter was written, like, in January 1997.

36
37 MS. MEEHAN: For the compensation?

38
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-huh. No, on the rural residency.
40 He's asking about right here, this correspondence. And it's
41 about a two or three page letter. And it's regarding
42 discussing the rural residency and why he -- his justification
43 why it cannot be included as -- in your charter.

44
45 MS. MEEHAN: The thing is -- the issue that the
46 Solicitor got into in the letter was that there are -- the
47 selection for being on the Regional Council is based on
48 knowledge of the region, knowledge of a subsistence lifestyle,
49 familiarity with it. And that those were the things that
50 people were selected for, but that residency could not be used,

00160

1 you know, where somebody actually lives. And, in fact, we got
2 a -- Bill Thomas lives in a -- who is the Chair of the
3 Southeast Council, does live in a nonrural area and yet his a
4 very effective person on the Council. And so basically that's
5 what the Solicitor was drawing on.

6
7 The likelihood, particularly on this Council, of having
8 somebody on the Council that's from a nonrural area is -- it
9 just won't happen.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you.

12
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's the same thing they said down
14 in Northwest Arctic because even if we're out there and we're
15 rural, we know that, and then someone that's not from our
16 region we know can't get on the Council. And then it's the
17 same way up here.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other discussion on the charter
20 for either Barbara or Rosa?

21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (Inupiaq) your alternates.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we've discussed the alternate
25 situation, it would be pretty hard to find someone if they were
26 weathered in or something from the outlying villages. Most of
27 our meetings are held in Barrow and if we had alternates
28 located in Barrow we could establish a quorum. And if we do
29 have quorum, you know, that's another question that we need to
30 pose. And that was our thought on that.

31
32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The other thing that I was thinking
33 about, since Barrow is like a melting pot from this region up
34 here, you can always get -- probably request alternates that
35 are imports from the other villages.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Um-hum.

38
39 MR. H. BROWER: Immigrants.

40
41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, immigrants.

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Alternates, any questions on
46 that?

47
48 (No audible responses)

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Rural residency, any comments or

00161

1 questions on that area? Harry, was your question answered?

2

3 MR. H. BROWER: Yes.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Compensation. Again, let me just
6 read the highlights of it. The bolded or shaded areas that we
7 want to include now. When funding is provided by Congress,
8 Regional Council members who are not State or Federal employees
9 shall receive compensation at a daily rate of 175 when engaged
10 in actual performance of duties. Travel and other expenses,
11 including per diem, shall be paid to members when engaged in
12 the actual performance of duties.

13

14 Those are the changes. We've crossed out at the
15 beginning of the paragraph, members of the Council shall
16 receive no compensation as members. And the following sentence
17 after that, the few letters, members shall, however, be
18 allowed, has been deleted. And the last sentence, except for
19 officials of the United States government, Regional Council
20 members shall not be considered to be Federal employees when
21 engaged in actual performance of duties, except for purposes of
22 injury, compensation or court claims liability as provide in 5
23 U.S.C. chapter 81 and 28 U.S.C. chapter 71.

24

25 For your consideration.

26

27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (Inupiaq) Nine members and two
28 alternates.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, the highlighted ones are new
31 language inserted. Nine members and two alternates who shall
32 be knowledgeable and experienced in matters relating to
33 subsistence use, fish and wildlife and are residents of the
34 region represented by the Council.

35

36 New sentence. Alternates shall attend Council meeting
37 only in the event that a regularly appointed member is unable
38 to attend.

39

40 MR. H. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on the
41 alternates.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

44

45 MR. H. BROWER: Regarding the membership for
46 alternates, how would they be selected? Is that going to be
47 using the same process as how a regular Council members are
48 appointed to -- letters of interest submitted to the
49 Secretaries or the Board?

50

00162

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. In Northwest Arctic we did
2 that the last time when we when through the nomination panel
3 and stuff. The panel members put alternate one and alternate
4 two. And then so in the meantime before the three year term is
5 up from a Council member, when the Council member resign, the
6 first alternate got in. And this is the first year since the
7 inception of the Council members statewide, we put in three
8 alternates this year. One from Northwest Arctic and two more
9 from the other Councils done in the area in the other regions.
10 So that's what we did for the Northwest Arctic when Fred
11 Armstrong resigned from his position on the Council, we used
12 first alternate.

13
14 And in getting alternates for your Council, I'm sure
15 that we -- if you guys want this on your charter -- we have to
16 follow what you have on your charter and then put aside on
17 request the panel to put two people aside for alternates and
18 then that's how the approval would start from there. And then
19 we would keep you guys posted on what is happening with that.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen.

22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Barb, I just want to make a note
24 that they had that problem in Seward Peninsula when Edgar
25 Ningalook passed away, then that was the idea that they would
26 then use the alternate. But because the alternate was from a
27 whole different part of the region and they already had
28 representation there, and the people from Shishmaref wanted
29 representation from that part of that part of the region. It
30 because a little bit complicated, so you have to be careful
31 that if you're just choosing the next alternate, you might not
32 -- if you had that situation where someone resigned or passed
33 away that you might not get the kind of representation equally,
34 like you're all trying to accomplish by having somebody from
35 different villages.

36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, but that was replacing Edgar
38 in serving out his term, but in this case what these guys are
39 suggesting are two alternates from Barrow.

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sure. I guess what I'm trying to
42 say is as long as you only use those alternates if someone's
43 not at a meeting, but not in the idea that if someone leaves
44 that then you take that alternate because then some day you're
45 going to have this real imbalance.

46
47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, I see what your point is.
48 What she said, and I'm sure you understand, is that these two
49 alternates would be alternates, period, you know, just for if
50 you don't have a quorum, but then if someone should resign,

00163

1 like Gordon resigns from Point Lay, that seat would have to be
2 open until the next nomination period.

3
4 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Mr. Chairman, could we ask for
5 language to that effect regarding -- that was a good point
6 brought up by what happened, the point that Helen brought up.
7 Like if you were to resign, you know, it wouldn't be right for
8 us to put an alternate in there from Barrow. We got to put in
9 language so that doesn't happen. When you resign we replace
10 you with someone from Kaktovik, not these alternates.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I think that's an unwritten
13 rule or statute or I mean -- yeah, unwriting understanding.

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: We'll have that as understood, okay.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Even though it says nine members,
18 what we've been doing is recruiting from the nine or the eight
19 villages, so that we're well represented areawide. Even though
20 it's not written in the charter, that's what we've been
21 suggesting to the Secretary or.....

22
23 Mr. Koonuk.

24
25 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, will these alternates have term
26 limits like everybody else or are these going to be alternates
27 till they want to quit?

28
29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I'm sure they have term. Yours is
30 three years and you can always switch, like revolving, get the
31 alternates on the side. And the other thing that you would do
32 here since you.....

33
34 MS. MEEHAN: Yes, they would have to have the term
35 limits.

36
37 MR. KOONUK: Would they be staggered or.....

38
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Just like you guys Council, so once
40 you start it, it'll go.

41
42 MS. MEEHAN: You ask some hard questions, Ray.

43
44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And the other thing that you can do
45 right now, if you have it on record in your transcript, it
46 would be nice to have someone do a motion and put that in
47 record in saying that alternates are for alternates only for
48 quorum purposes and if anyone on the Council should resign is
49 that seat vacated be filled from that village that that person
50 is from or that Council member is from.

00164

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, Ms. Armstrong.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think it might be wise to think
6 about making that unofficial position of having equal
7 representation in your charter because we saw -- no, can't do
8 that?

9

10 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah, I -- we're struggling with this
11 because you're covering ground that other Councils have not
12 covered. And what I'm remembering is that there was some --
13 just like you can't say that somebody has to be from a rural
14 area to be on a Council, similarly you can't say we have to
15 have somebody from each of these villages. You can't put any
16 kind of area restrictions on it and so that's why it's better
17 to have it an unspoken agreement amongst your Council. Barb
18 will work here to protect your interest and make sure the
19 nominations are -- match what you want to have happen. But I
20 don't think it's something you can put down in the charter.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Could it be something they could ask
23 about, because that was such a problem with Seward Peninsula,
24 even though it was unspoken, Staff Committee.....

25

26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Well, they weren't well versed like
27 these guys are, these guys know what.....

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, but this wasn't a problem with
30 the Council, it was a problem with Staff Committee. And Staff
31 Committee, they voted not to allow that representation in
32 Shishmaref, and only when it back -- and then it didn't go to
33 the Board, it only when Park Service and BIA complained and
34 made it go to the Board did the vote get reversed, because
35 Staff Committee was saying, no, we are not going to have it
36 represented, it has to go to an alternate. It was really quite
37 a problem.

38

39 But, I don't know if it wouldn't be worth asking, can
40 we put it in the charter, just to avoid future problems like
41 that.

42

43 MS. MEEHAN: You know, the way to get past us trying to
44 figure out the system without, you know, really understanding
45 it as well as we could, is if you pass a motion, as Barb
46 suggested, but with an amendment that this be included in the
47 charter, if possible, and then that way, you know, if we can
48 legally put it in and if it's what you want, then we can put it
49 in there. But it would give us a chance to ask the question,
50 does that sound right?

00165

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you can do that too, and the,
2 see, when they first opened the Council for statewide, it's an
3 open blanket, anyone can apply. But you guys are one of the
4 first Councils that wanted a representative from each village,
5 just like your Fish and Game Committee and that's how we start
6 working with you to see who all applied. And you guys were so
7 unified only one person was applying from each village and then
8 we had no problem with setting the places.

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman. So, in fact, what our
11 Chairman said a while ago, it's understood it doesn't have to
12 be written, we understand that's policy.

13
14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But see the other thing Helen is
15 bringing, when Edgar Ningalook from Seward Pen died.....

16
17 MR. UPICKSOUN: I understand. When they tried to
18 replace that.....

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: With an alternate.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN: When they tried to replace Edgar with a
23 regular alternate and now with somebody from Shishmaref, we
24 understand that. I don't think it will happen here.

25
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, but that was a different
27 matter also because their alternates were like if one of their
28 persons resigns or somebody dies that alternate goes in first.
29 And then that's what they were trying to do over there and then
30 -- but I think up here.....

31
32 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Our Chairman said that's
33 understood, that won't happen, there will be -- alternates will
34 be used -- like if I can't come in, the alternate that we
35 selected, like, from Barrow, would be able to attend.

36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. Then I would notify the
38 alternates to attend because you guys are good in letting me
39 know whether you're not going to make it or not.

40
41 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, let's move on here and this
44 charter is before you for action. It's been well explained.

45
46 MR. H. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

49
50 MR. H. BROWER: I would move that we adopt the

00166

1 recommendation as written in the booklet.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It's been moved by
4 Mr. Brower.

5

6 MR. KOONUK: Second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. Discussion?
9 Again, the alternates -- two alternates, compensation and rural
10 residency. Where we going to fit in the rural residency?

11

12 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, that rural residency
13 requirement is moot, is it not? The opinion that was given to
14 us, we cannot use that language.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

17

18 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's from the Solicitor, was it, last
19 year or a year and a half ago?

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN: So we can't put the rural residency in
24 there.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, it's not going to be that big
27 of a problem here in the North Region. Okay, the highlighted
28 items are the ones in for amendments to the charter. That's my
29 understanding, right?

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Alternates and the compensation.

34

35 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay, the compensation, that's being
36 discussed at the Federal level.

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's pending.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep.

41

42 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I call for the question.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Question is called. All in
45 favor of submitting the recommended changes for the charters
46 say aye.

47

48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49

50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

00167

1 (No opposing responses)

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Barbara or Rosa.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. On your Regional Council
6 nominations, we have -- I just learned of seat eight becoming
7 open. I will need to hear, verbally or in a written form, from
8 Leonard Tukle whether he -- for his resignation. And I was
9 trying to get ahold of him at Nuiqsut. So as of right now we
10 have seat nine vacated by Edward Itta, who resigned. We have
11 seat four, Gordon Upicksoun, incumbent and Benjamin Hopson,
12 seat five, incumbent. Seat six, Jimmy Nayukok resigned from
13 Atqasuk and also Leonard Tukle from Nuiqsut. Leonard I need to
14 hear from either informal or -- and then I handed out this pink
15 form that I mailed out to everyone listed here regarding the
16 open seats that are being advertised for this Council, but I
17 will need to send another notice out real fast, once I get
18 back, for seat eight. There will be a total of five seats for
19 North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council to be filled
20 by this year.

21

22 And then you know the process where after all the
23 applications come in, the application closes on the 20th of
24 March, and after that then it goes to the panel and then they
25 do the screening and interviewing of all the Council applicants
26 and then from there it goes to through the Staff Committee and
27 then to the Federal Board. And at this time anyone who is
28 interested for these seats can apply. And I'm sure everyone is
29 aware that -- from all the people that I send out these notices
30 to that there are some seats open.

31

32 And I'm getting a lot of applications for these seats
33 and it's interesting to see more. The last time we went
34 through this nomination process we only got three from North
35 Slope, so I'm sure we're going to have more this year, so it'll
36 be interesting to see.

37

38 MR. H. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

41

42 MR. H. BROWER: How many -- or did you say how many
43 applicants you've received to be?

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't really know how many I have,
46 but so far I've seen five myself from the Barrow area that were
47 directly sent to me. And I don't know how many have been sent
48 into the Anchorage office yet because right now I'm between two
49 offices, in Anchorage and Kotzebue.

50

00168

1 MR. H. BROWER: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. This is informational.
4 Again, the deadline is March 20.

5

6 Okay, we've several items left to consider here. We
7 have coordination with ADF&G, Geoff is here. We also have the
8 Federal Subsistence Board restructure working group status
9 report. Request for Reconsideration statement by Rosa. We'll
10 probably just go ahead and delete Regional Council new member
11 training materials since we don't have any new members at this
12 time.

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, the only one new member that
15 we got was Leonard Tukle and then he's resigned so we don't
16 have any members, but that Annual Report -- I mean, not the
17 Annual Report, it's the manual, Operations Manual, it's this
18 one right here, that's final and it's been given out to you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Mr. Brower.

21

22 MR. H. BROWER: Yeah, I just wanted to find out while
23 we were under our Regional Advisory Council discussions, I
24 wanted to find out if we're going to be discussing this Vice
25 Chair or is that going to be dealt with after we have our new
26 members here.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: What's the wish of the Council at
29 this time, we're only five, there's nine seats. Perhaps after
30 this fall we'll be pretty well filled up at the fall meeting,
31 but that's clearly up to you folks right now if you want to
32 have a temporary Vice Chair until September or when we
33 reorganize. It's totally up to you folks.

34

35 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, we have seen an instance
36 where you could not attend, so I think it's incumbent upon us
37 to have a temporary Vice Chair until we get -- or however until
38 we get a full membership. I recall one meeting where you could
39 not make is, so that does happen, so it's to our advantage.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah, we have April and May
42 Federal Subsistence Board meeting and that is a good point, so
43 I think you hear Gordon's justification. We should go ahead
44 and get a temporary Vice Chair until all the seats are filled
45 this fall. So the Chair will entertain motions for nomination
46 for Vice Chair.

47

48 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I nominate Ray Koonuk.
49 My term is up, I may not be in the next time he's not up for
50 reelection, so I nominate Ray Koonuk for Vice Chair.

00169

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Ray Koonuk is nominated.

2
3 MR. H. BROWER: Second it.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded. Any objection for
6 unanimous consent?

7
8 MR. H. BROWER: No.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Unanimous consent. Congratulations,
11 Ray, you're our Vice Chairman till this fall.

12
13 MR. KOONUK: Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I notice there's some of our
16 Committee members outside, we just have -- how many items do we
17 have left? Coordinators ADF&G, restructure and RFR statement.
18 Can we wait later, Rosa?

19
20 MS. MEEHAN: It's up to you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I hear Edward Hopson out
23 there, he said, we don't want to be waiting for us, so.....

24
25 MS. MEEHAN: That's fine.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We should go ahead and get right
28 down to business and take care of the important matters. Is
29 that okay, Rosa?

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: Oh, that fine.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Let's call in the
34 other Committee members, we can proceed with the remaining
35 proposals.

36
37 MR. H. BROWER: Congratulations, Ray.

38
39 (Pause)

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good afternoon, ladies and
42 gentlemen, I'd like to call the joint meeting of the North
43 Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and the North Slope
44 Fish and Game Committee meeting back to order after recess.
45 And I want to thank our fellow colleagues of the Management
46 Committee to wait just five minute overtime. And we were
47 keeping you in mind, Mr. Hopson, of not keeping you waiting
48 beyond 1:30, so appreciate you visiting out there for five
49 minutes or so.

50

00170

1 At this time we did have North Slope Borough Assembly
2 confirmation for a couple of new Committee members or renewed
3 Committee members that were confirmed by the North Slope
4 Borough Assembly. At this time we need to have them swear into
5 the office, so I'll turn the floor over to Bertha to install
6 our two new members. Bertha, swearing in ceremony.

7
8 BERTHA: Thomas Rulland and (indiscernible) and John
9 Miller.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (Indiscernible) is out of town.

12
13 BERTHA: Okay.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We have Thomas Rulland and John
16 Miller here.

17
18 BERTHA: Okay, Thomas Rulland is here?

19
20 MR. H. BROWER: Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

23
24 BERTHA: When I swear in Thomas Rulland you need to
25 Fish and Game Management Committee member, you'll say it as
26 that, and John you get to that part you'll say at large
27 representative of Fish and Game Management Committee member.

28
29 MR. MILLER: All that, okay.

30
31 BERTHA: Yeah, all that. Will you guys please stand and
32 raise your right hand, please?

33
34 (Oath administered to Thomas Rulland and John Miller)

35
36 (Applause)

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Bertha. Welcome
39 aboard, Mr. Rulland and Mr. Miller being confirmed by the
40 Assembly, recommended from your appropriate city organizations.

41
42 Okay, we got a few handouts here that Geoff will be
43 helping along. We have two proposals, we'll go ahead and take
44 care of those simultaneously or together. I think we'll take
45 the proposals separately or we can take them both on in the
46 same motion at the same time. What do you recommend, Donna or
47 Geoff?

48
49 MS. DEWHURST: We'll do them separately, but I'll
50 introduce them both.

00171

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Separately, okay. Proposal 108 in
2 Unit 26(A) and that's on page -- what page would that be?

3
4 MS. DEWHURST: That's page 18.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Starts on page 17.

7
8 MS. DEWHURST: Seventeen, yeah it starts and then
9 analysis starts on 18.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: In the booklet under Tab Q, starts
12 on page 17.

13
14 MS. DEWHURST: I'm going to give a little introduction
15 before we get into it. As Fenton mentioned, there's two
16 proposals, 108 and 109, they're both dealing with musk-ox, both
17 on the North Slope.

18
19 Just to back up and get everybody up to speed, I'm glad
20 Geoff gave you -- you might get this drawing out, this map that
21 Geoff just handed out, that's real handy to look at, and also
22 this one, I'm going to refer to both. Just to give a back up
23 so that everybody's at the same level when we start talking
24 about this stuff.

25
26 Musk-ox were, as most of you know, at one time they
27 were native to the North Slope. Sometimes during the 1800s
28 they disappeared. They were reintroduced up here, originally
29 from Greenland stocks, but the from Nunivak Island some animals
30 were brought starting in the '60s and there have been several
31 different introductions to different parts of the state. But
32 there were introductions made up around this area and then up
33 over here. And over time the animals grew.

34
35 What we're looking at, and you can see -- this map
36 gives a nice area, it gives you the core area where animals are
37 and then the lines also show fringe areas, kind of the
38 expansion. What we're looking at currently is -- this is the
39 core area where the animals were introduced, so those animals
40 are pretty much stable now. We're looking around 300-320 in
41 this area, which is 26(C).

42
43 In 26(B), which is has been -- what happened is when
44 they were introduced here they expanded. Most of the expansion
45 was westward. There was some expansion eastward, too, into
46 Canada, I guess about 150 animals have moved into Canada, too,
47 so I don't want you to think it was all westward, it was in
48 both directions. So there's been expansion from the core group
49 into now what is the expanding part of the population in 26(B),
50 the current estimates are 280 animals in 26(B). And that's the

00172

1 portion of the population that's reproducing the quickest and
2 expanding the quickest.

3
4 Some of those animals are starting now to trickle over
5 this way, we don't have good numbers for how many or where they
6 are or anything else. Also there were animals introduced over
7 here, down -- this is Cape Thompson, Kivalina, you can't quite
8 see it way back there, it's little tiny print. Cape
9 Krusenstern National Monument. Point Hope's up here, Point
10 Lay's up here. Animals were introduced down here, the breeding
11 population, there's some that hang out down here. The biggest
12 group hangs out from Cape Thompson do to the Lutheran Hills,
13 but does, we now know, extend all the way up to Cape Lisburne.
14 So there is a group of animals over here.

15
16 Some of those animals are starting to trickle over this
17 way, but we're only talking -- I just took the number off. A
18 hundred to 150 animals over here, so a much smaller number.
19 For whatever reason the population over here, basically the
20 same number of animals were introduced in both places, roughly
21 around the same time, but these guys haven't ever done as well.
22 Some of the thoughts, it's deeper snow in the winter, just a
23 lot of speculation of why these guys haven't taken off like the
24 ones over here.

25
26 So these guys are still around 100-150 animal range,
27 but a few of those animals are starting to trickle eastward.
28 So we have a movement coming from this side and a little bit of
29 movement coming from this side. What we're seeing in the
30 middle is we don't know of any breeding animals in the middle
31 of 26(A). What we do know of is stray bulls. What happens
32 with musk-ox is numbers pick up, you have the breeding groups,
33 mixed groups with cows and bulls, and the younger stud bulls
34 that can't quite get their group of cows together, they usually
35 kind of get kicked out of the main group and they start
36 wandering, looking for cows, looking for new territory. So you
37 have stray bulls. Also the old bulls that are -- eventually
38 they will sometimes also end up wandering.

39
40 So what we did was stray, lone bulls or sometimes you
41 get bull groups, sometimes a couple of these bulls will get
42 together and hang out together. That's what we think is mostly
43 in 26(A), is either lone bulls or maybe their might be bull
44 groups. We don't know of any mixed sex groups or any actual
45 production, no calves being produced in 26(A) as of right now,
46 except for Cape Lisburne, which is right on the very tip
47 corner. So that's kind of where we are at right now with
48 population, that's why I wanted to put these numbers up.

49
50 The first proposal, 108, deals with 26(A) which

00173

1 boundary goes basically from Cape Lisburne on over here to
2 around Nuiqsut in the south, down to Anaktuvuk Pass. So we're
3 mainly talking about Gates of the Arctic National Park, NPR-A,
4 which BLM lands and then there's a little tiny portion of
5 Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, which is Fish and
6 Wildlife Service lands, just I mean talking a five mile by five
7 mile piece of land over here, a real small. So these are the
8 three land managers, Federal, that are in 26(A).

9
10 The second proposal we will be dealing with, which is
11 Proposal 109 jumps across and it'll be over here in 26(C) and
12 it will be dealing with Kaktovik and Arctic National Wildlife
13 Refuge. Now, you might say how can we skip 26(B). We covered
14 this side and we're jumping over to this side. Basically
15 26(B), the way things have been divvied up on the North Slope,
16 because the only Federal lands are in the southern part of
17 26(B) and there's virtually no musk-ox on them, we have said
18 the State manages 26(B), so things have been divvied up so that
19 the State deals with management of musk-ox in 26(B) and right
20 now because of all the land over here that are pink are all
21 Federal lands, the Federal part deals with 26(C).

22
23 And 26(A), which we'll get to in a minute is up in the
24 air. It's a mixture of both Federal and State lands and that's
25 what this proposal is about and we'll be talking about, whether
26 we should go to the State's side or the Federal side on how we
27 manage setting up a harvest in 26(A) or if we want a harvest.
28 But that's what Proposal 108 is.

29
30 So real briefly again, 108 is going to be covering
31 26(A) with the three Federal land managers and some big chunks
32 of non-Federal land that would be under the State management.
33 And then 109 will be 26(C), which is Arctic National Wildlife
34 Refuge or ANWR to go to Kaktovik. So we'll start with 108
35 first. And that's also -- for those of you that, you know,
36 that eyes aren't very good, this map gives a good
37 representation and there's a map in the analysis, so there's a
38 couple of different maps to refer to.

39
40 The Proposal 108 was originally made by this Council
41 last fall to look into the possibility of a Federal hunt of
42 musk-ox, a Federal harvest, subsistence harvest of musk-ox in
43 26(A). There was some confusion when the proposal book came
44 out, the language was misprinted. It was purely human error.
45 the language in the proposal book originally just only talked
46 about the western portion. We went back to the transcripts,
47 which thank goodness we have people taking transcripts because
48 they saved our bacon a number of times, we have to actually
49 look at what people said, word for word, and the actual
50 proposal was for all of 26(A), so that's how we're addressing

00174

1 it.

2

3 The question came as to what sort of a harvest could we
4 have? Well, as you can see we don't have any numbers, we don't
5 have a viable population, there's no group of musk-ox that are
6 reproducing and we can go out every year and count them. These
7 are just a few isolated animals scattered hither and yon, so
8 it's hard to say, well, we'll have a harvest of three percent
9 of the population. Well, what's three percent of a question
10 mark, you know, how do you set a harvest number? It makes it
11 really tricky.

12

13 The question came as, well, let's have an incidental
14 harvest. Incidental meaning we want to be able to take these
15 stray animals as we see them, as they come along. There's been
16 a lot of debate about this from different parties, different
17 people as to how to treat these stray animals. Some people
18 consider them huntable surplus from these two fringe
19 populations, that's one thought. Some people don't see it that
20 way, some people say, well, you can't hunt these animals
21 because they aren't a population. You get biologists coming in
22 from different directions.

23

24 I guess it depends on what side of the fence you're
25 sitting on. If you see these animals as good and you want to
26 have a population some day, then I'd say limit the hunt. And I
27 know there's a lot of folks that don't see these animals
28 necessarily coming in as being a good thing and potential
29 conflicts with caribou and other aspects. And then you may
30 lean toward a harvest. But our job or my job was to consider
31 what sort of harvest could we have on the Federal side. If we
32 set up a harvest, what could we do? And I looked into it.

33

34 I talked to the different land managers and we talked
35 about the different things. You got to keep in mind, too, we
36 have three different managers who have three very different
37 guidances as to how to manage their land. As you've heard
38 already, the Park Service has very specific guidances on how to
39 they run a national park. BLM is more generic in that they're
40 looking more multiple use and a little bit freer on the
41 guidances. And then Alaska Maritime, over here, also with
42 refuges, refuges have very specific guidances. So it make it
43 more complicated and I had to deal with three different
44 managers all coming from three different directions and I had
45 to try to design a hunt that could potentially work on all
46 three pieces of land that are not continuous.

47

48 Well, the only hunt we can have on Federal land is as
49 an incidental harvest would be a special permit hunt, similar
50 to what Kaktovik has right now in that a number of permits

00175

1 would be issued. They could potentially be issued to any of
2 the communities that have c&t for 26(A), which is basically all
3 of the North Slope, I think, except Kaktovik, basically Point
4 Lay, Point Hope, Atqasuk, Wainwright, you know, basically all
5 the communities up there. So permits could be issued for an
6 incidental take.

7
8 The question would come if ever set up a permit system
9 like that, how many permits? What do we set as the bag limit,
10 i.e., how many musk-ox would a permit be good for? Would it be
11 good for one, would it be good for two? And how would we keep
12 a handle on how many were taken? There's a lot of questions
13 there and because of those questions there's a lot of
14 controversy stirred up. A lot of people are, like, well, we're
15 really concerned, we don't even have a good number, how you
16 going to say how many permits to issue? It became a really
17 tricky situation really quickly.

18
19 We, in talking the State, talking with the various land
20 owner or land managers, one of the possible alternatives was to
21 go back to the State and that the State has already set up, and
22 you have -- one of your handouts, actually that's the proposal
23 that was.....

24
25 MR. CARROLL: Well, I think the easiest way to look at
26 the original regulation is to look at the proposal in the book,
27 which is Number 88.

28
29 MS. DEWHURST: Okay. The original regulation was set
30 up around Point Lay, that area around Point Lay. What page is
31 it in the green book?

32
33 MR. CARROLL: It's Proposal Number 88, which is page
34 73.

35
36 MS. DEWHURST: I'm going to get Geoff up here in a
37 second to clarify what I'm going to stumble through. Proposal
38 88 in the green book and we looked at that and it was -- the
39 State had set up a system for permitting incidental take of
40 musk-oxen. This particular proposal was set up primarily for
41 the Point Lay residents. And it's an emergency order by the
42 Commissioner, opened by emergency order, and I'll let Geoff go
43 into details on how it would work.

44
45 But since then there's been another proposal made to do
46 something very similar for Anaktuvuk Pass. And in the process
47 of doing all this hashing out and actually the Feds and the
48 State trying to work together and try to come up with a
49 solution, a possible solution came up to expand the State
50 proposal even more. And I want to let Geoff go into the

00176

1 details there and what we're talking about, basically, is the
2 State may have a solution for you that might be a more
3 manageable way to set up to set up a harvest than the Federal
4 side.

5
6 And so I told you about the special use permit
7 possibility on the hunt. I'd like to let Geoff explain the
8 possibly the State could do and then after that I'll tell you
9 our final recommendations on the Federal side and then you
10 decide how you want to handle it. If you want to go with the
11 potential of the State running it. If you want to still stick
12 with the Federal or another possibility would be to defer
13 action on the Federal side until we see if the State can do
14 this. But let me let Geoff explain the possibility for the
15 State.

16
17 MR. CARROLL: Okay, I'm Geoff Carroll with the Alaska
18 Department of Fish and Game. And I'd like to go through the
19 history of how this has evolved, a little bit, to start with.
20 You know, we've been working through this musk-ox planning
21 process for a couple of years now and trying to hash out a
22 workable plan on it for the North Slope. And one of the
23 guiding principles has been, in our Harvest Plan, in goal 1D,
24 establish a hunt allowing residents of villages in Game
25 Management Unit 26(A) and Anaktuvuk Pass to harvest a limited
26 number of musk-ox that disperse into their hunting areas.

27
28 And goal 2B which is when areas are identified where
29 musk-oxen are displacing caribou from a traditional hunting
30 area or an area that is critical to caribou populations, then
31 hunting pressure can be directed to reduce the number of
32 musk-oxen in that specific area.

33
34 So we worked together as a group and developed a
35 proposal that we took to the Board of Game meeting last fall.
36 Gordon and Taqulik and I went down there and presented it and
37 the Board of Game passed that proposal, they modified it a
38 little bit. We basically wanted to set up some sort of a hunt
39 in the Point Lay area. Our approach was -- you know, we
40 realized we were working with a confusing dual management
41 system here. We have both Federal and State management in
42 26(A), so what we were trying to do was to set something up on
43 State land that would cover that and, you know, this situation
44 on Federal land would be addressed later.

45
46 So through discussions at the Board meeting we came up
47 with a proposal which basically said in Game Management Unit
48 26(A) that portion west of the Utukok River, Gordon was there
49 and he agreed that that would be a good cut off line for the
50 Point Lay area. Within that area the Commissioner may open, by

00177

1 emergency order, a season with the bag limit of up to two
2 musk-oxen per person by permit only in areas and under the
3 conditions set forth below. And the resident tag fee would be
4 waived. So basically if the musk-ox would move into that area,
5 anyplace west of the Utukok River, then somebody from Point Lay
6 can get a permit and harvest those musk-oxen to avoid those
7 musk-oxen being in their area and displacing caribou from their
8 hunting areas. So that was passed by the Board of Game last
9 fall.

10
11 And then after that meeting I contacted people from
12 Anaktuvuk Pass, talked to Ben and others and initially I was
13 questioning them about if they would be interested in hunting
14 some of these musk-oxen in 26(B). The conversation was that
15 that's really a long way for them to travel and that they were
16 more interested harvesting musk-ox that move into Anaktuvuk,
17 and particular ones that might get in the pass and affect
18 caribou migrations. So we took the regulation that the Board
19 had passed concerning the Point Lay area and we wrote another
20 proposal, this was at the last meeting of the North Slope
21 Borough Fish and Game Management Committee, we considered this
22 proposal and this proposal was submitted to the Board. It
23 basically, you know, designates a specific area around Point
24 Lay (sic) where the same rule would be in effect if musk-oxen
25 move into that area, then those musk-ox can be harvested. That
26 way, you know, both -- they provide a valuable source of meat
27 and people are able to keep them out of their musk-ox (sic)
28 hunting areas and migration corridors there.

29
30 So that proposal has been submitted. Since that time
31 I've talked to lawyers within the State system and, you know, I
32 just kind of assumed that we would be dealing with issues on
33 State lands, you know, through the State regulatory system and
34 that the ones on Federal land would be handled under the
35 Federal regulatory system, but it turns out that since this is
36 not really a subsistence hunt, this is more of a matter of
37 controlling musk-oxen that are moving into the area, you know,
38 there aren't really enough musk-oxen there to call it a
39 subsistence hunt, so it's more of a musk-ox control regulation.
40 And, you know, the State does not manage subsistence hunting on
41 Federal land, but it does manage things like controlling
42 problem animals. So actually I'm told that we can -- that the
43 State could have a regulation very similar to what we have in
44 Point Lay now and has been proposed for Anaktuvuk Pass, except
45 just say for all of 26(A), so that way every village on the
46 Slope would have the ability to harvest musk-oxen that move
47 into their hunting areas.

48
49 You know, I don't see this as competing proposals or
50 anything, I think we're all just trying to figure out a

00178

1 solution that's going to work out the best for North Slope
2 people. And, you know, I would have proposed it a long time
3 ago if I had known that was one of our options, it was
4 something I just learned recently. So it does have several
5 advantages, one is that -- well, the principal advantages we'll
6 be able to harvest animals that move into hunting areas and are
7 affecting the caribou hunting. Another is, you know, it's a
8 means of providing villages with a useful source of meat. In
9 addition, it's quite flexible, it's year-round, you know,
10 anytime musk-oxen show up and then these issues, these permits
11 can be issued. And it's, you know, either sex deal, you know,
12 if for controlling musk-oxen that we don't want in particular
13 areas and, you know, we need to be able to harvest females as
14 well as males. And also there's no tag fee for it under this
15 regulation.

16
17 I guess the disadvantage to it would be that people
18 will need to apply for the permit, but under our system we
19 should be able to process that quite quickly, it's something
20 that if there's a situation you should be able to call in and I
21 can probably, you know, fax an authorization out pretty
22 quickly, so it's -- you know, it's one solution to a problem
23 that we've addressed in our Management Plan and, you know, I
24 think if we can get this through then we've made a big step in
25 achieving some of the goals that we've been working on for a
26 couple of years.

27
28 I would advise -- you know, we don't know for sure that
29 the Board of Game will pass this amendment, you know, it's --
30 in talking to them, they're receptive to it and I think we
31 found at the last Board meeting that they're very willing to
32 work with us, but there's no guarantee they're going to pass
33 it. I think what I would suggest is, you know, if you want us
34 to proceed with this, we can go ahead and do that at the next
35 Board meeting, present this amendment for all of 26(A) and --
36 but I would also recommend that you have as a backup, you know,
37 a proposal ready to go to the Federal Board because, you know,
38 we don't know for sure if the State's going to pass it. If the
39 State does pass it, then you can withdraw the proposal to the
40 Federal Board, if you wanted to do so at that time and have it
41 covered either way.

42
43 MS. DEWHURST: Basically Geoff's proposal is a lot
44 simpler, we wouldn't be dealing with a dual management system
45 and, in all honesty, I think his proposal sound like it could
46 meet the needs of controlling stray musk-ox. If, like Geoff
47 said, for some reason the Board of Game wouldn't pass that and
48 you want to continue with the Federal proposal, or if you want
49 to continue with it now, I mean you have that option, let me
50 just real briefly again talk about how it would be run.

00179

1 It would be a permit proposal. One of the big
2 complications is ours can only be on Federal land, so when you
3 deal with places like Wainwright, there's this white area
4 around Wainwright that's non-Federal land, so even if you gave
5 a resident of Wainwright a permit, they couldn't hunt the
6 musk-ox until they got in the orange. Same way with Point Lay,
7 they could not hunt a musk-oxen until you got over here in the
8 orange section. It isn't good for everywhere, it only would be
9 good for Federal land.

10
11 Another complication is, at this time, Gates of the
12 Arctic National Park would like to reframe from the hunt. They
13 see the need for subsistence animals, and I can get clarified
14 if I don't phrase this correctly, but under the guiding
15 management principles of the park, they also feel the need to
16 allow the potential for a couple of stray musk-ox that will
17 eventually, possibly, populate this area, to get some breeding
18 animals down in here. So at this time Gates of the Arctic and
19 the National Park Service would not like to be included in this
20 hunt, so the purple area would be out.

21
22 This little tiny pink area which is such a small area I
23 hate to even mention it, but the little pink area, Alaska
24 Maritime Refuge, also requests to not be included in the hunt
25 because these are known breeding animals which are actually
26 part of this lower population. And they're not against the
27 harvest, I don't want to make a misunderstanding there, Alaska
28 Maritime Refuge is willing to talk about harvest, but they
29 don't want to be included in this incidental take harvest
30 because these are breeding animals. They want to be included
31 whenever a harvest is developed for this Cape Thompson
32 population, which it wouldn't surprise me if it was next year,
33 they would like to be included under that, not under this
34 incidental take, because they are breeding animals and they are
35 part of the population now. So it would be kind of crazy to
36 this little tiny piece and try to manage it separately, it
37 should be managed under this (indiscernible - interrupted).....

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Donna. I think
40 you've done, pretty much, the summary of the Proposal 108
41 before us. Did you cover, pretty much, the biological and
42 sociocultural analysis on this proposal?

43
44 MS. DEWHURST: Well, we don't have any numbers, we
45 don't have any population numbers so we can't really deal with
46 the biology.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Summary -- were they any
49 written public comments on this proposal? I see none.

50

00180

1 MS. DEWHURST: No, there are no written comments.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, at this time I'd like to open
4 the floor to public comments on this proposal. The public is
5 invited or the floor is open for public comments on this
6 proposal.

7

8 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Tagarook.

11

12 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. Did you say Wainwright is in the
13 white? We have people that always go up to the foothills,
14 mountains.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's probably village corporation
17 land that makes a little piece of the parcel for that.

18

19 The floor is open for any public that want to make
20 comments on this proposal, the floor is open.

21

22 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

25

26 MR. E. HOPSON: How do you identify stranded musk-ox?

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You see them (Inupiaq) Stranded on
29 barrier islands, on the ice, they can't get across to the
30 mainland.

31

32 MR. E. HOPSON: I was wondering what you mean by
33 incidental take.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Incidental take, can someone take
36 a.....

37

38 MS. DEWHURST: It basically means that it's presumed
39 that your intention is not out for musk-ox, it's while you're
40 out hunting caribou or hunting moose or out for something else
41 and you see one, you have the opportunity to take it. But it's
42 presumed that somebody isn't out there specifically looking for
43 musk-ox, to go harvest a musk-ox, so that's why they say it's
44 incidental to another hunt. Because there's so few musk-ox the
45 odds are you'd run into it while you're out doing something
46 else. You'd probably would.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (Inupiaq) Happen to run across a
49 musk-ox out in 26(A).

50

00181

1 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Koonuk.

4
5 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, where does Point Hope stand on this
6 proposal?

7
8 MS. DEWHURST: Under the Federal proposal, Point Hope
9 could be granted permits because you have c&t for 26(A). Now
10 under the State proposal, I don't know how that would work
11 because they're out of 26(A). I don't know if they could be
12 included or not.

13
14 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I think that under the way this
15 proposal was written it's just, you know, all villages in
16 26(A), so it's -- I think -- you know, the idea was Point Hope,
17 there's going to be a planning process within the next year to
18 start hunting that Cape Thompson population, you know. We're
19 kind of staying away from the Cape Thompson population because
20 you guys need to get together with other people that are going
21 to be hunting that population and come up with a management
22 plan for that area. So we're kind of trying to address the
23 other areas and.....

24
25 MR. KOONUK: (Indiscernible)

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Say again, Ray.

28
29 MR. KOONUK: I said I kind of feel like we're being
30 left out here. You guys know with Unit 23.....

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, you're going to be included in
33 26. Point Hope is included in there, customary and traditional
34 determination if you've taken or hunted musk-oxen. Now we're
35 putting in a proposal so that there can be incidental takes of
36 musk-oxen for.....

37
38 MR. CARROLL: But that would be for hunting musk-oxen
39 in 26(A), not in 23 at this point.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: Not in 23, no.

42
43 MR. CARROLL: No, that's something you need to -- I
44 mean, there will be a management process during the next year
45 to start working on that Cape Thompson.

46
47 MS. DEWHURST: It could potentially be a proposal for
48 next year, you know.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Edward Hopson and then Taqulik,

00182

1 Ben and then Gordon.

2

3 MR. E. HOPSON: Like I said, I've been missing out on
4 the report, that presentation. Is there a difference how you
5 take musk-ox on the State lands and the Federal lands within
6 the North Slope?

7

8 MS. DEWHURST: Right now in 26(A) no musk-oxen have
9 been allowed to be taken up to this point, there's been no
10 harvesting allowed for that.

11

12 MR. E. HOPSON: 26(A), that's.....

13

14 MS. DEWHURST: We're trying to establish a harvest.

15

16 MR. E. HOPSON:no musk-ox?

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: There are musk-ox there, but very few.

19

20 MR. E. HOPSON: But they're not permitted to.....

21

22 MS. DEWHURST: Right now it's not legal to take one,
23 we're trying to make a legal way to do it, and that's what
24 we're trying to figure out how to do it and make it legal.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That answer your question,
27 Mr. Hopson?

28

29 MR. E. HOPSON: That answer my question, but not being
30 able to take it when you get a chance in 26(A), I have problems
31 with that. You know, you people are drafting -- responsible
32 for making these regulations don't make it very easy for us
33 subsistence people. You never -- you haven't even see -- don't
34 know what the terrain looks like or the habitat. And each one
35 of us here sitting around the table probably -- you tell me to
36 go someplace, I go wherever on the North Slope without a
37 compass or without a map, I'm going to get there, most of us
38 would. So I don't know, that's a problem I'm having, not being
39 able to take it when you have a chance on 26(A).

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's what this proposal is our
42 intention to do. When you have a chance, when you see a
43 musk-oxen in 26(A), this is what this proposal will allow the
44 residents of 26(A) to take a musk-ox.

45

46 MR. E. HOPSON: There would be a lot less of them to
47 take.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, sir.

50

00183

1 MR. E. HOPSON: I'm sure, if they were going that way.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes. That's what this proposal is
4 intended for. Mr. Hopson, Taqulik and then Mr. Upicksoun.

5

6 MR. B. HOPSON: Don't this proposal include Anaktuvuk
7 Pass in the Gates of the Arctic National Park area of 26(A)?

8

9 MS. DEWHURST: The Federal proposal right now, the
10 staff recommendation is no. That's not saying that the
11 Regional Council could vote a different way, but the staff
12 recommendation right now, based on the opinion of the National
13 Park Service, the answer would be no. That's not saying that's
14 what the Federal Board will decide, it's just saying our
15 current recommendation.

16

17 MR. B. HOPSON: So this is not addressing.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's the staff recommendation,
20 Mr. Hopson.

21

22 MR. B. HOPSON: Okay.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We have -- we can listen to what you
25 and Thomas can say about that.

26

27 MR. B. HOPSON: But it would allow Anaktuvuk to take a
28 musk-ox if this were to pass in the Gates of the Arctic?

29

30 MS. DEWHURST: Not under the.....

31

32 MR. B. HOPSON: Not under this proposal?

33

34 MS. DEWHURST: Well, not under the Federal. Under the
35 State's system there -- Anaktuvuk does have, but I'm not sure
36 -- I'm not clear under the State's system if they can do it in
37 Gates of the Arctic or not.

38

39 MR. CARROLL: Well, it's a little bit confusing, you
40 know, just exactly what we're talking about because right now
41 there's a proposal in -- see, under the Federal proposal there
42 -- you know, all they can deal with is Federal land and that's
43 why we originally wrote this proposal for the area around
44 Anaktuvuk Pass. And it basically -- you know, it just includes
45 the State managed land there, the stuff in white. And plus an
46 area around to the north that should encompass anything that
47 would threaten the migration route of caribou. You know,
48 that's the proposal that's in right now.

49

50 If this amendment for all of 26(A) goes in then, I

00184

1 mean, that's kind of what it says, is all of 26(A). But the
2 intent of the State is to just use this as a means for people
3 to be able to harvest musk-oxen that move into their hunting
4 areas, so we're kind of seeing this as, you know, a somewhat
5 limited area around each village, it isn't every place all the
6 time, it's meant as a tool to be used to harvest musk-oxen that
7 move into hunting areas. So we're talking about a proposal and
8 then there's a possible amendment, so.....

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Mr. Carroll.
11 Before I let others speak here, I'm getting a little bit ahead
12 of myself. We did have ADF&G and agency comments on this
13 proposal. I need to get back on track here. Mr. Yokel, and
14 any other Federal or State agency want to comment on this
15 proposal? Support for or against?

16
17 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the meeting of
18 the Musk-Ox Working Group two weeks ago I was asked to
19 summarize the results of that meeting for this Council today.
20 If you feel that Donna and Geoff have already done a sufficient
21 job of that, I'll be glad to step back, but it's whatever you
22 wish.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. This was also discussed in
25 the Anchorage office. Maybe you can stand by for any questions
26 or answers or comments on that. Geoff, what do you suggest
27 having Mr. Yokel be available for comments or help on this
28 matter?

29
30 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I'm just trying to remember if
31 there was anything from that meeting on this subject that we
32 haven't covered. I think we've -- so maybe you could.....

33
34 MR. YOKEL: In terms of the -- well, I guess one
35 important point is that the group, as a whole, did not reach a
36 consensus on a recommendation for your Council, that there were
37 several options that were mentioned and that the bulk of it has
38 been covered here already. In addition, the group did suggest
39 that the State Board of Game hold a working session on this
40 prior to its meeting later this month and see if they can come
41 to a resolution of it for the State proposal.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Is that it?

44
45 MR. YOKEL: I suppose that's good enough.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you.

48
49 MR. YOKEL: I just want to make sure I've met my.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Dave, we'll call
2 upon you as the expert on the subject here. Any other -- is
3 Gates of the Arctic ready to make comments on this proposal?

4
5 MR. ULVI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Steve Ulvi of
6 Gates of the Arctic National Park again. I have a number of
7 comments that I made to Working Group and have made before and
8 I can go through those if people have specific questions. But
9 I just wanted to clarify for the discussion that's going on
10 right now, and particularly the question that Ben had, because
11 I'm not sure everybody understands where the Park Service
12 stands.

13
14 So for 26(A), we also have a preserve in 26(B), but
15 that's not going to be addressed that proposal, that's a State
16 proposal in 26(B). For the Federal lands that are within Gates
17 of the Arctic National Park in 26(A), our position is, is that
18 those dispersing bull musk-ox that do show up on occasion there
19 now, that we would like to see those animals continue to show
20 up and we would like to, over time, see if there's a chance for
21 any of those animals to establish breeding populations either
22 within or adjacent to the park as part of the natural
23 environment. That's what the Park Service does.

24
25 Subsistence use is allowed, and what we would like to
26 do is through the Working Group see a solution where if there
27 are animals within the vicinity of Anaktuvuk Pass and they're
28 is a sense that they are affecting the caribou migrations,
29 particularly in the fall, we would believe it's realistic, in
30 the short term, to have a permit system. We think the State
31 proposal is sensitive to that and provides that kind of an
32 opportunity to go ahead and get a permit and remove those
33 animals from those locations that you're concerned about. Over
34 time, as the population continues to expand, and expand into
35 the park, whether they establish a breeding population or not
36 then we can see at some point in the future that there could a
37 subsistence hunt in the park. Right now we find that to be a
38 very sensitive situation that we would prefer not to have to
39 deal with.

40
41 We do have other constituencies besides local rural
42 residents. Although we take your point of view very seriously,
43 and that's why we attend these meetings and attempt to find
44 solutions that'll work, we also do have 250,000,000 other
45 American people who have a say in the way national parks are
46 run. So we're trying to balance these other interests. The
47 one thing I wanted to clarify, for sure, as Geoff explained,
48 about the fact that the State legal people have said, this is
49 not really a subsistence hunt, we're talking about an
50 incidental permit system to remove or control animals, which

00186

1 makes it different. That would still not apply to Federal
2 public lands within Gates of the Arctic National Park because
3 the National Park Service does not allow animal control, except
4 under extraordinary circumstances, and I don't think that this
5 would meet that test.

6
7 So, again, what I'm suggesting is that the Work Group
8 has made great strides and progress, we want to continue to
9 work with that Work Group and hope that in the short term the
10 Board of Game will support the amended Proposal 88 that Geoff
11 is talking about and that that will allow communities to have
12 primarily Native corporation and village corporation and State
13 lands around them to go ahead and reduce some of those musk-ox
14 that they feel are a problem. But again, to allow for take of
15 musk-ox on Federal public lands within the park is a very
16 difficult issue and one that we're not supporting at this time.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any comments or questions for
19 Mr. Ulvi?

20
21 (No audible responses)

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, none. Any other Federal
24 agency want to make comment on this -- or State agencies on
25 this proposal?

26
27 (No audible responses)

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: If not, let me give the public one
30 last chance before the Board deliberates. Taqulik.

31
32 MS. HEPA: I just wanted to address Ray's concern about
33 being -- feeling being left out. This just goes back to the
34 boundary situation and that there's a need for representation
35 from Point Hope to be included in both units, to have input.
36 And I think Geoff had covered that part about Unit 23, they're
37 in the process of taking steps to open up a hunt in that area,
38 so probably within the next year or two that there will be a
39 proposal to the Board of Game for a hunt in Unit 23.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We'll also provide an opportunity,
42 the Council will support Ray going into the Northwest Arctic
43 Council meetings, I think that would be good to hear or get you
44 over to Kotzebue, wherever they're having their Council
45 meetings. I would support that idea to make sure that you're
46 represented when there's talks in Unit 23.

47
48 Ms. Dewhurst.

49
50 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I just wanted to clarify, too, I'm

00187

1 sure Fenton is already aware of this and some of the Council,
2 but perhaps some of our other members aren't. There is the
3 potential to -- it's not done very often but one other option --
4 normally it's you either support, oppose or make
5 recommendations. There is a possibility that you could defer
6 the Federal proposal until the State Game Board meets in, what
7 is it, mid-March, I believe, in Fairbanks?

8
9 MR. CARROLL: March 21st.

10
11 MS. DEWHURST: And at that time you will know what they
12 decided. And you could defer making any action on this until
13 then. And if you were satisfied with the State proposal, the
14 Federal proposal could be withdrawn. The Federal proposal can
15 be withdrawn at any time, it's -- there's no deadlines on when
16 you can withdraw a proposal. So that is one possibility, would
17 be -- it's unusual and it isn't done very often, but I just
18 wanted to let you know that that is your game of -- your bag,
19 that you could do that.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Ms. Dewhurst. One
22 last chance for the public to make comment before the Councils
23 deliberate and make recommendation on this matter.
24 Mr. Upicksoun.

25
26 MR. UPICKSOUN: Regarding Ray's concern, I thought that
27 subject was brought up in Nome by Mr. Schaffer (ph) regarding a
28 hunt for Point Hope in Noatak, outside of Noatak on the lower
29 side of the hill. I think that was addressed at the Board of
30 Game meeting in Nome regarding a hunt at Point Hope.

31
32 As the Board of Game action regarding this, I like that
33 because it was site specific, there's no Federal lands around
34 the area where they gave us permits to hunt the dispersing
35 musk-ox. I like that one, it has no complications to any of
36 the refuges or Gates of the Arctic or nothing -- I like that
37 proposal as presented to the Board of Game. By adding this
38 amendment you may be shooting down the proposal that the Board
39 of Game passed in regards to our ability to hunt musk-ox in
40 Point Lay. You may be shooting us down right here with the
41 language that they're proposing in amending this what was
42 presented to the Board of Game.

43
44 We were happy that we were able to get rid of those
45 doggone musk-ox when they come in our area because they usually
46 show up just when the caribou gets fat. And then when the
47 musk-ox come and they -- our fall hunting of caribou is shot,
48 so we'd like to get rid of those musk-ox when they come into
49 our area which the Board of Game action addressed for Point
50 Lay. Now by adding these amendments for the Subsistence Board

00188

1 to consider we may be, in fact, shooting down the good action
2 that the State Board of Game took in regards to Point Lay's
3 concerns regarding our abilities to hunt those musk-ox that
4 disperse into our area and affect our caribou hunting.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Upicksoun. Okay,
7 this is next to the last opportunity for the public to comment
8 on 108.

9
10 (No audible responses)

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Hearing none, what is the wish of
13 the Council on the deliberation and recommendation? I'd like
14 to make a couple of comments on the written portion on page 17
15 of this Proposal 108 before we get into the recommendation or
16 action on this proposal.

17
18 On the first page on the effect of change on fish and
19 wildlife population. The proposed harvest targets dispersing
20 musk-oxen from established herds residing in the areas of Cape
21 Thompson and Lisburne Hills in Unit 23. These animals
22 occasionally move along the Chukchi coast and occupy areas near
23 Point Lay. Harvesting these dispersing musk-ox -- when we
24 discussed this with Anaktuvuk Pass residents we've heard
25 comments earlier, too, in one of the elder's conference, there
26 was a proposal where the Elders and Youth Conference, it was a
27 big discussion, I think it was in the form of a motion, and we
28 should get a copy of that. Maybe before the end of the day,
29 Taqulik, or Tommy. There was an Elders/Youth Conference.....

30
31 MR. H. BROWER: Resolution.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:resolution that support or
34 recommend to the game managers on the problem of musk-ox around
35 Anaktuvuk Pass and other areas within the North Slope.

36
37 This paragraph is not sufficient enough. In the first
38 sentence we're only talking about the western end of Unit 26 or
39 it's primarily talking about Unit 23. We're talking about Unit
40 26, so we either need to make.....

41
42 MS. DEWHURST: This was the misprint I was referring to
43 before and it was discussed with our Federal agency that this --
44 page 17 is what went into the proposal book. It was
45 misprinted, there was a lot of discussion as to whether or not
46 we should print an addendum, meaning a change. The decision
47 was made by my superiors not to print a change, to go with this
48 original thing but to address the mistake in the analysis,
49 which is what I did. I talk about it in the analysis, saying
50 that this page was miswritten, so they decided not to actually

00189

1 print an addendum saying it was miswritten, but to only address
2 it in the analysis. And in the analysis it talks about that
3 that is exactly the point that this only addresses.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, your staff analysis is your
6 interagency's point. This will be my input on behalf,
7 depending on what the Committee members and Council members
8 feel, but the gist I'm hearing from the residents these past
9 few years is that this musk-oxen is a problem. In Anaktuvuk
10 Pass, whoever the managers are, need to know that. That these
11 musk-oxen -- and in Kaktovik and it's pointed out in the
12 Management Plan that these were introduced without our input
13 and it has created a problem. A lifestyle, hunting subsistence
14 problem.

15
16 Even though you may have 230,000,000 constituents on
17 the other side, you need to hear our side too, very seriously,
18 because it affects our life. It affects our daily living. It
19 affects our, you might say going to the supermarket, getting
20 your hamburgers and steak. We want our caribou. And with the
21 musk-ox here that's a block, that's a hinderance. This is a
22 pest. This is wrong. Without our input to say that you have a
23 Conservation/Comprehensive Plan that you must abide by or
24 mandate, you must hear our mandate too. You need to balance
25 them out.

26
27 So this is where I'm coming from. That we need to
28 include dispersing animals, established from ANWR, that is
29 going into Anaktuvuk Pass.

30
31 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: What you're discussing, they told us
36 that the western half 26(B), the fastest growing portion of the
37 musk-ox, they're moving west, we don't know how many are NPR-A
38 already. But the time it affects your -- the migratory pattern
39 of your caribou here, by the time you find out that it's
40 affecting, it's too late, they're oomingaq, it'll be too late
41 by the time they -- if the musk-ox keep going the way they are
42 five years from now they may, in fact, affect the migratory
43 habits of the caribou. Five years from now it will be too late
44 (Inupiaq).

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, that's what I wanted to point
47 out that in the Proposal 108 we need to include or make
48 amendments or refer to dispersing animals from 26(B) which grew
49 from the ANWR implant or importation and page 17.

50

00190

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Under which one now, Mr. Chairman?

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Page 17, it takes about proposed
4 harvest targets dispersing in the area of Cape Thompson, we
5 want to concentrate the target areas in Anaktuvuk Pass,
6 Atqasuk, Nuiqsut, and this is primarily concentrating around
7 just the western end of 26(A). We also have Wainwright,
8 Nuiqsut, Atqasuk and Anaktuvuk Pass.

9

10 MR. UPICKSOUN: That should be written down and
11 inserted.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That should be written down or
14 inserted or.....

15

16 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's very specific in that region.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:comment as toward that part.

19

20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The other factor in the staff
23 analysis are guiding management principles. This where we're
24 butting heads on, ramming with the land managers. Although
25 again they may have to 230,000,000 on the other side, we're
26 living here 365 days a year. For their enjoyment there may be
27 five days to see a musk-oxen and this affects us 365 days a
28 year and it's affecting our lifestyle, our livelihood, our
29 subsistence way of life and we need to butt heads some more and
30 say, we don't want them here, we need to work on a
31 Comprehensive Conservation Plan and say, no, we don't want
32 these here.

33

34 If they want their 230,000,000 to see them, bring them
35 near Fairbanks or Anchorage, but this is affecting our way of
36 life, our subsistence livelihood. I think -- I'm hearing that
37 too many years that the Comprehensive Conservation Plan needs
38 to be changed to help us rather than the 230,000,000 that enjoy
39 it for two or three days out of the year for their enjoyment.
40 It's not right, there's an imbalance there.

41

42 So whether it's in ANWR, Gates of the Arctic, Alaska
43 Maritime Refuge or any other places, this has not -- the
44 implanted were put in without our input and the input is
45 affecting us big time. I don't know if I can say it any much
46 planer than that.

47

48 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, you did. The State Board
49 of Game when they addressed musk-ox issues, starting from below
50 Seward Peninsula, they were able to see what was happening in

00191

1 Point Lay there, they addressed our concerns about us not
2 wanting musk-ox there, it affects our hunting. Despite the
3 other musk-ox concerns that were brought before the State Board
4 of Game, that Board was able to understand Point Lay's
5 concerns. It affects our caribou hunting. They understood
6 that and they said (sound made), took them a while but they
7 decided in our favor. And we're just starting with your
8 request for addition of the other places. Point Lay was just a
9 start in that direction, Mr. Chairman.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Anyone else, real quickly, before
12 Mr. Hopson make comment? But Anaktuvuk Pass, I heard during
13 the Elder's Conference, we do not want these animals in the
14 Gates of the Arctic. We hear in Kaktovik, we don't want these
15 animals to grow anymore, we do -- they upset us too much.
16 Point Lay is an example. And we're hearing more and more
17 sightings, south of Barrow, Wainwright, Point Lay, Point Hope,
18 I mean it's -- we need to correct the wrong of the implant
19 without our consultation and seeing the impact.

20
21 At Nuiqsut one elderly gentleman used an example of a
22 cigarette tax to prevent youth or those from buying cigarettes,
23 they imposed a tax, so they won't use so much cigarettes or
24 have more cigarettes to smoke. This gentleman used that, maybe
25 we should put a tax on each of the head of the musk-oxen for
26 impact funds, like \$1,000 a head. We're impacted so shouldn't
27 the Federal program give \$230,000,000? That would be nice, a
28 dollar a head for their constituency. Maybe we wouldn't be
29 talking so much about that, the impact funds.....

30
31 MR. E. HOPSON: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, Mr. Hopson.

34
35 MR. E. HOPSON: I wish you would yield the Chair, turn
36 the Chair over to one of your Board members and when you want
37 to speak on the subject.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I was just summarizing.....

40
41 MR. E. HOPSON: This is the way -- I chair a few
42 meetings, you know. Anytime I start to speak out on a subject,
43 I got point of order, turn the chair or yield down from the
44 chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you, Mr. Hopson.

47
48 MR. E. HOPSON: But I raised my hand, I'm waiting for
49 you to recognize me for my remarks.

50

00192

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I was just summarizing what
2 we've heard over the years as a Council. Summarizing what we
3 heard over the years for consideration and deliberation on this
4 Proposal 108. That's all I was doing was summarizing what this
5 Chair has heard from the residents and meetings on this very
6 subject.

7
8 Mr. Hopson.

9
10 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. The problem is these people
11 that are coming in for us on the subsistence regulations
12 believes that the caribou and musk-ox associate, they're
13 friendly. They said so at their meetings. The people that
14 live here in Barrow. I'd like to raise question to Geoff
15 Carroll.

16
17 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

18
19 MR. E. HOPSON: You still believe caribou and musk-ox
20 associate, Geoff or are they enemies? Until these people are
21 on top of the musk-ox, keep track of them, admit -- to those of
22 you that make these regulations, you have not heard Geoff say
23 that they associate. The only thing that you've heard -- I've
24 heard from Geoff is that caribou and musk-ox associate. That's
25 the basis for the regulation that we're hearing now. Over and
26 over, nobody wants musk-ox around their area because it
27 disturbs their -- like Point Lay, is right. When the time to
28 take caribou in September, August, once the musk-ox is here,
29 they have no caribou to hunt. (Inupiaq) Until maybe Geoff
30 will admit and say they are enemies I'm sure the regulations
31 would be presented in a different way.

32
33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff.

35
36 MR. CARROLL: Okay, I'll respond to that. I guess
37 there's -- I kind of have a mixed answer here. You know, I've
38 flown surveys and I've seen areas where there are musk-oxen and
39 caribou in the same area, I don't -- you know, kind of grazing
40 and not looking very concerned. I've also gone to many
41 meetings and I've heard over and over again that when musk-ox
42 would move into an area, they displace caribou. And, you know,
43 I believe that and that's the reason that we're presenting
44 these proposals. This proposal says that when musk-oxen move
45 into an area in any of the villages in the North Slope,
46 Wainwright, Atqasuk, Barrow, you know, that people can be
47 issued a permit to go harvest those musk-oxen. That way people
48 get to eat the musk-oxen plus they get to remove the musk-oxen
49 from their hunting area where they feel they're affecting the
50 caribou.

00193

1 So I believe what you say, I've heard it said many
2 times that caribou -- or musk-oxen can displace caribou and,
3 you know, the fact that we're making these proposals should be
4 a good indication that, yes, I believe you. And that's the
5 reason that we're making them.

6
7 MR. E. HOPSON: They don't associate. That's my simple
8 question.

9
10 MR. CARROLL: I've seen them exist out there side by
11 side, but I also believe the stories that -- you know, the
12 reports that the -- you know, probably every village on the
13 North Slope says that when musk-oxen have moved into next to
14 that village then they don't get caribou that year. I believe
15 that and that's the reason for a lot of our planning process,
16 we've recognized that in our Harvest Plan and most of these
17 proposals are based on around that very principle. I mean
18 that's actually very solid evidence that people are being
19 listened to and that they're wishes are being responded to.

20
21 MR. E. HOPSON: I know, Mr. Chairman, that's the first
22 time -- you're not really admitting that they don't associate.
23 That's the thing the people are waiting for. I tell these
24 people, they don't believe me, but somebody like you, you tell
25 them, hey -- remember, maybe it was our last meeting or meeting
26 before the last one, we described that musk-ox area as being --
27 how did we classify that? Adverse impact on the community
28 because of musk-ox being there, keeping the caribou away. I
29 think we accepted that term adverse (Inupiaq). That's why I
30 used the word adverse, a negative impact very much.

31
32 So unless you and somebody like Pederson or somebody --
33 I think when we had a meeting at the Assembly, if you talk to
34 these people in your Department, State and Federal, they would
35 believe you because I never go through or try to explain the
36 problems. That's a big problem.

37
38 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Hopson. Mr. Carroll
41 then Mr. Brower.

42
43 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I'd just like to say a little
44 further. I mean, I guess my picture of musk-oxen and caribou,
45 I mean you have to look at the facts. You know, since the time
46 that musk-oxen have been reintroduced on the North Slope the
47 caribou populations have all grown very, very rapidly. I mean,
48 it's obviously that there hasn't been the kind of competition
49 between caribou and musk-oxen that have held the caribou back
50 or affected their populations very much. I mean, I don't -- in

00194

1 that way, I don't think that -- I think the caribou and
2 musk-oxen have co-existed and that caribou populations have
3 done very well.

4
5 But like I say, I also believe that musk-oxen can move
6 into an area and then caribou are less likely to be in that
7 area, musk-oxen can displace the caribou. And like I said, we
8 were recognizing that fact in these proposals. The State Board
9 of Game recognized that when they approved, you know, the Point
10 Lay -- I mean Gordon's proposal to be able to harvest musk-oxen
11 around Point Lay. I don't think that people are ignoring what
12 you say, I think that the fact that these regulations are
13 passed and the proposals are made, are recognizing the fact
14 that, you know, that musk-oxen can probably displace caribou.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Mr. Brower and
17 then Ms. Hepa.

18
19 MR. H. BROWER: I just have a clarification question to
20 either Donna or Geoff. We were talking about this 108 and then
21 talking about the State's proposal. If we took one action on
22 one or the other, which would alleviate some of our problems as
23 we speak today or right now? You know, I think.....

24
25 MR. CARROLL: I'd recommend kind of a combination of
26 things. I think that supporting -- well, first, you know,
27 probably -- well, we've already -- actually the Anaktuvuk Pass
28 proposal, that was submitted as a joint proposal between the
29 North Slope Borough Fish and Game Management Committee and that
30 Alaska Department of Fish and Game to cover the area around
31 Anaktuvuk Pass, you know, to allow them to harvest musk=oxen up
32 there. And if you support the amendment to expand that to all
33 the villages of 26(A) then, you know, if the Board passes that
34 then that really takes care the problem of musk-oxen moving
35 into the hunting areas around any of the villages.

36
37 MR. H. BROWER: Is that under the State proposal?

38
39 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that's -- and the State Board
40 meeting will occur first, it'll be March 21st. You know, I'd
41 recommend also, you know, a Federal proposal because we don't
42 know if the State is going to pass that proposal for sure or
43 not. You know, that sets up some kind of a permit hunt and,
44 you know, that would be in the Federal lands and, you know, and
45 then you have to talk about what specific area you're talking
46 about and if there's going to be a limited number of animals
47 and, you know, permits and that sort of thing.

48
49 MR. H. BROWER: Geoff, can I as a clarify question?
50 You're talking about Point Lay. Does this proposal also

00195

1 include the discussion on Point Lay where they'll be able to
2 just harvest incidental musk-ox or is that proposal already
3 been discussed by the Board of Game and passed so that Point
4 Lay is allowed to harvest incidental take of musk-ox?

5
6 MR. CARROLL: Point Lay has been passed, it's a law
7 right now. I mean right now if somebody in Point Lay wanted to
8 -- if musk-oxen moved into the area and they wanted to get a
9 permit to harvest those musk-oxen they could do it. That's
10 already been passed. What we have in is a proposal for
11 Anaktuvuk Pass, you know, the State land around Anaktuvuk Pass,
12 plus we'll be submitting -- we're still talking about
13 submitting an amendment that would include all of 26(A),
14 so.....

15
16 MR. H. BROWER: So if we deferred to take any action on
17 the proposal that we're considering now and wait till the Board
18 of Game takes their action, in one way or other, of the
19 proposal, either in favor or decline the proposal, then we
20 could come back and take action on this. Would that be
21 appropriate then?

22
23 MR. CARROLL: I think that would be a good plan of
24 action.

25
26 MS. MEEHAN: I don't want to interrupt the flow of
27 things, but I think it would be best if you do what you just
28 said, but I think your second part of that motion ought to be,
29 if the Board of Game does not pass the proposal as explained by
30 Geoff, then this is what we want to do. And the reason is that
31 you, as a Council, do not have an opportunity to meet again
32 until next fall and so you want to make your motion so you
33 cover all options. So your first choice is for the proposal as
34 Geoff explained it, and then the second choice is, if the Board
35 of Game does not pass that proposal then we want to do -- and
36 then whatever it is that you want to do. Does that make sense?

37
38 MR. H. BROWER: Okay.

39
40 MS. MEEHAN: It's not to say that you can't get
41 together on a conference call or something like that after the
42 Board of Game meeting and discuss it, but you won't have a
43 chance to meet and have all these people and have all the
44 input.

45
46 MR. H. BROWER: Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Do you want to hold off on this one?

49
50 MR. H. BROWER: We're discussing two different

00196

1 proposals and we're getting them -- when you decide whether
2 you're going to take action on this now, this proposal in the
3 Federal Subsistence Board or to defer it until we hear what the
4 State Board of Game does with this proposal, whether they pass
5 it or not. It will have an effect on what decision we make.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Let's go ahead and get down
8 to business here and vote on Proposal 108 or make recommended
9 changes, deferral or whatever the Committee and Council want to
10 do here. You've heard the views and we passed around for
11 question clarification a public -- of changes and regulations
12 governing the harvest. So after this is done we need to, by
13 the order of the Elders and Youth Conference need to get back
14 to our community, involve them in what decisions that this
15 Committee and Council have made. But there is strong
16 recommendation that they would like to see the harvest of
17 musk-oxen near Nuiqsut and other areas.

18
19 So the Chair will entertain a motion on Proposal 108.

20
21 MR. ATTUGANA: Mr. Chairman.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Attugana.

24
25 MR. ATTUGANA: I move the proposal.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Motion by Elijah Attugana to approve
28 Proposal 108.

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: I second that motion.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded. Okay, let me summarize
33 again, real quickly, that we have some options here. That
34 there is a proposal, also similar to this situation, going in
35 front of the Board of Game, similar to this Proposal 108. Am I
36 right on that one, Geoff?

37
38 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that's right.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Similar to this, but this one here
41 is a little bit insufficient, I would say, or from what we're
42 hearing wishes from Anaktuvuk Pass and other areas in 26(A) --
43 am I -- correct me if I'm wrong here, because I want me and you
44 to understand that.

45
46 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, you're right in saying
47 that it's lacking. It's good for Point Lay as it is written,
48 but the other villages have the same concerns as Point Lay has
49 and if their concerns were added on to this, there's nothing
50 wrong with that. The way it is written it's good only for

00197

1 Point Lay. But then the same concerns at Point Lay have the
2 other affected communities have the same concern also.

3

4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thanks for the clarification,
5 Mr. Upicksoun. (Inupiaq) This Proposal 108 is good for Point
6 Lay but it's insufficient or (Inupiaq) the rest of the
7 communities in 26(A) are left out in this proposal.

8

9 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

12

13 MR. E. HOPSON: (Inupiaq)

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep. There's a similar proposal,
16 Mr. Hopson that covers that from the State Board of Game that
17 they're going to act on at the end of this month. There was a
18 suggestion or option or amendment that was proposed or that we
19 could talk about with inclusion of the other communities in 108
20 or pending -- how was that worded, Mr. Brower, can you
21 elaborate on that a little bit or.....

22

23 MR. H. BROWER: It seems, Mr. Chairman, to get back on
24 line with what I discussed earlier we'd have to withdraw the
25 motion made by Elijah and seconded by Gordon, to hear the
26 action take on proposals in the State Board of Game before we
27 can take any action on 108.

28

29 Is what's happening in this proposal will have to
30 include -- it's already stated permits were taken, incidental
31 or stranded musk-oxen and it includes 26(A) west of Utukok
32 River and Unit 24.

33

34 MR. UPICKSOUN: Which proposal is that, Harry, in the
35 green book?

36

37 MR. H. BROWER: This is Proposal 88, page 73. Is that
38 right as to what I'm saying, Geoff? We would want to hear the
39 actions taken by the Board of Game before we want to take any
40 actions on 108 and defer 108 until the Board's decision is
41 heard on this proposal.

42

43 MS. MEEHAN: Well, what Rosa said is that you're
44 probably not going to meet again between the time of the Board
45 meeting and then the time of the Federal Board meeting, so
46 maybe it's best to go ahead and, you know, have a Federal
47 proposal in and then withdraw that proposal if the State passes
48 satisfactory regulation. I think that's probably best.

49

50 MR. H. BROWER: It's getting a little confusing with

00198

1 the.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I know we still need in Federal
4 lands a proposal or regulation, right? This Proposal 88 is
5 within State land, am I.....

6

7 MR. CARROLL: No, you could go to Federal lands, too,
8 because it's not dealing with a subsistence hunt, it's dealing
9 more with an animal control situation, so it would cover both
10 Federal and State lands.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Can anyone clarify or put
13 that in as an option for the Committee and Council to consider?
14 John did you.....

15

16 MR. MILLER: Yeah, there's a motion and a second to
17 accept this, right?

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right.

20

21 MR. H. BROWER: Yes.

22

23 MR. MILLER: And we should accept this if the language
24 is appropriate because we can always withdraw it if the State
25 one does not pass. And so my question is, is the language
26 that's written in here acceptable or is there anything in here
27 that we need to change?

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We know that it's insufficient,
30 right?

31

32 MR. MILLER: We know that it's -- is there anything
33 that we can do, right now, to change it or should we try with
34 this and keep working at it?

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we need some work on this 108.

37

38 MR. MILLER: You know, we're in discussion.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

41

42 MR. B. HOPSON: I would be in favor of amending 108 to
43 satisfy the other villages.

44

45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. The wording or underlined
46 words in 108 -- I mean 88 be sufficient?

47

48 MR. CARROLL: The amendment that we're talking about --
49 the Proposal 88 is the one that's been submitted and it just
50 deals with Anaktuvuk Pass. I handed out one that says,

00199

1 proposed amendment on the top, in the literature I handed out.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

4
5 MR. CARROLL: And what it does is it deletes a lot of
6 stuff. It deletes all the wording that relates to Anaktuvuk
7 Pass and to Point Lay, but it just says in Game Management Unit
8 26(A). So it's basically just referring to all -- it become a
9 pretty simple proposal and it just refers to all of Game
10 Management Unit 26(A).

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, everybody have a copy of the
13 proposed amendment?

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, could you clarify -- this
16 the green book, where it say this proposal is made for the
17 State Board of Game by the Game Management Committee of the
18 North Slope. In this book it says it's this Game Management
19 Committee made this proposal. When did we make this proposal?
20 How did it get in this book say that we put that proposal in
21 there?

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Carroll.

24
25 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, at that last North Slope Borough
26 Fish and Game Committee, you weren't there, it was in December,
27 we met and discussed this and then the proposal was submitted
28 as a joint proposal between the Fish and Game Committee and the
29 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. But that's the proposal to
30 -- basically it expanded what we did at Point Lay so that it
31 would also be on the State land around Anaktuvuk Pass.

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN: I'm sorry I missed that meeting. I was
34 here in Barrow out at NARL, evidently staff could not get ahold
35 of me, I was living out at NARL for a month and a half and I
36 guess they didn't -- couldn't get ahold -- I missed that
37 meeting, that's why I was in the dark about this amendment.
38 Sorry about that, Mr. Chairman.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, that's okay. Real quickly
41 I'll read the suggested proposed amendment to Proposal 108.
42 How would we fit this in or where would we fit in for the
43 proposal going in to the Federal Subsistence Board for
44 clarification? Under additional information?

45
46 MS. DEWHURST: The amendment, I think I'm following --
47 the amendment you have is for the State proposal, it has
48 nothing to do with the Federal proposal. That piece of
49 paper.....

50

00200

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, we know that 108 is
2 insufficient and the wording that's in here would satisfy the
3 Committee and Council members.

4
5 MS. DEWHURST: Okay, I see what you're saying now.
6 Now, be aware 108 does include all communities in the North
7 Slope with the exception of Kaktovik. It includes all
8 communities that currently have c&t for 26(A), which is --
9 includes Point Hope, but it does not include Kaktovik, it
10 includes all the other North Slope communities.

11
12 MR. H. BROWER: I think we need -- primary conclusion
13 states that with the exception of Maritime Refuge land in the
14 unit, Cape Lisburne and Gates of the Arctic National Preserve
15 (indiscernible) Point Hope and Anaktuvuk?

16
17 MS. DEWHURST: No, those communities can still take
18 animals but they could not take them on Alaska Maritime land or
19 Gates of the Arctic. They could take animals elsewhere on
20 Federal lands, namely NPR-A. So this proposal, as written,
21 would only include NPR-A, but all the communities on the North
22 Slope would be eligible to get permits to take an animal off of
23 that.....

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We're still insufficient with.....

26
27 MS. DEWHURST: I'm just explaining what -- how it's
28 written right now.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I know, but that's not what we want.
31 I think we've heard to include Anaktuvuk Pass to be able to get
32 musk-oxen in there under the Federal program.

33
34 So my suggestion or -- put it under additional
35 information under Proposal 108 as the amended, for further
36 clarification. Mr. Hopson.

37
38 MR. B. HOPSON: (Inupiaq)

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Would Gates of the Arctic be
41 included in this amendment, Mr. Carroll?

42
43 MR. CARROLL: You talking about the State amendment?

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, the proposed amendment, we
46 want to include in the Federal proposal, yeah.

47
48 MR. CARROLL: I'm sorry. Are you talking about the
49 Federal proposal or the.....

50

00201

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Proposal 108. The proposed
2 amendment that's going before the Board of Game, would that
3 include.....

4
5 MR. CARROLL: Well, if you're talking about 108, then
6 that does not include Gates of the Arctic. That's the Federal
7 proposal.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I know, but that's what Ben's
10 question was. So, Ben, the answer is no in 108.

11
12 MR. B. HOPSON: (Inupiaq)

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's up for discussion right now.
15 Do you have any further comment or -- your input is required.
16 Mr. Upicksoun.

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: Another question for Geoff. Geoff, if
19 the Board of Game does not accept these amendments to Proposal
20 108, if they don't accept those amendments will their action
21 regarding our abilities to hunt musk-ox in Point Lay be
22 affected? The action that they took in Nome? That won't be
23 affected if they don't accept these amendments.

24
25 MR. CARROLL: No, that's a regulation, that's a law
26 right now. You know, I mean, laws can be changed I guess, but
27 I don't see any reason it would be. That's the law right now.

28
29 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. I was going to support the
30 amendment if at the thought of jeopardizing what was good for
31 Point Lay already in support of the other affected communities.

32
33 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ben.

36
37 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah, you know, I've heard lot of
38 discussion on this amongst the residents of Anaktuvuk and I
39 think it's, you know, their desire to be included on the hunt,
40 so if we could amend this 108 so that we're able to hunt
41 musk-ox as a control use, including Gates of the Arctic Park.
42 It's what our residents want from Anaktuvuk. That's what I've
43 been hearing.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you.

46
47 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah, I know it's.....

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff had his hand up and
50 Mr. Hopson.

00202

1 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I was just to say, kind of our
2 original thinking was that -- I mean, the reason the original
3 proposal went in was that was to address the Anaktuvuk Pass
4 situation. Of course, the only thing we can deal with is State
5 managed land, you know, we can't deal with anything else there.
6 And at that time thinking that the Federal proposal would
7 cover, you know, the Federal land up there, so I mean that is
8 one possibility, too, we could go with that original proposal
9 around Anaktuvuk and then there could be the Federal proposal
10 for the rest of that, but.....

11
12 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson and then Mr. Upicksoun.

15
16 MR. E. HOPSON: My only concern is we're working on a
17 regulations that we have to live with. We mentioned earlier
18 that all these should include -- in the regulation to include
19 all eight communities on the North Slope. So I don't have the
20 right words for it, but would strongly suggest that you put the
21 right wording on there to benefit our eight villages. And I
22 understand -- I failed to find the difficulty that Gordon
23 mentioned. It's good for Point Lay, but it's not good for
24 other communities. You find the right language, you put it in
25 there, I think you got it.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yes, Mr. Upicksoun.

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN: When I -- Geoff, when said that if this
34 amendment isn't passed by the next Board of Game meeting, you
35 said it won't effect the existing law regarding their past
36 actions, regarding our ability to hunt musk-ox in Point Lay.
37 If it does pass it will change that existing law right there in
38 the first sentence, bag limits. There is no bag limits
39 mentioned under action that they took in Nome. Okay, this
40 proposed amendment, now you mention limits, bag limits of two
41 musk-ox. Now you're putting numbers on what's happening in
42 Point Lay, good things we got going there now, we don't have
43 any numbers mentioned. If you do, in fact, amend it now you're
44 talking about a quota system that nobody asked for.

45
46 MR. CARROLL: This isn't any change. What it says is
47 there's a bag limit of up to two musk-oxen per person by
48 permit, I mean, that's per person.

49
50 MR. UPICKSOUN: Where do you see a bag limit in your

00203

1 original action that they took in Nome? Where do you see them
2 mention you can only get one or you can only get two? They
3 didn't mention it.

4
5 MR. CARROLL: This is the.....

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN: It does in that proposed amendment.

8
9 MR. CARROLL: Well, this is the original wording here
10 and what it says -- I mean, it doesn't say how many permits can
11 be given out, it just says give a permit to you, you can go out
12 and take two musk-oxen, maybe give a permit to some -- you
13 know, if need be another two musk-oxen move in, we can give a
14 permit to somebody else. It doesn't set an upper limit, it
15 just says that one person could possibly go take two musk-oxen,
16 is what it says. But that doesn't mean.....

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: That isn't mentioned in the action that
19 they took in Nome. Now, they're slowly introducing language
20 regarding that. This is step one in introducing language in
21 that regard when it wasn't in there in the first place and that
22 was fine when it wasn't there. Now we're slowly introducing
23 language that we'll be sorry about later.

24
25 MR. CARROLL: This is the original wording, this is the
26 wording that was passed in Nome.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Carroll.

29
30 MR. CARROLL: I just want to say it doesn't set an
31 upper limit, Gordon, it just -- as I say, rather than each
32 person is limited to going out and taking one musk-ox and
33 possibly somebody could go out and take two. It doesn't set
34 any kind of a community limit or anything like that, it's still
35 quite flexible.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, rather than -- okay, we heard
38 Mr. Hopson concern that he would like to see Gates of the
39 Arctic involved in this. And the staff recommendation we would
40 support with modification. The staff recommendation is clearly
41 stated in the following pages, under preliminary
42 conclusions.....

43
44 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

47
48 MR. E. HOPSON: What I would suggest is get the two or
49 three people together that are expert in writing up something
50 like that, set aside, and bring -- we're not able to put the

00204

1 right words together here. We have some expert in drafting
2 regulation like that, two or three people. Get back to one of
3 the desks back there, write it out everything that we talked
4 about.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Hopson. I'm going to
7 yield my Chair over to our new Vice Chairman for our Regional
8 Council so that I can make recommendation for an amendment.

9
10 MR. E. HOPSON: All right.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Chairman, we've heard the
13 deliberation and consideration and comments on this for the
14 last hour and a half or so. What I would recommend is that
15 everything is good on the staff analysis and their
16 recommendation. The only thing missing is the Gates of the
17 Arctic, with Point Lay feeling left out by that five miles,
18 since it's already been established, that could be a separate
19 proposal in the future. This particular proposal is sort of
20 like an incidental take, am I correct on that, for dispersing
21 musk-oxen? Alaska Maritime is included in a populated -- that
22 could be part of the hunt, to establish maybe 15 or 10, however
23 many the sustained yield could be for that area around Cape
24 Lisburne, so on and so forth.

25
26 Would it be okay to leave the Maritime Refuge out for
27 now on this incidental take?

28
29 MR. UPICKSOUN: As far as Point Lay is -- the Board of
30 Game action is perfect, but then.....

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gates of the Arctic, we need
33 to insert under recommendation from Ben Hopson. I would
34 support the staff recommendation with modification to delete or
35 include, not delete, but to include Gates of that Arctic
36 National Park and Preserve in this proposal.

37
38 MR. KOONUK: On the main motion?

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair, to the main motion.

41
42 MR. MILLER: Second.

43
44 MR. H. BROWER: Call for the question.

45
46 MR. KOONUK: Moved by Fenton, second by John, question
47 by Harry. All in favor of the motion or the amendment to the
48 motion say.....

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Just a second here. They want your

00205

1 mike.

2

3 MR. KOONUK: What's that?

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The mike, Joe's waving at you.

6

7 REPORTER: Thank you.

8

9 MR. KOONUK: Okay, there was a motion by Fenton --
10 there was an amendment motion made by Fenton, second by John,
11 and question by Harry. All in favor of the motion to the
12 amendment say aye.

13

14 IN UNISON: Aye.

15

16 MR. KOONUK: All opposed?

17

18 (No opposing responses)

19

20 MR. KOONUK: Hearing none, motion carries.

21

22 MS. DEWHURST: There's one further thing. With your
23 motion, under the conclusions it say that if we would follow
24 through, if the State doesn't go through with what they're
25 going to go through and you decide to follow through with this
26 Federal all the way to the Board, we need to talk about if we
27 have this permit hunt, if we want to have a limit to the number
28 of permits that would be issued. Right now it's just a permit
29 hunt, there's no details as far as a bag limit or the number of
30 permits issued annually.

31

32 I'm assuming you would want every village that
33 currently has c&t to be eligible, that's kind of an assumption.
34 And also the assumption that it would a year-round hunt because
35 we don't have a breeding population, so that's -- I've already
36 assumed that. The one question that as you all are still here
37 we need to iron out would be, if you would want a limit to the
38 number of permits issued, as far as how many could be issued
39 each year. And how many animals each permit would be good for,
40 i.e., like with the State's proposal the permit is good for two
41 animals. You could make a permit good for one animal, two
42 animals, however many and then how many people would be -- how
43 many permits would you want to issue each year. Or do you want
44 to set a limit, you don't have to set a limit, but we just need
45 to get some sort of guidance so that if this does get passed we
46 need to know from the Council what the Council would recommend
47 on how to make the system.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I think -- Mr. Chairman, ADF&G
50 qualified support points to that on page 23. The Department

00206

1 recommends the Federal Board adopt the regulations consistent
2 with the Board of Game at its '97 meeting at Nome, but maybe we
3 can cook it. This recommended motion, were you having a
4 problem with that or -- the proposed amendment?

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: You're going to make me say it. I like
7 what happened for Point Lay and then why not make a separate
8 proposal so Point Lay won't be -- so we won't lose our ship.
9 We got a good thing going from Point Lay where they gave us
10 permission to get rid of the -- in effect, get rid of the
11 musk-ox when they come in and affect our caribou hunting. They
12 gave us that permission. But I'm glad you asked me. You're
13 making me say it. I would rather see a separate proposal,
14 other than amending what they passed already.

15
16 But than by the same token, I'd support this amendment
17 because of my concerns -- because the other villages are
18 affected the same way. But I would rather have a separate
19 proposal rather than amending a good one, the one that passed
20 already.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Donna, would this be administrative?

23
24 MS. DEWHURST: Well, it's something the Council needs
25 to decide on now. We need some sort of a decision. If we went
26 with the -- people are still getting the State and the Federal
27 proposals confused. If we go with what you just voted on for
28 the Federal proposal, that is assuming that the State proposal
29 doesn't get passed, and we march along with the Federal
30 proposal, we need to have some sort of a guidance from the
31 Council as to if you want a limit to the number of permits that
32 are issued annually and.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: As many as the musk-oxen there are.

35
36 MS. DEWHURST: Well, we don't know that. So I guess
37 you're saying you don't want a limit, but that's what we need
38 to know if you want a limit, if you want a cap put on, you
39 know, up to 50, up to 100, or if there's no limit. And then
40 the other thing is how many each permit would be good for. If
41 a permit would only be good for one animal or if a permit would
42 be good for two animals or what would permit be good for?

43
44 MR. H. BROWER: Can we put it on an as need basis?

45
46 MS. DEWHURST: Well, the problem is you guys won't be
47 meeting between when the Game Board meets and the Federal Board
48 is going to want some guidance from the Council as to if -- how
49 to design this hunt, if they vote on it.

50

00207

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 MR. KOONUK: Fenton.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We've been at it almost two hours,
6 I'm ready for a break before we go on a final vote.

7

8 MR. KOONUK: Okay, the Chair requests for a 10-15
9 minute break.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ten minutes, maybe.

12

13 MR. KOONUK: Ten minute break.

14

15 MR. UPICKSOUN: So moved.

16

17 MR. KOONUK: Moved by Gordon.

18

19 MR. H. BROWER: Second.

20

21 MR. KOONUK: Seconded.

22

23 (Off record)

24

25 (On record)

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We got our sleeves rolled up
28 now, little refreshed, some good fresh air. I think it was
29 well needed here, we were at it for a couple of hours on the
30 subject. We have a remaining main motion that we need to
31 consider, but keep in mind the State proposal as well. And we
32 may need to meet by conference, and I would suggest that, for
33 the Regional Council, to meet over teleconference and take some
34 action on the State proposal at a later date. Is that clear?

35

36 So again, our Regional Council may have to meet via
37 teleconference, unless we could arrange it for both these --
38 this body, the joint meeting could get together via
39 teleconference. Is that amenable or palatable to the situation
40 on the State proposal?

41

42 Mr. Hopson.

43

44 MR. E. HOPSON: How much time do we have to maybe
45 finally finalize these regulations? We have some time or is
46 the time running out?

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I don't know if we will be able to
49 get together -- the State proposal is being acted on at the end
50 of this month?

00208

1 MR. CARROLL: March 21st.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: March 21st, so that's a couple a
4 weeks away or so.

5

6 MR. CARROLL: And I'd like to add one more thing on
7 that is that, I know Taqulik is kind of organizing getting the
8 North Slope people down to that Board meeting and it's very
9 beneficial to our cause to have people from the North Slope
10 there to testify and there's going to be a working group
11 meeting to discuss this issue, you know, probably before they
12 take it up in the Board. So, you know, I'd just like to
13 encourage -- you know, get as many people down there as we can
14 to testify on this, one way or another.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other comments or
17 suggestions on the main motion?

18

19 (No audible responses)

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Again, do we need a motion to
22 clarify the State's proposal that we need to meet on this main
23 motion? Can anyone let me in on that one?

24

25 MR. MILLER: (Indiscernible - away from microphone)

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, it's part of this, okay, thank
28 you, Mr. Miller,

29

30 MR. MILLER: Separate action.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any further discussion on Proposal
33 108?

34

35 MS. DEWHURST: The only thing left. You said you
36 didn't want a limit on the permit, and I'm just trying to
37 clarify what I think I've heard. The only thing left would be
38 how many musk-ox you want each permit to be good for, whether
39 you want be good for one, be good for two to parallel the
40 State, or -- so if somebody calls us up and gets a permit, how
41 many musk-ox would that permit be good for?

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Hopson.

44

45 MR. E. HOPSON: Upicksoun, over here. What did you
46 mean by a separate proposal, we were on this proposal here for
47 musk-ox, you know, it's been amended and however we have not --
48 we vote on the amendment, did that cover what we asked for, to
49 cover all the villages? I really didn't catch what you mean by
50 separate proposal for -- is that something else, other than the

00209

1 item on this proposal?

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: It was in regards to Mr. Hopson's
4 question. When you look at the map and you look at Point Lay,
5 you can see we have no land issues involved, it's all State
6 land by Point Lay, that white area. That's all State land.
7 Okay. The Board of Game regarding our ability to hunt musk-ox
8 in their meeting last fall, it's so simple, there's no land
9 issues involved, okay. This amendment that is proposed,
10 there's different land issues involved, that complicates what --
11 the simple Board action that was taken by the State Board of
12 Game when they approved our ability to hunt.

13

14 But I'm willing to support this amendment because the
15 same reasons why we were able to convince the Board of Game
16 that musk-ox does affect our hunting of caribou. That same
17 concern you guys should be addressing, and I think that's what
18 they're trying to address in these amendment. Mr. Chairman, am
19 I correct?

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. (Inupiaq)

24

25 MR. E. HOPSON: Yeah. All right.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Hopson,
28 Mr. Upicksoun. The one in there has two permits per person
29 (sic). I think setting that would align with the State, may
30 give us some leverage, that the Federal Subsistence Board would
31 understand that.

32

33 Mr. Miller.

34

35 MR. MILLER: I'd like to make an amending motion to
36 clarify the number then, two per person, along the State
37 guidelines.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, motion by Mr. Miller, two
40 permits per person.

41

42 MR. H. BROWER: Second the motion.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Mr. Brower.

45

46 MR. CARROLL: It's two animals per.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Two animals per person.

49

50 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, per permit.

00210

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any further discussion?

2
3 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question on the amending motion.

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN: I have a question, Mr. Chairman.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN: You're adding that language to this
12 proposal in our pamphlet, two musk-ox per person?

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, per permit.

15
16 MR. UPICKSOUN: By permit, okay. You're adding that to
17 this one right here?

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 108, correct.

20
21 MR. UPICKSOUN: Without the whole proposed amendment?

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Correct.

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay, I understand that.

26
27 MR. TAGAROOK: There was question.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question called. All in favor of
30 that amending motion to include two musk-ox per person by
31 permit only signify by saying aye.

32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

36
37 (No opposing responses)

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Now we're on the main
40 motion.

41
42 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called on the main
45 motion. All those in favor of supporting staff recommendation
46 with the modification stated with the amendments signify by
47 saying aye.

48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.

50

00211

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

2
3 (No opposing responses)

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ms. Dewhurst. Proposal
6 109.

7
8 MS. DEWHURST: 109, thank goodness, is a little bit
9 simpler, not quite as complicated. It's still probably be
10 debate but it's a little bit simpler debate. It's for Unit
11 26(C) only and basically we're only dealing with ANWR, Arctic
12 National Wildlife Refuge. So we're dealing with the pink area
13 above this red line and that's -- the only non-Federal lands is
14 this little bit of white around Kaktovik. And we're basically
15 only dealing with one community. Kaktovik is the community
16 that this affects, who has permission to hunt under this hunt.

17
18 If you look -- the proposal starts on page 24. I want
19 to draw your attention before we get there to page -- there's
20 no page numbers. Four pages later there's a graph or a table,
21 I should say, I'm sorry. The table looks like this, it's like
22 four pages later after 24. This shows the history of the
23 harvest in 26(C).

24
25 There, again, to back up to put everybody on the same
26 playing field, musk-ox, as we say, were introduced around --
27 the initial introduction was in 1969. They continued to grow,
28 and Pat Reynolds will give us a quick presentation on that in a
29 minute. The harvest was started originally by the State and
30 they had different methods as far as how they administered the
31 harvest, but they started having a harvest for Kaktovik with
32 five animals back in 1982. You can see the history that the
33 State administered the harvest for 26(C) up to 1991-92. And
34 then under the Federal takeover it changed hands and
35 administered under the Federal system starting in 1992. It
36 started out with 10 animals.

37
38 Now it's always been a bulls only hunt, and that's
39 going to be the point of this proposal. Up till now, it's
40 always been a bulls only hunt and it started out under the
41 Federal system at 10 animals. And then in 1996 because of
42 Federal action it was changed to 15 for the 1996-1997 season,
43 it was changed to 15 bulls only and that's been good for last
44 winter and it's also the existing regulation for this winter.
45 So Kaktovik residents are allowed 15 permit, bulls only.

46
47 Now the next several columns shows what the actual
48 harvest has been, you know, the number of permits issues and
49 then it shows you what the harvest has been. The harvest, up
50 to this point, has been two and three percent of the

00212

1 population, that's what we've been working on as far as a
2 harvest. When we bumped up to 15 bulls it actually went up to
3 a little bit higher, between four and five percent.

4
5 So now the proposal on the books is to change the
6 existing regulation, which is for 15 permits, bulls only, to a
7 mixed sex harvest, i.e., saying 15 musk-ox, not specifying what
8 sex they take. That is the proposal, so instead of 15 bulls,
9 it's just 15 musk-ox, either sex. The proposal was made by the
10 Council under the wishes of the Village of Kaktovik. So that
11 is the proposal.

12
13 Pat, do you want to -- Pat will give you a quick
14 background, a summary of the biology behind the Federal
15 recommendations. This is Patricia Reynolds the ecologist with
16 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

17
18 MS. REYNOLDS: As Donna stated, musk-oxen were released
19 near Kaktovik and also on the Kopik river, 1969-1970, some of
20 you people maybe remember that event that were living in
21 Kaktovik in the -- during that time period. If you look at
22 figure one, which is this figure in the proposal, it's probably
23 a few pages before the -- find that one? I don't have the book
24 so I don't know.....

25
26 MS. DEWHURST: There's no page numbers.

27
28 MS. REYNOLDS: Oh, okay. I just wanted to tell you
29 something about the biology of this population. For the first
30 few years after animals were released in the Arctic National
31 Wildlife Refuge the population grew quite slowly but then from
32 1976 to 1986, as you can see on this graph, there was a very
33 rapid increase in numbers of animals that increased from about
34 50 animals to almost 400 animals in 1986.

35
36 After 1986 the number of musk-oxen in the Arctic
37 National Wildlife Refuge declined and for the past 11 years
38 it's been relatively stable, with an average of 325 animals
39 over this past 11 years. In this past spring we counted 324
40 animals in the area of the Refuge during a spring census.
41 We'll be doing another census this year in April. Also in
42 conjunction with Geoff, who will be looking at animals in 26(B)
43 and the Canadians that will be looking at animals in the
44 northwestern part of Canada to get an idea of how many
45 musk-oxen there are in the entire area.

46
47 Well, this decline and stabilization that you can see
48 on this graph and in these units here occurred for several
49 reasons. First of all, in the 1970s when animals first came
50 into the country they were a lot of musk-ox calves born, the

00213

1 animals were having a lot of calves, the reproduction was very
2 high. In fact, you can see that on this next page on this
3 graph. So high reproduction and also low mortality or a high
4 survival of all the animals resulted in this rapid population
5 growth.

6
7 There was no predation at that time. Brown bears and
8 wolves had not yet figured out how to catch musk-oxen. And
9 there were not very many musk-oxen so there was no predation
10 and no human predation either, so -- and also probably during
11 several of those years the weather conditions were very
12 favorable.

13
14 Over time we've seen calf production decline, it's
15 highly veritable from year to year, as is survival, but this
16 decline has resulted -- primarily both decline and calf
17 production and also the annual variability in how many animals
18 survive each year is related to weather. In years of deep snow
19 we have animals -- we have fewer calves being born, we have few
20 calves surviving and we have fewer adult animals and young age
21 animals surviving in those years.

22
23 In years where there's very low snow cover and when the
24 snow is not so deep, lots of calves survive and few of the
25 animals die, so there's a big affect of weather on these
26 animals. And also, as I said, predation, there was no
27 predation at first. Since about the mid-1980s we've seen brown
28 bears first started to take musk-oxen and now wolves are taking
29 musk-oxen. So there is some predation occurring.

30
31 Also this stabilization occurred because some of the
32 animals left and moved into 26(B), the central part and the
33 animals that we were just previously talking about, the
34 dispersal of animals westward are animals that are coming from
35 the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, or in past years came from
36 there and now those animals are starting to reproduce. Also
37 some animals in past years moved into Canada.

38
39 So for the past 11 years we've had a population, as I
40 said, that's been about 325, it's ranged from about 280 to 350,
41 in that range. We are very interested in providing
42 opportunities for people to hunt musk-oxen on subsistence
43 hunts, particularly because these animals are here year-round,
44 they live in the area year-round, so they're available
45 throughout the winter as well as during the summer when many
46 caribou are present.

47
48 And so, as Donna pointed out, the hunt was begun in
49 1983 with the bulls only hunt and has now been increased to 15
50 bulls. And I think we are all concerned, Fenton's concerned,

00214

1 I'm concerned, and the people in the Working Group are
2 concerned that to continue to take 15 bull will eventually
3 cause a decline or a shift in the sex ratio, in other words, we
4 may run out of those big males that do the breeding.

5
6 And so we are concern that to continue to just harvest
7 bulls is not a good idea. And you also, in this group,
8 understood that when you put forth this proposal, so I think we
9 all agree that we need to start taking some cows.

10
11 And so I made some population predictions of what would
12 happen under different kinds of harvests, at different levels,
13 you know, if we took different numbers of cows and bulls, and
14 some of these predictions were summarized in this graph right
15 here.

16
17 MS. DEWHURST: About two pages later.

18
19 MS. REYNOLDS: Two pages later, past the -- so you can
20 look at this graph. And this basically lays out some of the
21 extremes, like if there's a 15 either sex harvest that the most
22 extreme situation would be that all the animals that were taken
23 were cows. If we continue to take 15 bulls as I said, you can
24 see the center line. At some point this is the prediction that
25 if we came down to a ratio where there were only, say, 100 cows
26 for every one bull, that would affect the number of calves that
27 were born. That's a guess, but in most situations where we're
28 looking at animals on the sex ratios, we try to keep about 30
29 bulls for every hundred cows in order to have enough bulls to
30 do the breeding.

31
32 And so a situation, overtime, it hasn't occurred yet,
33 but over time if you continue to just harvest bulls that might
34 occur. And so of all the projections that I made, the
35 population was most stable and stayed most stable. If there
36 was only three females taken, and in this situation there would
37 be seven mails and three females, would give a population where
38 there was a very slight decline but over several years there
39 wouldn't be really a lot of effect on the population, so this
40 is the projections which I made and I'm putting forward to you
41 to look at.

42
43 So based on these predictions, as I said, we can
44 conclude we can take up to about three cows from this
45 population and this -- actually we have right now about 109
46 breeding females in the population, that's about three percent
47 -- taking about three percent of those females. And if we take
48 many more cows than that then we would predict, based on these
49 predictions, that the number of musk-oxen in the Arctic Refuge
50 would decline. And then, again, if the number declines then

00215

1 the numbers in the future which can be harvested would also
2 have to be reduced in order to maintain the population.

3
4 So with respect to the stabilization of this
5 population, the Working Group has come to a conclusion in our
6 preliminary draft of the Musk-Ox Harvest Plan, that stability
7 of the population at current level in the Arctic National
8 Wildlife Refuge is one of our goals, and to do this we have to
9 look at this -- we have to look at the harvest very closely.

10
11 So in conclusion I would suggest as you look at this
12 that you might want to consider limiting the number of cows in
13 the harvest to ensure that the population remains stable at the
14 current levels. Thank you and I'll be glad to take any
15 questions.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any questions for Ms. Reynolds or
18 Donna Dewhurst?

19
20 MR. GEORGE: I have one.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Craig George.

23
24 MR. GEORGE: I took a crack at a simple model with the
25 data -- basically the same data that's listed in this report
26 and I got similar results with sort of a simplistic approach
27 that did include the carrying capacity function. Does this have
28 a K function in it, this model?

29
30 MS. REYNOLDS: These projections are base on an
31 extremely simple model, they're just a spreadsheet.

32
33 MR. GEORGE: Okay. Right.

34
35 MS. REYNOLDS: I can explain if anybody wants to hear
36 how I do it.

37
38 MR. GEORGE: Well, I guess -- well, okay.

39
40 MS. REYNOLDS: It's very simple, it's not complicated.

41
42 MR. GEORGE: But that was a key element. The other
43 thing was, are you allowing for any density dependent
44 compensation in reproduction?

45
46 MS. REYNOLDS: This mortality is additive, not
47 compensatory, it's in the -- it's not com -- it is an additive
48 mortality, not compensatory.

49
50 MR. GEORGE: Right, so you're not allowing the females

00216

1 to produce more calves. Just stick with a straight .42?

2

3 MS. REYNOLDS: Right. And the -- we've had discussions
4 about this regarding the fact that this population is very
5 close to what we call caring capacity. It's very close to the
6 land which can support it now. Our current Comprehensive Plan
7 for the refuge states that that's how we will manage wildlife
8 populations. This population, I believe -- musk-oxen in
9 northeastern Alaska are regulated a great deal by weather and
10 the density has an effect but even these declines in calf
11 production, when you look at this, there's a huge weather
12 component here that's affecting the population that we cannot
13 control.

14

15 MR. GEORGE: So if animals were reduced because.....

16

17 MS. REYNOLDS: We may not see that.

18

19 MR. GEORGE:weather is -- it tends to be
20 independent.

21

22 MS. REYNOLDS: It's (indiscernible - simultaneous
23 speech) factor, right.

24

25 MR. GEORGE: Okay, it wouldn't help them out.

26

27 MS. REYNOLDS: I mean, yeah, that's of concern.

28

29 MR. GEORGE: Okay.

30

31 MS. REYNOLDS: And I guess my, again, I'm very
32 interested in seeing people being able to have access to these
33 animals and be able to harvest them as a subsistence resource.

34

35 MS. DEWHURST: As far as the staff recommendation,
36 then, we basically paralleled the recommendation of Arctic
37 National Wildlife Refuge. We yielded to them and the staff
38 recommendation is, basically, as Pat stated. Preliminary staff
39 recommendation.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

42

43 MR. H. BROWER: Pat, with your discussions with Craig,
44 there's another part of this would be (indiscernible) into the
45 forage that the musk-ox use to feed. Did you take into
46 consideration within these years of what was available for the
47 musk-ox? And now that they've, you know, have risen up to 300
48 and started coming back -- or 399, almost 400, now they're
49 starting to come down and the population is, you say, has been
50 stable for 11 years. Could it be also the forage, the food

00217

1 available to the musk-ox is having an affect on the growth and
2 the calving?

3

4 MS. REYNOLDS: I think probably the initial decline of
5 calf production at the beginning is probably related to forage.
6 We also have 150,000 caribou on the same land for some weeks of
7 the year. So I think that in terms of what's happening right
8 now with the population that reducing the population down to
9 whatever, 150 or whatever, you wouldn't see a density dependent
10 effect. These animals aren't like white-tail deer, they're not
11 reproducing every year, they're reproducing every other year,
12 every third year. Reproductive potential in the animals at
13 this state of the population is not as high as you'd see in a
14 lot of ungulate populations. It's more conservative than
15 caribou, for example.

16

17 MR. GEORGE: But you do have years where you're up
18 around 100 cows per 100 calves?

19

20 MS. REYNOLDS: Yeah, in the early.....

21

22 MR. GEORGE: But you wouldn't expect to see that.....

23

24 MS. REYNOLDS: No, that was -- you know, when you have
25 animals coming in to a new area, the plants have not been
26 grazed by animals and plant that are grazed built up defenses
27 against grazing, the put out toxic materials, they actually
28 change in response to grazing. I also recently read some
29 interesting information about grazing in Greenland and the
30 people actually found that musk-oxen in those area increase
31 productivity of the forage in areas because in the Arctic much
32 of the plant material when it dies stays in the area, it
33 doesn't disintegrate, it sits. You know, you have grasses that
34 don't break down like they do in other climates because it's so
35 cold. Musk-oxen eat a lot of that dead material in the winter
36 and they recycle it by putting urine and feces back on the
37 ground and that nitrogen grows through the animals and actually
38 produces a positive response in the plants as well as the way
39 they clip the plants, there's a short term response to grazing
40 in the area they looked at in Greenland, which I thought was
41 very interesting.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, any other -- oh, Craig, were
44 you.....

45

46 MR. GEORGE: Well, kind of. This is all very
47 interesting, I'm not a musk-ox expert but it's -- I guess it's
48 a little bit hard to believe there wouldn't be some
49 compensation if there was fewer animals in there, just based on
50 the history, unless the range really has been knocked down

00218

1 significantly you would expect a rebound in calf production.
2 That may explain some of the cycles of the caribou herds, for
3 instance, that sort of thing. But like I said, this is sort of
4 an unique situation.

5
6 Pat, do you think if there's a reduction in the
7 Porcupine Caribou Herd that there may be an increase -- based
8 on what you said, musk-ox may.....

9
10 MS. REYNOLDS: No, I think a lot of this decline in
11 calf production, first of all, the trend is like this, you
12 know, it was very sharp at first, which you'd expect when
13 animals first come into a new area, there generally very high
14 reproduction that slows over time and as the animals come into
15 balance with the land they're living in. And I think that --
16 again, the variability we see now is more weather driven than
17 density driven, so that if you see -- if you see -- we've had
18 poor years in 1986, 1989, 1992, 1995, probably 1997 when we had
19 the lowest production we've seen. So we need to look at these
20 weather patterns and they're affecting sheep populations, they
21 affecting moose populations, they're affecting -- at least in
22 the same year when we get low production musk-ox, we also get
23 low production in moose and sheep and caribou on the North
24 Slope, at least the areas that we're looking in. And so some
25 of these things we don't know, we don't know about the effect
26 of global warming because if global warming is happening,
27 although you get warmer summers which benefit caribou, you get
28 more snow in the winters and musk-oxen can't tolerate this deep
29 snow, but caribou can do better. So there's a lot of things to
30 look at. But I don't -- I mean, I'm the first to say this is
31 what I know now, this is what I understand now about it, a
32 situation.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. George. Any other
35 comments or questions for Ms. Reynolds?

36
37 (No audible responses)

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: If not, thank you, Patricia.

40
41 MS. REYNOLDS: Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Following along on the agenda here
44 it talks about biological and socioculture analysis. It may be
45 repetitive but anything on that?

46
47 MS. DEWHURST: No, I think we covered it.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Nothing, okay. ADF&G or agency
50 comments?

00219

1 MS. DEWHURST: The comment when ADF&G did comment,
2 which is before the cooperators met in Anchorage, was to defer
3 action until the cooperators come to consensus. And it's my
4 understanding, I wasn't present during that portion of the
5 meeting, that there wasn't really a consensus by the
6 cooperators. I'll defer to Dave. Dave, you might want to come
7 up to a microphone.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Yokel and Mr. Carroll or vice
10 versa.

11
12 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There were three
13 points that the Working Group did reach consensus on the issue
14 of musk-oxen in Unit 26(C). And by consensus I mean that it
15 was a unanimous agreement from the Working Group members.

16
17 First of all, to maintain a stable population.
18 Secondly, to fix the percentage of the harvest quota that could
19 females, so that it couldn't turn out that all of the animals
20 harvested are females. Thirdly, to look at it by zones as the
21 Arctic Refuge has been breaking 26(C) into three zones and
22 having a mixed sex hunt in each of those three zones. The
23 Working Group did not reach a consensus on what they total
24 quota or number of musk-oxen permits would be or what percent
25 of the population should be included in that.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Yokel.
28 Mr. Carroll, did you have comments from ADF&G on this?

29
30 MR. CARROLL: I think we'd like to see and we discussed
31 at that meeting was to have a independent analysis of the
32 numbers, have a -- you know, have somebody that kind of
33 specializes in modeling, look at these numbers and see if they
34 would come up with the same conclusion as Pat does. And I
35 think Pat agreed to that. So, you know, other than that, I
36 guess we're fairly neutral on the subject, we're -- you know,
37 again, realize it's -- there's two definite opinions on this.
38 I don't know, I guess we would like to see another analysis of
39 the figures done and that would help us to take another look at
40 it. I think there was a lot of discussion at the meeting of,
41 you know, what would -- as Craig brought up, what would happen
42 -- I mean, it's unusual to harvest a wildlife population, you
43 know, let it go right up to its peak caring capacity, you know.
44 In wildlife management you almost always keep somewhere below,
45 you know, call it K, you know, the top caring capacity because
46 that's not -- the population usually isn't very productive when
47 it is right at the edge of the caring capacity of the range
48 there. So, you know, that's kind of one thing that we would
49 like to see considered is that population being maintained at
50 something less than caring capacity. And we'd like to have an

00220

1 independent look at the -- you know, another look at the
2 modeling. Another independent analysis of the numbers.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Mr. Carroll. The
5 floor is open to any other agency comment on this proposal.
6 Were there any written comments?

7
8 (No audible response)

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No written comments. Okay, the
11 floor is now open for public comment on this proposal. Floor
12 is open to the public, comments on this proposal.

13
14 MR. UPICKSOUN: From the Council, too, Mr. Chairman?

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN: I have a question. She made a
23 statement earlier regarding the cooperators of the North Slope
24 Musk-Ox Harvest Plan. You said they did not come to a
25 consensus about what aspect of this -- you said that they did
26 not come to a consensus. What aspect?

27
28 MS. DEWHURST: They didn't come to a consensus as to
29 the total number of animals that should be harvested. That was
30 the only point they didn't come to a consensus. They couldn't
31 decide among themselves as to how many animals should be
32 harvested. They did say that there should a cap potentially on
33 the number of females and that it should be a mixed sex hunt,
34 they agreed on that, but they couldn't agree on the actual
35 number.

36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN: This was the cooperators of the.....

38
39 MS. DEWHURST: Met in Anchorage, what, a week and a
40 half ago.

41
42 MR. UPICKSOUN: Were all the cooperators there?
43 Because this plan is going to be presented to the Board of Game
44 and they better come to consensus before March 21st.

45
46 MR. CARROLL: I'd just like to clarify what -- we have
47 -- you know, our planning group, which is made up of
48 representatives from each of the villages and the agencies and,
49 you know, that's basically this group here that we get together
50 and have musk-ox planning meetings. We had a meeting of what's

00221

1 called the Musk-Ox Working Group, that's just, you know, a few
2 of us from the, you know, planning group that get together when
3 we have to work out wording on a proposal or when were writing
4 the our Harvest Plan. It was that Working Group that met in
5 Anchorage, you know, that group doesn't really have any power
6 to make any decisions, it just tries, you know, to do work.

7
8 MR. UPICKSOUN: That was my question, Mr. Chairman. I
9 thought it was the cooperators that couldn't come a consensus.
10 You satisfied it when you said it was the Working Group.

11
12 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that was the working group.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other comments from the public?

15
16 (No audible responses)

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Hearing now, we'll move on to the
19 Regional Council and North Slope Borough Fish and Game
20 deliberation and recommendation on Proposal 109. I'll turn the
21 Chair over back to Mr. Koonuk.

22
23 Mr. Chairman, reviewing and being part of the Working
24 Group we did agree on a stable population. After the original
25 proposal from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was on numbers, we
26 didn't want to see any numbers set in on that, so we
27 compromised and rather than put any numbers on the Harvest Plan
28 we supported stable but not increasing. We didn't want to see
29 them increase any more. But their proposal was to keep it at a
30 certain number of 300, I forget what the exact number was but
31 the stable population field defines it at around -- past 11
32 years of 300 or so animals. I just wanted to bring that up.

33
34 The staff recommendation or the proposed regulation
35 submitted by the Regional Council was to have a mixed sex hunt,
36 up to 15 permits. The staff recommendation is agreeing with
37 Fish and Wildlife Service to make that 10. I would like to
38 follow the original proposed resolution at 15 and we only have
39 a model that shows 10 musk-oxen taken and showing the graph
40 that is planning with seven -- or 15 males going down, 15
41 females going down, seven and three females, which is 10, but I
42 don't see a model where it shows 15 for the Regional proposal
43 that was submitted.

44
45 So I would make some sort of a motion to support with
46 modification for a mixed sex harvest of 12 bulls and three
47 cows. The modification will include that we delete, the
48 harvest quota will be set annually by the refuge manager, based
49 on three percent of a pre-calving population counts and
50 recommendations to the North Slope Harvest Planning Group.

00222

1 If this will work out for a while I don't think we will
2 have to go back and forth to the Federal Subsistence Board, as
3 they say, but if there's seems to be a magic drastic decline in
4 the population then the Fish and Wildlife Service can go in
5 front of the Federal Subsistence Board and ask for a change in
6 the quota, rather than leaving the power up to the refuge
7 manager. We want to be involved and not blocked by one person.
8 We want to have equal opportunity to go in front of the Federal
9 Subsistence Board if there's going to be a change in quota,
10 that is why I'm going to ask that we support the staff
11 recommendation, modifying it to make the harvest of 12 bulls
12 and three cows and deleting the wording on page 24, allowing
13 the refuge manager to set a quota annually.

14
15 I want to have the Council and others the opportunity
16 to argue for or against an increase or decrease in the harvest
17 of musk-oxen, rather than set by a refuge manager. If they see
18 a decline in the population or see something starting to go up
19 and down or something, they can go in front of the Federal
20 Subsistence Board and request a change.

21
22 So that would be my motion, Mr. Chairman, that we
23 support the staff recommendation, support with modification for
24 mixed sex harvest of 12 bulls and 3 cows.

25
26 MR. KOONUK: There's a motion on the floor by Fenton.

27
28 MR. PEETOOK: Second.

29
30 MR. KOONUK: Second by Rossman. Any discussion?

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, just for point of
33 clarification, the staff recommended that the harvest quota be
34 set, we want to delete that portion in the sentence where -- we
35 do not want to have that wording there. The harvest quota
36 would be set annually by the refuge manager, based on three
37 percent of the spring pre-calving population counts and
38 recommendation of the North Slope Musk-Ox Harvest Planning
39 Group. We want this group to be involved, Regional Council and
40 go in front of the Board like there's an opportunity for any
41 person or agency to do in front of the Federal Subsistence
42 Board, that's why I'm recommending that we delete that. Those
43 wordings or sentences.

44
45 MR. KOONUK: Gordon.

46
47 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I'm lost. Which part are
48 you trying to delete now, Fenton?

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's on page 24.

00223

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Twenty-four, okay, I was looking at 25,
2 okay.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The staff recommendation, under
5 executive summary says, support with modification for mixed sex
6 harvest of seven bulls and three cows. My motion is to make it
7 to 12 bulls and three cows and delete the rest of that sentence
8 after the comma.

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

11
12 MR. H. BROWER: Is that a motion?

13
14 MR. KOONUK: Any more discussion?

15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Wait a minute, Ray.

17
18 MR. KOONUK: It's already been seconded. It's under
19 discussion.

20
21 MR. E. HOPSON: Are you going to identify or make some
22 notation there as far as the bulls? The age and can you tell a
23 full size cow and -- I guess is there any problem in
24 productivity of a bull? That motion, does it have to identify
25 how old, approximately, the bulls should be? Or does that
26 matter?

27
28 MS. DEWHURST: It's not part of the motion. Usually it
29 just says bulls, you don't have to identify them.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, there's pictures and examples
32 of what a bull is versus what a cow would look like, yearling,
33 two year old, so some education on that and it's still a
34 problem, so we want to alleviate the mistakes getting that pelt
35 and horns taken away.

36
37 Again the justification for -- Mr. Chairman, on
38 deleting the power to be given to the refuge manager, we want
39 equal opportunity. He has that opportunity to go to the
40 Federal Subsistence Board to set the quota. And it doesn't
41 have to be annually, we don't have to go back annually, we
42 probably could live with this for a while unless we see some
43 changes after looking at data or provided -- I think we'll be
44 able to live with this for some time.

45
46 MR. KOONUK: Any more discussion?

47
48 (No audible responses)

49
50 MR. H. BROWER: Call for the question, Mr. Chair.

00224

1 MR. KOONUK: Question called for. All in favor of the
2 motion say aye.

3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5
6 MR. KOONUK: All opposed?

7
8 (No opposing responses)

9
10 MR. KOONUK: Hearing none, motion carried. Turn it
11 back over to the Chairman.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think that concludes our proposals
14 that we've considered for today. I want to thank everyone
15 here. We just have three more items.

16
17 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, do we need to deal with this
18 on the Fish and Game side or.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Carroll.

21
22 MR. CARROLL: I was wondering if we could quickly go
23 over to 26(B) proposal on the State regulation.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Could we take care of that
26 under new business?

27
28 MR. CARROLL: Fine.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Maybe we can take that up
31 under new business to support or send something -- a word to
32 the Board of Game, is that what you're looking for?

33
34 MR. CARROLL: Well, mostly I was -- you know, we dealt
35 with this at the Fish and Game Management Committee meeting and
36 I thought I'd get the guys from Federal Advisory Council up to
37 date on what's happening with that. That should take very
38 long.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: What's the consensus, do you want to
41 hear Mr. Carroll while we're on proposals?

42
43 (No audible responses)

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Hearing none, go ahead, Geoff.

46
47 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Again at the December meeting of
48 the North Slope Borough Fish and Game Management Committee we
49 talked about a proposal for the 26(B) area, and that proposal
50 is Proposal Number 73 in this green book. And, again, this

00225

1 relates back to the work we've been doing at the Musk-Ox
2 Planning Group. And the proposal that we came up with is
3 basically to continue with the Tier-II permit hunt that exists
4 in that area now, except to increase the number of permits
5 available substantially.

6
7 At the Board of Game meeting last fall they approved
8 the -- we had a proposal in at that point and they approved
9 increasing the number of musk-oxen that could be harvested in
10 that 26(B) and (C) area to up to 40 musk-oxen. That number
11 includes the 15 that are currently harvested in Federal land in
12 26(C), plus it gives us room to harvest that population in
13 26(B) at a rate of five percent, which would come to 16
14 musk-oxen. Actually, they approved more than that, so in
15 future years, if the population there continues to increase, we
16 can increase the number of animals harvested. So they've given
17 us some flexibility.

18
19 The proposal that -- again this was a joint proposal
20 between the Department of Fish and Game and the North Slope
21 Borough Fish and Game Management Committee and what it does is
22 it proposes harvesting -- another thing that the Board did is
23 they approved a mixed sex harvest, so it's been a bulls only
24 harvest up till now and now we can harvest some cows as well.
25 And what we're recommending is approximately 75 percent bulls
26 and 25 percent cows harvested in there.

27
28 This proposal would -- basically it allows up to 10
29 musk-oxen to be harvested in the east side and up to 15 on the
30 west side. What we originally are recommending -- or initially
31 recommending is harvesting nine musk-oxen on the west side and
32 seven on the east side, or that many permits to be given out.

33
34 So that's the proposal that went in and kind of -- and
35 that was the end of it. Okay, we also held a meeting in
36 Nuiqsut and the people of Nuiqsut also indicated that they were
37 pretty comfortable with a Tier-II hunt. At both meetings we
38 presented several different options, a Tier-II hunt, a Tier-I
39 hunt and open or drawing permit hunt.

40
41 And a Tier-II is basically where you have to fill out
42 applications and permits are awarded on who has had the longest
43 history of hunting in that area and who has, basically the
44 fewest subsistence options. Basically who -- you know, it's
45 supposed to boil down to who needs those permits the most.

46
47 There's also a Tier-I hunt, that's another type of
48 subsistence hunt and that's where permits are given out to
49 anybody that wants to come in and get one and then the season
50 is basically shut off after a certain number of animals are

00226

1 harvested.

2

3 Anyway, at both meetings it was indicated that people
4 are comfortable with continuing with a Tier-II hunt that's
5 worked fairly well for us in the past and that should work out
6 all right. The -- you know, and if that was kind of the end of
7 it, everything would be fine but basically what the Board is
8 going to be faced with at this next meeting is -- what they
9 have to do is they have to look at all the information, they
10 have to look at the number of animals in each area and the
11 harvestable surplus. The harvestable surplus is the number of
12 animals that you can harvest without depleting that population.
13 And then they have to take the harvestable surplus -- and in
14 these handouts that I gave you -- let's see, there's one that
15 looks like this with a whole bunch of numbers on the front
16 page. And if you look on the back page of that handout they
17 have to look at the harvestable surplus, and we can determine
18 what that is, what we're saying is the harvestable surplus in
19 the west is nine and in the east is seven.

20

21 So if -- and then have to determine basically the
22 subsistence need. And so if that harvestable surplus is less
23 than the minimum subsistence need then they basically have to
24 initiate a Tier-II hunt. And if it's somewhere in between the
25 minimum and the maximum subsistence need then that calls for a
26 Tier-I hunt. In cases where there are animals beyond what the
27 subsistence need is then they can also authorize an open hunt,
28 which basically means a -- usually a drawing permit hunt in
29 that case.

30

31 So at the Board meeting we're going to have to present,
32 you know, what information we have on what the subsistence need
33 in Nuiqsut and other North Slope village is for those
34 populations in 26(B). And it's pretty clear in 26(B) West that
35 there's a large subsistence need there and a fairly small
36 harvestable surplus and so that the need is greater than the
37 harvestable surplus and I'm pretty certain that that'll be a
38 Tier-II hunt.

39

40 The east side is a little bit more complicated in that
41 not very -- it's kind of a long way from any of the villages,
42 most Nuiqsut people would be much more apt to hunt in the west
43 side than travel clear across the Haul Road and, you know, and
44 travel and hunt over in that east side. It's a long way for
45 Point Hoppers -- I mean for people from Anaktuvuk Pass to go,
46 you know, to travel clear down into that 26(B) area where the
47 musk-oxen are. Kaktovik have musk-oxen that are closer, you
48 know, it's a long trip for them to get over there, so it's a
49 little harder to show, you know, a great subsistence need in
50 that area, so that's going to be kind of open to debate, I

00227

1 think, at the Board of Game meeting as to, you know, whether
2 that qualifies as a Tier-I hunt or whatever.

3
4 There was some discussion at that Working Group meeting
5 that, you know, they might look at -- the Board of Game might
6 look at that area and determine what the subsistence need for
7 that area is. And, you know, give that out as a Tier-II hunt
8 or a Tier-I hunt and then everything that's beyond the
9 subsistence need could be issued as drawing permits. And there
10 was -- at this last meeting there was a guy from the Fairbanks
11 Advisory Committee there and, of course, they're very
12 interested in getting -- having some drawing permits available,
13 so -- anyway, it -- you know, that's going to be kind of what's
14 in -- going to drive the decision from the people on the Board
15 of Game is determining just what the subsistence need is over
16 in that area. And that'll kind of determine what sort of hunt
17 there will be.

18
19 And, again, we're going to try to -- we're going to get
20 people from Nuiqsut down there to testify and Taqulik will be
21 organizing to get some of those people down there and, you
22 know, the more people we get down there to testify at the Board
23 of Game meeting the better it'll be for trying to get some, you
24 know, good regulations passed there.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you for the background
27 there, Mr. Carroll. Nine and seven, nine on the west side of
28 the pipeline, Tier-II and seven -- you were saying that Tier-I,
29 possibly?

30
31 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, possibly, it's -- if you look at
32 this handout again, this is kind of the harvest information we
33 have to work with. You know, these Tier-I hunts and Tier-II
34 subsistence hunts are -- you know, they work a lot better when
35 you try to apply that to a hunt that's been going on for a long
36 time, then you can just look at how many have been harvested
37 and it's pretty easy to determine what the subsistence need is.
38 This -- it's more complicated there because, you know, like the
39 hunt on the east side has only been going on for three years,
40 that's the second page of this handout, it's only been since
41 1995 that we've even had a hunt in the east, so it's pretty
42 hard to determine just what the subsistence need is there, but
43 we can look at how many people have applied for permits in
44 Nuiqsut, you know, that shows people that were interested in
45 getting the permits, and that's varied from eight to 14, so,
46 you know, that's one way to look at it, maybe you could say
47 that that is what the -- well, and a better way to look at it
48 is, you know, the people from the North Slope that have applied
49 for permits, and that's been 13 and 18, so for that's side it's
50 pretty easy to say that that's the -- you know, that's at least

00228

1 a minimum subsistence need and that's -- both of those are
2 greater than what the harvestable surplus is, so that fits as a
3 Tier-II hunt.

4
5 And Tier-I, when you look at the first page, you know,
6 there's different ways to interpret that. You can see that
7 there were a fair number of North Slope people applying for
8 those up until the time that the west side became available,
9 then the number dropped way off, you know, so it kind of looks
10 like in recent years there's been less of a subsistence demand
11 on that side.

12
13 So, you know, it would just be helpful to come up with
14 -- well, anyway, this is kind of the numbers that we have to
15 work with at this point.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Historically, Kaktovik tried
18 Tier-I and Tier-II system and we ran across a problem with
19 Tier-I with campers or sport hunters camping outside of a
20 permit place three or four days in advance and saying they were
21 the first ones to line up near the building and we had a
22 problem with that. And the community decided to try a Tier-II
23 and have lived with Tier-II before the Federal program took
24 over the musk-ox hunting system.

25
26 And Nuiqsut is also in favor of Tier-II, which is less
27 restrictive or more accommodating to the residents depending on
28 how Tier-II system is worked out. So I'm just given, again, a
29 brief history of the activities dealing with Tier-I and Tier-II
30 for both Kaktovik and Nuiqsut.

31
32 So nine and seven, is that the maximum that we go or
33 can -- I know it's up to 40 and we're only dealing with 31,
34 where does that other nine come in? Forty was originally
35 allocated, 15 would be reserved or I mean hunt in 26(C).

36
37 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, the idea is there -- I think in our
38 Working Group meetings in the past we decided that rather than
39 harvest at three percent, like they've done on the Seward
40 Peninsula, we're going to harvest at five percent to see if
41 that is a percentage that would stabilize the population. And
42 so we'll have the hunt and we'll continue doing our surveys
43 every year. If the population continues to grow then we'll
44 increase the number of animals that can be harvested. They
45 authorized more than that, 16, so that we wouldn't have to go
46 back to the Board every time we wanted to make some little
47 change, we'd be able to increase the number in future years if
48 it warranted.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Mr. Upicksoun.

00229

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, it's not stated to the
2 Board of Game that it has to go back to the village of Nuiqsut
3 to square up these numbers.

4
5 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that's all we did, we had a meeting
6 with the North Slope Borough Fish and Game Committee here and
7 then we had a meeting in the village of Nuiqsut.

8
9 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

10
11 MR. H. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

14
15 MR. H. BROWER: Geoff, I don't know if you brought out
16 this meeting discussion we had in Fairbanks, remember that guy
17 from the Fairbanks Advisory Council stated that he wouldn't
18 support any of the proposals unless it was a general hunt? And
19 I'd just like to bring that out for these folks to hear.

20
21 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, he said anything that didn't
22 involve a general hunt. You know, it's one of those things, I
23 think it goes without saying those guys are going to advocate
24 having some kind of a drawing permit hunt where they have a
25 chance for getting a permit, that's part of it. And what was
26 discussed there is once we get the subsistence need determined,
27 if that subsistence need is met and there are -- you know, if
28 there's a harvestable surplus beyond that, then there could be
29 a possibility of some drawing permit hunts. And, you know,
30 that's something the Board will be talking about I'm sure.

31
32 MR. H. BROWER: Okay.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Anything from Nuiqsut? Mark, did
35 you want to say anything in reference to this proposal?

36
37 MR. AHMAKAK: Well, there not much I can say about it.
38 I was working at the time the public meeting was going on when
39 he came over to the community on the subject of musk-ox, but
40 the general feeling was that they're more into Tier-II, as
41 stated earlier, and it's still the same, there's no changes

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Mark. Any further
44 discussion on Proposal 73 that we worked on -- or the Committee
45 worked on with the Wildlife Management Department of Fish and
46 Game?

47
48 (No audible responses)

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We've heard comments, again, Tier-II

00230

1 for Nuiqsut and Tier-II was before the Federal program took
2 over. It was Tier-II in Kaktovik. I think there's sort of a
3 history or data that exists that Tier-II is preferable for
4 whatever the numbers are. The Chair will entertain a motion to
5 support to that effect.

6
7 Mr. Upicksoun.

8
9 MR. UPICKSOUN: I have a question for Mr. Carroll.
10 Geoff, within the harvestable surplus, where can you jack that
11 Tier-II level -- where do you -- within the harvestable
12 surplus, you say, of 25 where -- is this Tier-II figure
13 adjustable? How is that determined, the number eligible for
14 Tier-II?

15
16 MR. CARROLL: Well -- yeah, the way it's figured is you
17 figure how many animals are necessary to -- the wording is to
18 provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence use.

19
20 MR. UPICKSOUN: So all that -- what you call
21 harvestable surplus could be all Tier-II?

22
23 MR. CARROLL: Well, if the harvestable surplus is less
24 than what's needed to provide a necessary -- or to provide a
25 reasonable opportunity for subsistence use, then it's a
26 Tier-II. You can get in a situation where if you have a
27 harvestable surplus that's greater than what's needed to
28 provide reasonable -- you know, the amount necessary to provide
29 a reasonable opportunity for subsistence then you can have a
30 Tier-II hunt for whatever it takes to provide that subsistence
31 need and then you can have a drawing permit hunt for whatever
32 is beyond that. That's another option that the Board might be
33 talking about.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Does that answer your question,
36 Mr. Upicksoun? It kind of cloudy on.....

37
38 MR. UPICKSOUN: It would be easy to say that 25
39 musk-oxen satisfy the subsistence needs and that would be all
40 Tier-II. You're giving us 40, 15 for Kaktovik, that number is
41 fixed, you guys are in Federal land. A total of 40, that 25,
42 in my book, would be a good figure for subsistence needs and
43 all Tier-II.

44
45 MR. CARROLL: Well, I hope it's that simple.

46
47 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's why I asked you where do we put
48 the Tier-II and where does Tier-I start, you know.

49
50 MR. CARROLL: I mean, like I said, this is kind of --

00231

1 this system works pretty well if you have had a longstanding
2 hunt in an area and you know about how many animals people need
3 to harvest. A situation like this where you're -- you know,
4 you've only had a hunt for a few years, it's pretty hard to say
5 exactly what the subsistence.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I would rather wait to get
8 data before you start saying harvestable surplus.

9
10 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think a working history or working
13 data before harvestable surplus is allowed.

14
15 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. I'd like to say one thing. I know
16 we're talking about Tier-I and Tier-II and I know you had a bad
17 experience with Tier-I, and I'm not really advocating at this
18 time, but we could set up a Tier-I with stipulations that say,
19 you know, whoever gets these permits could not hunt using an
20 airplane. And you could say things like, all permits have to
21 be picked up in Nuiqsut at such and such a date. And we could
22 say the season doesn't start until after whaling season is over
23 and we could even say that trophy value has to be destroyed for
24 any animals that are harvested under this. So we could set up
25 a Tier-I hunt that could be pretty specifically oriented
26 towards a particular community. And I think it's something to
27 think about for the future. I think at this point everybody's
28 happy with the Tier-II and I think that's a pretty safe way to
29 go myself, but don't completely write off Tier-Is for the
30 future.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We're -- I don't know if we
33 have to vacate the building at 5:00, but it's creeping up on us
34 here pretty fast. What is the wish of the Council on this
35 proposal? Support or make recommendation for the joint
36 Council?

37
38 MR. MILLER: We haven't (indiscernible - whispering)

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think it's at the numbers that
41 you're looking at or in support of or -- do we need to make any
42 action?

43
44 MR. CARROLL: Oh, probably not.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right, thank you, Geoff.
47 Do you have anything else?

48
49 MR. CARROLL: No, that's all.

50

00232

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you very much,
2 Mr. Carroll, you've done a lot of work and have to commend for
3 the way you get the various parties together and contact them
4 whether they be from Fairbanks or Anchorage and the other State
5 and Federal agencies, you've done a heck of a job on leading
6 the Working Group, so I thank you very much, Geoff.

7
8 MR. CARROLL: Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, we have a couple of
11 housekeeping items and I don't want to hold the North Slope
12 Fish and Game Committee members, maybe we can move on to the
13 other new business. We just have a couple of items, maybe we
14 can quickly go over those and release the North Slope Borough
15 Fish and Game Committee members, rather than hold them up for
16 our housekeeping for the North Slope Regional Council. Any
17 objection to that?

18
19 (No audible responses)

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, let's take care any other
22 business we have. Any other reports? Mr. Solomon, did you
23 have something?

24
25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He left.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, good. Any other new business
28 then while I'm on there? Mr. Hopson.

29
30 MR. B. HOPSON: Yes. When I was on my way here to
31 Barrow, several weeks ago, I ran into Stanley Nent (ph) from
32 Tanana Chiefs Conference, he's with the -- he works as their
33 subsistence specialist, I believe. But he serves on the
34 Fortymile Caribou Protection Plan, you've probably heard of the
35 group that's always doing wolf trapping and stuff like that.
36 But I guess they came up with a -- they've been meeting in and
37 he asked me would the Slope be interested in having some wolves
38 relocated from the Fortymile area to the Slope? I told him,
39 you know, I'd bring this up. He didn't have any numbers of how
40 many wolves they want to move here where they like to relocate
41 out of the Fortymile area.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right, thank you, Ben.

44
45 MR. B. HOPSON: But I thought I'd just.....

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, maybe we can bring that up on
48 the next agenda for our next meeting. I'll have to apologize,
49 I know there was something that we were going to put under new
50 business, or maybe that was the steel shot person.

00233

1 MS. DEWHURST: It was.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, HB-406 was another one that we
4 wanted to comment on. I think the Borough stance were they
5 were against that bill, on HB-406. Do you want to say
6 something on that or make a quick motion in support of the
7 North Slope Borough Administration and Department as a
8 committee? Morgan was going to bring that up but he left.

9

10 (No audible responses)

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No comment. I think it's a
13 pretty.....

14

15 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's the issue that Mike Patkatok
16 brought up regarding that particular bill?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Okay, no other new business.
19 We'll take care of just three items left under -- for the
20 Federal Regional Advisory Council. I want to thank the North
21 Slope Borough Fish and Game Committee meeting for helping us
22 out. Your input was very valuable and thank you for your time
23 that you've spent with us the last couple of days. And I
24 really want to thank you for your input, it's very valuable,
25 thank you very much.

26

27 (Applause)

28

29 (Off record)

30

31 (North Slope Borough Fish and Game Management Committee
32 departs)

33

34 (On record)

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Call the Council back to order.
37 Let's finish business and head on home. We have Rosa on the
38 issue of coordination with ADF&G during Regional Council
39 comments at meetings. We need some of our Council comments
40 that are needed toward that. So, Rosa.

41

42 MS. MEEHAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, it's under Tab S
43 in your book. And there's some material that you may want to
44 read. What's under the tab is, it's starts off with a letter
45 from Mitch Demientieff that speaks to how the Federal
46 Subsistence Board is looking to improve the way we do business.
47 And one of the things that we have talked about a lot, and this
48 is program-wide, is a need to increase our cooperation with
49 Fish and Game. And I'd make an observation here that you're
50 Council works very well with Fish and Game. Geoff is always

00234

1 here at the meetings and you clearly work out things -- deal
2 with issues a lot.

3
4 One issue that has created some controversy in some of
5 the other Council has been that after the Council meeting we
6 then take all of the proposals to the Staff Committee and
7 that's -- at the Staff Committee, they review all the proposal
8 analyses, they look at the look at the Council recommendations
9 and then they make a staff recommendation to the Board. There
10 is a request by the Department of Fish and Game to be included
11 in that Staff Committee meeting.

12
13 And what Mitch is looking for is how you, as a Council,
14 feel about having Fish and Game be involved in the Staff
15 Committee meeting. And there's a question of whether the
16 Chairs would have the opportunity to be involved in the Staff
17 Committee meeting, and the response to that is that it really
18 depends on the issue.

19
20 And just to take an example from what you've been
21 talking about here for that musk-ox issue out in 26(A), that
22 would be an issue where clearly you, Fenton, as Chairman, would
23 be asked to be involved in the Staff Committee meeting because
24 that's a complex issue where the background and the issues that
25 you're familiar with would add to the Staff Committee meeting.
26 But in most cases the Councils would not be involved because
27 you've already come to a recommendation on the proposal
28 analyses.

29
30 So simply the issue is whether you are comfortable with
31 the notion of our program working more closely with Fish and
32 Game by having them involved in the Staff Committee meeting.
33 Their role at that meeting would be to provide technical
34 information and ensure that that's correct. They would not be
35 involved in policy discussions or in discussing a
36 recommendation by the Staff Committee. It's strictly for
37 technical assistance.

38
39 MR. H. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower.

42
43 MR. H. BROWER: Rosa, don't they already have some kind
44 of play during the Federal Subsistence Board's deliberations on
45 proposals that they provide information to the Board, Federal
46 Subsistence Board?

47
48 MS. MEEHAN: Yes, they do. Right now the Department of
49 Fish and Game has the opportunity to review the proposals
50 before they come to the Council meetings and they have the

00235

1 chance to speak, as the Department, to give their position to
2 the Federal Subsistence Board. What happened is we found that
3 we have had some issues, like that sheep issue that you talked
4 about, that Request for Reconsideration, that a serious
5 conflict in how we used information didn't really come to light
6 until it got to the Board and so what we're trying to do by this
7 type of earlier coordination is try and iron out that type of
8 difficulty before it gets to the Board.

9
10 But I want to emphasize it's not to change the -- they
11 would not be involved in policy discussions. The intent is not
12 to have the State influence the way the Board process works and
13 the way the Federal system makes decisions, it's just to give
14 information.

15
16 MR. H. BROWER: Another, Mr. Chairman.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go ahead, Mr. Brower.

19
20 MR. H. BROWER: What about influence on the Staff
21 Committee's recommendations?

22
23 MS. MEEHAN: That's something that people are very
24 concerned about, specifically, and the idea is that the Staff
25 Committee runs under parliamentary rules and while they're
26 doing discussions that have to do with technical information
27 then Fish and Game would be asked questions, invited to
28 participate in that, but when the Staff Committee moves to
29 deliberations and making recommendations, the same way as you
30 as a Council work, at that point Fish and Game would no longer
31 be part of the discussion.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any ideas or comments on this from
34 the Council members?

35
36 (No audible responses)

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, they're pretty important. I
39 think they even vote or something at the Federal Subsistence
40 Board?

41
42 MS. MEEHAN: No, they just give recommendations.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

45
46 MR. UPICKSOUN: They give advice.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: In reviewing the other Regional
49 Councils comments my conclusion, or real briefly, fellow
50 Council members, is that to some degree is that they could be

00236

1 involved in discussion purpose only, but -- how should I say
2 it?

3
4 MS. MEEHAN: To share with you what happened at Western
5 Interior. Jack Reakoff had a great way of saying it and he was
6 expressing the same concern. He says that the idea of sharing
7 technical information and, you know, working back and forth on
8 technical information is good, but he didn't want to see
9 anybody melding DNA on this. And his point was to keep the
10 policy out of it. That sharing technical information is good,
11 but you have to be very careful about the policy and the
12 decision-making. And that's the way Western Interior passed
13 their motion last week.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I like that idea.
16 Mr. Hopson.

17
18 MR. B. HOPSON: I've been kind of thinking about this,
19 too, with ADF&G having expertise in wildlife, wild game, you
20 know. They -- you know, they're able to recommend and stuff
21 like that. I'm just kind of, let's say not leery but how they
22 may influence the Federal Subsistence Board process, especially
23 with Knowles around. And it's kind of like -- there's a lot of
24 politics in fish and game, especially with Knowles around in
25 there. So I'm kind of.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Cautious.

28
29 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah, understandable. I
32 agree with you that they do have expertise in the form of data
33 and information and maybe we should invite them to those kind
34 of things because you're right, they do have good information
35 and good biologists and stuff, but when you start getting into
36 policy or decisions, maybe we could just leave them out or just
37 say that's -- because they have that opportunity to comment at
38 the Federal Subsistence Board, yea or nay, support or no
39 support.

40
41 MS. MEEHAN: They have a chance to comment here, too.
42 And again, your Council is very fortunate in having Geoff.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, any -- you guys want to move
45 on that? Support the input of their data, discussion purposes
46 only, but not to have them involved in voting or deciding one
47 way or the other? Jack Reakoff sounds like a good idea, we'll
48 support his deliberation on that part.

49
50 The Chair will entertain a motion to decide or help

00237

1 Mitch on the interaction -- where was that? Coordination with
2 ADF&G during staff meetings at a certain level. For instance,
3 what Jack Reakoff was saying, that they could be involved in
4 discussion purposes only, but not on for decision part -- on
5 the decision part or policy making.

6
7 MR. H. BROWER: So moved, Mr. Chairman

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower, thank you for the
10 motion.

11
12 MR. KOONUK: Second.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. Further
15 discussion?

16
17 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.

18
19 MR. UPICKSOUN: How can we insure the (indiscernible)

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: By amendment. Any further
24 discussion.

25
26 MR. B. HOPSON: Question call for.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. All in favor of
29 the motion to support or recommend to Mitch Demientieff on
30 State coordination with ADF&G to be involved in discussion
31 purposes only, but not on the decision part, say aye.

32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

36
37 (No opposing responses)

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Rosa.

40
41 MS. MEEHAN: Next topic is under Tab U, for under.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Tab U.

44
45 MS. MEEHAN: And this is, briefly, the issue that got
46 discussed a lot last year, it had to do with restructuring the
47 Federal Subsistence Board and there were basically a range of
48 options that a taskforce looked at. One was to replace the
49 existing Board with the Chairs of the Regional Council. A
50 second option was to add a Regional Council Chair to the

00238

1 existing Federal Subsistence Board. And the third option was
2 to leave it alone, just stick with the existing Board.

3
4 The taskforce looked at it and the taskforce consisted
5 of Jim Caplan from the Forest Service, Dave Allen from the Fish
6 and Wildlife Service, both Board members, and Bill Thomas,
7 Chair of the Southeast Regional Advisory Council. And
8 basically -- this is a status report which you could read to
9 get the details, but basically the recommendation that that
10 group came to was that the issues was to leave the Board as it
11 is. And the reason was that the issue had to do with how
12 effective the Regional Councils felt that they were within the
13 process. And so Bill Thomas suggested a way to alter the Board
14 process, how the final meeting is in May, that would emphasize
15 the -- basically provide the Regional Council Chairs an
16 additional opportunity to speak to the Board just prior to the
17 Board making a motion.

18
19 So basically, everybody else gets to present their
20 information, the Regional Council give their recommendation,
21 the Board discusses it and then right before the Board makes a
22 motion the Regional Council Chair has a final opportunity to
23 make a statement or add additional perspective just prior to
24 the Board making a motion. And that group felt that that would
25 address many of the issues that were brought to the table.

26
27 So you don't need to take any action, that's -- unless
28 you wish to, but that's a status report of where that committee
29 went.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You've heard the summary on Federal
32 Board restructuring, had three options, existing Board with one
33 subsistence user and on State representative nominated by the
34 Governor. Number two, existing Board and at least one Regional
35 Council Chair, nominated by the Regional Council Chairs. This
36 alternative was recommended by the Regional Council Chairs at
37 the April 1997 joint Board/Council Chair work session. And
38 number 3, leave the Board as it.

39
40 Again, three options that we need to recommend, leave
41 the Board as is. Also existing Board and at least one Regional
42 Council Chair, nominated by the other nine Council Chairs,
43 there are 10 regions, to be representative in the existing
44 Board. This was recommended by the Regional Council Chairs at
45 the April '97 meeting. The third one is existing board with
46 one subsistence user and one State representative, nominated by
47 the Governor. For your consideration or no action.

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

50

00239

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: I'd be more inclined to support number
4 2 as opposed to the other two.

5

6 MR. KOONUK: Second that motion.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, seconded. Any discussion on
9 the matter?

10

11 MR. H. BROWER: Call for the question.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question is called. We're in
14 support of recommendation number 2, to have one Regional
15 Council Chair, nominated by the Regional Chairs, signify by say
16 aye.

17

18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

21

22 (No opposing responses)

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Rosa.

25

26 MS. MEEHAN: One final one. You, as a Council, dealt
27 with a Request for Reconsideration and Helen had mentioned when
28 she presented that RFR on sheep that we were working on a
29 policy and that's what you have in front of you, it underneath
30 Tab V as in victory because we're almost done.

31

32 At any rate, we have drafted a policy which is what you
33 have here. Basically a Request for Reconsideration can be
34 submitted by anybody if they disagree with the decision made by
35 the Federal Subsistence Board. There is a time limit, it has
36 to be submitted within 60 days. What we tried to include in
37 this policy is a statement that a Request for Reconsideration
38 must be based on either new information that was not -- that
39 the Board did not have in front of it when it made the decision
40 or a misinterpretation of information.

41

42 And the reason that we wanted to put that down in a
43 policy is that in the past we have received a Request for
44 Reconsideration that are based a difference in policy but not a
45 difference in new information. And basically we've gotten them
46 from the State where the Board makes a decision primarily on
47 the c&t proposals where the Board does not have to follow the
48 eight factors, they use them as a guide, and then make a
49 decision.

50

00240

1 Well, the State does a very different decision-making
2 process, they use the eight factors as a checklist and if you
3 don't address all eight factors, then they don't provide c&t.
4 And so we were getting these Requests for Reconsiderations from
5 the State, saying, well, you didn't make the decision the way
6 we would have. And what we're trying to say is that's not a
7 basis for the Board reconsidering the decision because the
8 Board's going to follow, you know, their same approach. And so
9 we're just trying to clarify that.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

12

13 MS. MEEHAN: All right. And this is just information,
14 you don't need to act on this. The other part of this is the
15 Special Action Policy clarification. And we get over the
16 course of the year a request to do actions that are out of
17 cycle and what we're trying to do in this policy is to be clear
18 about what circumstances are appropriate to take step out of
19 the normal regulatory cycle.

20

21 And so it's when there's a dramatic change in
22 population, like we had one for sheep down in Southeast where
23 the population all of a sudden crashed and so we needed to
24 close the season right away, we were able to do that as a
25 Special Action.

26

27 A second type example is if there is a pressing need by
28 subsistence users to -- and, therefore, a need to open a
29 season. And we did that this fall, opened a very limited
30 special -- a limited moose harvest down in the Bristol Bay
31 Region, following the lousy fishing year. And so there was a
32 need to provide more resources for people.

33

34 So those are the sorts of things, that's what we tried
35 to write down in the policy, just be clear. If it's something
36 that can wait for the regular cycle, we'll do it in the regular
37 cycle.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

40

41 MS. MEEHAN: There you have it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you very much, Rosa,
44 you've been very helpful in the past two days, I want to thank
45 you.

46

47 Any questions for Ms. Meehan?

48

49 (No audible responses)

50

00241

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Hearing none. Consent agenda.

2

3 MS. MEEHAN: I was just going to talk to Fenton about
4 that one later, it doesn't really affect everybody.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, consent agenda. Would that be
7 with the Federal Board?

8

9 MS. MEEHAN: It's with the Federal Board. I can do it
10 in two seconds, if you want me to.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Your time is up already, two
13 seconds.

14

15 (Laughter)

16

17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It in your book anyway, if you want
18 to read it.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Tab W for your information.

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Meeting, next place.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Morgan, we missed you
25 earlier, we let the North Slope Fish and Game Management
26 Committee go but we do know about House Bill-406. And know
27 that the North Slope Borough was against that and short notice
28 and so on and so forth, but did you have anything you wanted to
29 input on that?

30

31 MR. SOLOMON: I would like for this Board to go against
32 House Bill-406 because it jeopardizes our (indiscernible - away
33 from microphone).....

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Need to get to a mike. State your
36 name for the record.

37

38 MR. SOLOMON: Okay. My name is Morgan Solomon, I'm the
39 Wildlife Director for the Native Village of Barrow, for the
40 record. I just want this Board to go against the House
41 Bill-406 because it jeopardizes the welfare of our subsistence
42 users in Alaska and it has no meaningful meaning for now and I
43 think this would be advisable for this Board to oppose this
44 House Bill.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, very much, Morgan. You
47 heard Morgan, you know the issue on House Bill-406 by Mr. Scott
48 Ogan. What is the wish of the Council? As stated earlier, the
49 North Slope Borough is against 406 and it would be advisable to
50 support the administration and other organizations.

00242

1 MR. B. HOPSON: Is that a dream or what?

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Huh?

4
5 MR. B. HOPSON: Is that the dream he had or.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

8
9 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I move that the North
10 Slope Federal Subsistence Advisory Council support the North
11 Slope Borough's position on House Bill-406.

12
13 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Mr. Upicksoun, seconded by
16 Terry in support of the North Slope and other organizations
17 that are against House Bill-406 signify by saying aye.

18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

22
23 (No opposing responses)

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Item number 11. Time
26 and place of next meeting recommended to be September 9 and 10.

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN: September 9 and 10 would be Wednesday
29 and Thursday.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Koonuk.

32
33 MR. KOONUK: Bad dates.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Wednesday and Thursday. Do you have
36 any other alternatives?

37
38 MR. KOONUK: 16 and 17.

39
40 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

43
44 MR. UPICKSOUN: When we get to those dates, Barrow
45 likes to whale around the 15th of September, that's when the
46 smaller whales start coming. To have a meeting around the 17th
47 would be too close to when they do their fall whaling here.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brower, any comment on the late
50 fall whaling?

00243

1 MR. H. BROWER: I wasn't here last fall, so I can't
2 comment on it.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Would October 5 and 6 or 6 and 7?

5
6 MR. H. BROWER: That would be right in the midst of
7 fall hunting. The middle part of September through middle part
8 of October is a bad time to be having meetings in Barrow. And
9 it's consistent with the AFN that occurs through here, that
10 time of year.

11
12 MR. KOONUK: 21.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Northwest is September 22-23. Ray
15 Koonuk suggested 15-16 or that week.

16
17 MR. KOONUK: When was the other suggestion?

18
19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 9-10, it's a Wednesday and Thursday.

20
21 MR. UPICKSOUN: Labor Day week.

22
23 MR. H. BROWER: Labor Day week is a bad time. Later
24 part of October?

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: In Anchorage?

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN: We had a good meeting in Anchorage one
29 year, didn't we?

30
31 MR. B. HOPSON: That's right, coincide with AFN week.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, I was just -- it's been a long
34 day. I think it's important we meet in the Slope area for
35 benefit of the residents.

36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And you're going to have five new
38 members.

39
40 MR. B. HOPSON: 20-21.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 20-21?

43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's when we're meeting -- the
45 Northwest is meeting.

46
47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: September 22 and 23 is Northwest
48 Arctic, September, but October is open except for the AFN week.
49 I'm in Anchorage that week, I have to be in Anchorage.

50

00244

1 MR. H. BROWER: When is AFN week, 21?

2
3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think this week.

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Upicksoun.

8
9 MR. UPICKSOUN: Recommend September 9 and 10, Wednesday
10 and Thursday.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, any objection to that?

13
14 MR. H. BROWER: No.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: September 9 and 10. Ms. Armstrong.

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: A suggestion was made to me and I
19 wonder if this was all right with the Council that maybe we try
20 to meet at the new Heritage Center, if you'd like to. I
21 thought maybe we could.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

24
25 MR. H. BROWER: Is it going to be opened?

26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It'll be open in Browerville, it's
28 opening in June and I saw it yesterday, it's really nice.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And maybe we could arrange a tour,
33 perhaps, of us, you know, to get kind of a tour.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: September 9 and 10, placed to picked
36 by Mr. Brower here.

37
38 MR. H. BROWER: You guys want to pay some money
39 (indiscernible - multiple voices).....

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Point of order. September 9 and 10
42 at 9:00 to 5:00 p.m. both days, it's been recommended at the
43 Heritage Center but Harry will check on the place. In Barrow,
44 September 9 and 10.

45
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All in favor say aye.

49
50 IN UNISON: Aye.

00245

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

2
3 (No opposing responses)

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, I want to thank the Federal
6 and State agencies again and the residents of Barrow for
7 helping us out these past few days, two days, it's been very
8 productive and now my stress has been relieved. So thank you
9 very much, again.

10
11 Item number 12 for adjournment.

12
13 MR. H. BROWER: Motion to adjourn.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Motioned by Harry.

16
17 MR. KOONUK: Second

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. All in favor say
20 aye.

21
22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed.

25
26 (No opposing responses)

27
28 (Off record - 5:18 p.m.)

29
30 (MEETING ADJOURNED)

31
32 * * * * *

C E R T I F I C A T E

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2
3
4
5
6

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
) ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

7 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
8 State of Alaska and Reporter and Owner of Computer Matrix, do
9 hereby certify:

10
11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 109 through 245
12 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the North Slope
13 Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, Volume II,
14 meeting taken electronically by myself on the 4th day of March,
15 1998, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the ASRC
16 Building, Third Floor, Barrow, Alaska;

17
18 THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript
19 requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by me to
20 the best of my knowledge and ability;

21
22 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
23 interested in any way in this action.

24
25 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 15th day of March,
26 1998.

27
28
29
30
31
32
33

JOSEPH P. KOLASINSKI
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 04/17/00