

NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
September 17, 1997
North Slope Borough Assembly Room
Barrow, Alaska

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Fenton Rexford, Chair
Edward Itta, Vice Chair
Terry Tagarook, Member
Gordon Upicksoun, Member
Ray Koonuk, Member

Jerry Berg, Coordinator

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record - 9:12 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good morning, everybody. I'll call the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting to order. The time is 9:12 a.m.

Before we proceed, I'd like to take a moment of silence in memory of Edgar Ningeulook. I think those that went to Mount Edgecumbe know who he was, or knew who he was. So before we proceed, we'll start with an invocation or a moment of silence in remembrance -- in memory of Edgar Ningeulook, one of the subsistence regional advisory council members from Seward Peninsula.

(Pause - Moment of Silence)

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. We also want to remember Barbara in our thoughts and prayer with her family member. She couldn't make it, so we appreciate Jerry filling in her place, to help us along with our meetings today and yesterday, and appreciate folks helping us out here with our lodging, and Tom Boyd and crew down there in the Anchorage office did a terrific job, and we appreciate the work that they did on that part.

Real briefly I'll talk in memory of Edward Ningeulook, Inupiat of Shishmaref, Alaska, passed on in the summer of '97. Mr. Ningeulook was appointed in 1996 by Secretary Babbitt to sit on the Seward Peninsula Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. He had an extensive knowledge of local and regional subsistence resources and their uses. The people he knew spoke highly of his work to preserve their subsistence way of life. His effort was as eloquent as his testimony at a village hearing before the Alaska Native Review Commission at Shishmaref, and I'll quote what he said there.

"We are the only ones who can save ourselves. We keep looking to the outside world for someone to come and do it, and it is not going to happen. We are expecting someone out there to save us, and in fact there is nothing in the outside world that is really that important. I think our people ought to understand that. It is possible to maintain their identity and their spirit and their language and their traditions, and their history and their values and still function in the 21st century. We know what we need to know and how to make decisions, how to analyze situations, how to speak many languages, and understand technology."

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1 This was quoted during the village -- Justice Berger in
2 1985 area.

3
4 Edgar's words are an inspiration not only to the
5 members of the ten statewide federal subsistence regional
6 councils, but those of us who diligently work to advance the
7 continuation of the opportunity of all rural Alaskans to
8 practice their subsistence way of life. Peace to his memory.

9
10 So appreciate the moment in remembering Edgar. So.....

11
12 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

15
16 MR. UPICKSOUN: We were in dire straits yesterday, and
17 we -- the Council members were in dire straits yesterday, and
18 we in a way contributed as council members to the predicament
19 we were in. I appreciate the efforts of the staff in resolving
20 the problem and the determination of our Chairman in getting it
21 straightened out. And I don't think it will happen again. I
22 just want to make that statement. I appreciate the efforts of
23 the staff in resolving the problem yesterday. Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

26
27 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair?

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

30
31 MR. KOONUK: I would second that statement. Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We'll certainly pass that on
34 to the staff of the subsistence program. Thank you, Gordon and
35 Ray.

36
37 At this time, let's see, I'll call the roll, Edgar -- I
38 mean, sorry, Jerry. I've got the list here some place. The
39 members present today are Ray Koonuk, Fenton Rexford, Edward
40 Itta, Terry Tagarook, and Gordon Upicksoun. We do have a
41 quorum. The members absent and excused are Harry Brower,
42 Benjamin Hopson and Leonard Tookley. Unless anyone has heard
43 from Jimmy Nayukok, we'll -- we tried yesterday, and been
44 trying again today to see if he can make it in, but no word
45 from Mr. Nayukok from Atqasuk. So there is -- we do have a
46 quorum to conduct business today.

47
48 At this time I welcome those guests in the audience,
49 and those that come from Anchorage and from Barrow to help

50 deliberate various issues today. At this time I'll -- for the

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1 benefit I think of Edward, we may -- I know there's some new
2 faces that I'd like to be introduced, so we'll go ahead and for
3 the record introduce ourselves, who we are and who we work for,
4 and what we do.

5
6 MS. BUCKNELL: Good morning, my name is Susan Bucknell.
7 I'm from Kotzebue, and I'm the new regional coordinator for the
8 State Boards down there, to help coordinate the local advisory
9 committees, to get testimony and comments into the State Board
10 of Fish and Board of Game.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum.

13
14 MS. ANDREWS: Do you need us down there, Meredith?
15 Yes.

16
17 MS. DOWNING: As long as you speak up loud.

18
19 MS. ANDREWS: Good morning. My name is Elizabeth
20 Andrews. I'm with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game from
21 Juneau, Division of Subsistence. And I'm the Department's
22 liaison to the Federal program, so as I explained yesterday,
23 I'm trying to get around to some of the different regional
24 council meetings in the State, and get to know different
25 council members. I typically see the chairs at the Federal
26 Board meeting, but I don't have a chance to see each council
27 and hear about some of the issues in your own area, so I
28 appreciate the opportunity to be here. Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ms. Andrews.

31
32 MR. CARROLL: Geoff Carroll, area biologist, Alaska
33 Department of Fish & Game. Edward.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good morning, Geoff.

36
37 MR. ITTA: Hi, Geoff.

38
39 MR. YOKEL: Good morning again, Edward,.....

40
41 MR. ITTA: Good morning.

42
43 MR. YOKEL:Dave Yokel, BLM.

44
45 MR. McCLELLAN: My name is Greg McClellan. I'm the
46 subsistence coordinator with Arctic National Wildlife Refuge,
47 and was just recently in this position. This is my first visit
48 to the North Slope Regional Advisory Council.

49

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1 Service, on the North Slope team, the biologist.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Sandy?

4
5 MR. RABINOWICH: Sandy Rabinowich for the National Park
6 Service. I'm on the staff committee of the Federal Board.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong with the Fish &
9 Wildlife Service Subsistence Office. I'm the anthropologist on
10 the North Slope team.

11
12 MS. MEEHAN: Rosa Meehan with the Office of Subsistence
13 Management, and I work with all the people in the program.

14
15 MR. OLEMAUN: Tommy Olemaun, Department of Wildlife
16 Management, subsistence specialist.

17
18 MR. BEVINGTON: Dan Bevington, NSP Planning, GIS
19 Office. I'm a mapping person.

20
21 MR. BERG: Jerry Berg, I work for Fish & Wildlife
22 Service, Subsistence Office in Anchorage, and as Fenton already
23 mentioned, I'm trying to help out in Barbara's absence here at
24 the meeting.

25
26 MS. DOWNING: Meredith Downing, R & R Court Reporters,
27 I'm here to record the meeting.

28
29 MR. TAGAROOK: Terry Tagarook from Wainwright.

30
31 MR. UPICKSOUN: Good morning, Edward. Gordon
32 Upicksoun, Point Lay.

33
34 MR. ITTA: Good morning, everybody. I'm Edward Itta
35 from Barrow. Very pleased to meet you. I'm sorry I couldn't
36 be here yesterday. I'm glad to be here today though.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Edward. I'm Fenton
39 Rexford from Kaktovik.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: Ray Koonuk from Point Hope.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. I want to thank those
44 again for coming and helping us with our meetings today. We'll
45 try and cover most of the items in the agenda. It brings us
46 down to item number four, to review or adopt the agenda. Just
47 for the information, before we do adopt the agenda, just
48 briefly what we covered for Edward's benefit. Under 9.A. we
49 had Mr. Steve Ulvi talk about the actions or issues that are

50 going on in the Gates of the Arctic. He did leave us some

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1 packets or some information regarding a management program, and
2 which is a living document which can be changed, or that
3 they're working on.

4
5 We also heard a brief report under 9.A.3. from Dave
6 Yokel, it's in the packet under tab F. A few changes in the
7 dates, especially the EIS being moved to mid or early December,
8 which will be distributed then, and then final comment, the
9 final date is about February 10th. And there will be some town
10 meetings in Nuiqsut, Atqasuk, and Barrow and Anchorage and
11 Fairbanks?

12
13 MR. YOKEL: Correct.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So there will be an opportunity for
16 the residents or councils or various organizations to comment
17 on the draft EIS.

18
19 We also heard from ANWR under number four, the
20 happenings that are going on in the Arctic National Wildlife
21 Refuge. There were some snow goose surveys. The Porcupine
22 census did not quite happen. The caribou did not congregate
23 enough to photograph and make a census. The musk ox permits
24 were issued about the 8th of September, 15 permits for that
25 area. They're also studying moose migration south of the
26 Brooks Range.

27
28 With that, those are the areas we covered. We also
29 covered under 8.A.1. the Anaktuvuk Pass sheep update. We
30 inadvertently or no one -- we know that Anaktuvuk Pass is in
31 Unit 24, we had proposals or regulations changed to include all
32 of the villages to be able to hunt sheep in most all areas, or
33 in 26C specifically, so there was a request for
34 reconsideration. In July the Federal Subsistence Board passed
35 the proposal so they are included to hunt in Unit 26C for the
36 Anaktuvuk Pass residents.

37
38 So with that, that is the remainder of our agenda.

39
40 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman?

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray.

43
44 MR. KOONUK: I'd make a motion to adopt the agenda for
45 September 16 and 17 of 1997.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It's been moved by Ray to
48 approve the agenda.

49

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Terry.

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: Call for the question.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any discussion.

6

7 MR. UPICKSOUN: Call for the question.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question's called. All in favor
10 of approving adopting the agenda, do so by saying aye?

11

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

15

16 (No opposing votes.)

17

18 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Mr. Upicksoun?

21

22 MR. UPICKSOUN: Referring to item two, and our attempt
23 to get a quorum, we have a council member that missed two
24 consecutive meetings. In charter that issue is addressed. I
25 ask you to direct the staff to confirm that there is two
26 unexcused consecutive meetings that the council member missed,
27 that missing two consecutive meetings is addressed in the
28 charter, and I ask you to direct the staff to act in accordance
29 with our charter regarding missing unexcused meetings by our
30 fellow council member from Atqasuk.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any objections to that from
33 the council, to work with the staff in working the situation
34 out with our representative from Atqasuk?

35

36 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair?

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

39

40 MR. KOONUK: You said they were unexcused, no excuse,
41 hasn't called, right, called or notified anybody?

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Not to my knowledge, or from the --
44 from hearing from the staff, or no one's notified, so we'll
45 take care of that administratively. I think, Rosa and Jerry,
46 we'll get together on that, and work with Mr. Boyd. I know in
47 previous meetings we were -- we've been working to get a
48 representative from each village, so we'll direct the staff to
49 find something that comes to that from Atqasuk. We don't want

50 to leave any villages out of being represented on the Council,

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1 so we'll make our efforts to work to that effect, too, to keep
2 Atqasuk represented in the Council.

3
4 MR. UPICKSOUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Gordon.

7
8 MR. KOONUK: Do we need a motion on that, or just a
9 direction?

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. No, I don't think so.
12 There's no objection on that.

13
14 Okay. We have before us under tab B the minutes for us
15 to consider under tab B of our January '97, 28 and 29 Advisory
16 Council meeting. We've had these for a while. Have you
17 reviewed for a minute, and the floor would indicate a motion to
18 either make some changes or adopt the minutes as presented.

19
20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we adopt the
21 minutes of the January 28 and 29 meetings. I'd move that we
22 adopt the minutes.

23
24 MR. KOONUK: I'd second.

25
26 MR. ITTA: I will second that.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It's been moved by Gordon,
29 seconded by Edward. Any discussions or questions on the
30 minutes before us? Oh, by the way just as information, Edward,
31 there was a leg-hold trap issue. Patricia Reynolds was going
32 to be talking about that. They'll be sending us -- or Rosa
33 Meehan will be sending us a report on what has transpired since
34 our opposition to ban leg-hold trap in the refuge area.

35
36 MR. KOONUK: Call for the question.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question is called. All in
39 favor of adopting the minutes of January 28 and 29, 1997, do so
40 by saying aye?

41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

45
46 (No opposing votes.)

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you very much. What -- we're
49 down to item number 6.C., nomination and election of officers.

50 It's under tab C. What is the wish of the Council at this time

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1 as we go for nominating and electing officers for this Council?
2 The office of the chair serves one year, conducts the regional
3 meetings, as you can see in there. Is a voting member. I
4 think we'll proceed with the chairmanship, the vice chair, and
5 the office of secretary at this time.

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN: We do have a quorum as an agenda item,
12 and we were to postpone this issue of reorganizing again. We'd
13 have to wait until the next meeting. I think we do have a
14 quorum and we should address the election of officers at this
15 meeting.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. You heard Gordon. Any other
18 discussion from the other council?

19
20 MR. ITTA: I just have a comment here. I like the way
21 things have been going, mainly in your position as also working
22 with the North Slope Wildlife Management Committee, and I like
23 how it's been set up, and I would move to -- or I would be
24 inclined to at least deal with the chair and vice chair issue,
25 since Harry's not here on the secretary, but leave Harry as it
26 is for our next meeting and just formally appoint on the chair
27 and vice chair at this time. If we can do that, since Harry's
28 not here, I'd ask him to be secretary again, all right?

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: I think I'd back up what Edward Itta
31 say, and in the.....

32
33 MR. ITTA: Thank you.

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN:absence of Harry Brower, I'd like
36 to retain him retain as our secretary. He can't object,
37 so.....

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MR. UPICKSOUN:in his absence, I'd like to --
42 like fellow council members, I would like to retain our current
43 officers, Chairman Fenton Rexford, Vice Chair Edward, our
44 secretary/treasurer is it?

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Secretary.

47
48 MR. UPICKSOUN: Our Secretary Harry Brower. I'd -- if
49 you want it in the form of a motion, I'd like to move that we

50 retain our current officers in their positions, and I'd like to

0050

1 make a motion that we retain.....

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: Second that motion.

4

5 MR. UPICKSOUN:Fenton Rexford and Vice Edward
6 Itta, our Secretary Harry Brower in his absence. I'd like to
7 move that we retain our current officer. I'd put that in the
8 form of a motion.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

11

12 MR. UPICKSOUN: And thank you for seconding it, Terry.

13

14 MR. TAGAROOK: I would second the motion.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Let's see, I don't know
17 what the protocol is, but I'll ask for any further discussion
18 or any objection to that or.....

19

20 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair, I believe there's no objection,
21 we can go ahead and call for the question,.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

24

25 MR. ITTA:approve the motion. That will take
26 care of it.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Edward. The question's
29 called. All in favor of Gordon Upicksoun's motion to retain
30 the current officers, Fenton Rexford, chair, Edward Itta, vice
31 chair, and Harry Brower, Jr., as secretary, all in favor of the
32 motion say aye?

33

34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All those opposed, same sign?

37

38 (No opposing votes.)

39

40 MR. UPICKSOUN: Congratulations.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you.

43

44 MR. UPICKSOUN: Congratulations.

45

46 MR. ITTA: All right. We've got another year.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

49

50 (Indiscernible -- simultaneous speech)

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Appreciate the
2 confidence and giving us direction here. We -- it seems to be
3 working out real well with Harry and Edward when issues do come
4 up, and I appreciate that. So we can proceed, move on to open
5 the floor to.....

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN: We want a speech first.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I don't have speech prepared, but I
12 appreciate the work, and it is time consuming at times, but I
13 try and keep you posted on activities. Appreciate your support
14 in proposals. We have a lot of work cut out for us, as you
15 know. Things are almost changing, daily changing or monthly
16 changing in this subsistence program, so appreciate that.

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: Welcome back aboard, Mr. Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward, do you have anything to say?

21
22 MR. ITTA: Okay. Other than I think we just keep
23 hanging on here. The subsistence thing's going to get sorted
24 out eventually, and I think we'll know our job here, what it's
25 supposed to be or not to be sometime.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

28
29 MR. ITTA: But I appreciate Fenton being there, because
30 he does keep me informed a lot, and we go through a lot of
31 things in the background, along with staff, so appreciate
32 Fenton's volunteering more or less again to go ahead and be
33 chair. So, Koyanak (ph).

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Edward.

36
37 MR. ITTA: And thank you for your confidence, too,
38 everybody.

39
40 MR. UPICKSOUN: I attended the subsistence summit in
41 Anchorage. I was very uncomfortable and when we took a break,
42 I turned around, and I looked and Helen was sitting behind me.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. That brings us to
47 item number seven. This is an opportunity that will continue
48 throughout the meeting for those that are on the floor or the
49 audience. We're not quite as formal as the Federal Subsistence

50 Board in taking names and taking numbers as far as comments.

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1 But if there is any comments that need to be made, please feel
2 free to raise your hand, and state your name, and help us along
3 with the issues that are before us.

4
5 The Chair now moves on to proposals to change the
6 federal subsistence regulations under tab D. We have Helen
7 Armstrong that will cover the 1996 caribou customary and
8 traditional use determination. We'll discuss this and make
9 some action if need be to work on the issue of caribou
10 customary and traditional use determinations for this area.

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Actually I think maybe before we
13 talk about this, can I make a -- I wanted to make.....

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wanted to make some comments on
18 the call for proposal. Barb just didn't put my name by there.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

21
22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: All of you have been on this Council
23 before, so it's nothing new to you, but just a reminder that
24 this is the time of year that you have the option of making
25 proposals, and you can also do them individually if you so
26 choose, but if you want to do it as a council, and have it go
27 in as a council, you need to do it at this meeting and make a
28 vote on it. And at other meetings that we've had in the past,
29 we've kind of looked at what the regulations are already, and I
30 don't know if you want to do that, or if you're familiar enough
31 with them, you don't need to do that, but if you look at your
32 blue book, that's -- on page 145 is.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And we don't have copies of that.

35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:Unit 26, and then 24 is a
37 little bit before that. They're going to get the blue books
38 for you. But just as a reminder, you can make proposals to
39 change c&t determinations as well as the seasons and harvest
40 limits. So you might want to just take a minute and look at
41 those, and see if there's anything that you think needs to be
42 changed at this time. I think we're pretty set on the c&t,
43 that there's nothing that -- I mean, I don't know, but we have
44 gone through the c&t in the past and as I was saying yesterday,
45 and I think Rosa's going to say some more, we are going to be
46 reviewing the sheep c&t again, because we got a request for
47 reconsideration on that one. That will come up at the next
48 meeting we'll have to discuss that one. And then make a
49 recommendation, and then that goes before the Federal Board in

50 the spring. So.....

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1 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah?

4
5 MR. ITTA: Okay. If I could, I think we're all
6 familiar with the proposal process, and I don't think we need
7 to do the background stuff, but I'd be curious what's on the --
8 looking at what you're talking about now. And I think we're
9 pretty.....

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

12
13 MR. ITTA:knowledgeable on the process, but.....

14
15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

16
17 MR. ITTA:see what's up.

18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So maybe you want to take a
20 few minutes to look at.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

23
24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:or do you want to go through
25 it? How do you want to proceed?

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Let me see what Mr. Yokel
28 has. Dave? And then we'll proceed with a review.

29
30 MR. ITTA: What page? What page?

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, 145 is Unit 26. And then
33 if -- this is the mike right here.

34
35 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dave Yokel with
36 BLM. There's one thing I'd like to point out to you on page
37 144 of the blue book, and that's under special provisions, the
38 paragraph that has the Dalton Highway Corridor Management area
39 in bold type. When we -- early in the Federal Subsistence
40 Management Program, when we adopted the State's c&t
41 determinations, there was no c&t determination for certain
42 caribou herds on the North Slope. And we had a pretty big
43 problem with rural residents from other parts of the state
44 driving up the Dalton Highway and hunting caribou along the
45 Dalton Highway with rifles. We had a lot of soldiers from Fort
46 Greely going up. Fort Greely is a rural area. And at that
47 time we were not allowed to make c&t changes under the proposal
48 process. And the only way we figured out to resolve this
49 problem was to say who could or could not hunt with a rifle in

50 the Dalton Highway corridor. And this paragraph is the result

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1 of that. It resolved our problem.

2

3 But if you were going to address c&t determinations for
4 caribou on the North Slope, and feel that the residents of the
5 North Slope should be allowed to hunt within five miles of the
6 Dalton Highway with rifles on federal lands, then something
7 will have to be done about this paragraph, because right now
8 only -- of all North Slope residents, only those of Anaktuvuk
9 Pass can hunt in that ten-mile wide strip using rifles.

10

11 And I want to caution that, -- I know this is
12 especially important to the people of Nuiqsut. This would not
13 include the state lands north of Slope Mountain, which is right
14 about where the Sag River DOT camp is on the Dalton Highway.
15 This would only be south of that area.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

18

19 MR. YOKEL: Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We will discuss that issue after we
22 make any further -- or after we go through the review right now
23 on what is currently under the federal program for regulating.

24

25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, while we're
26 discussing.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Gordon?

29

30 MR. UPICKSOUN:the c&t issue, in my travels this
31 summer, I was at Cape Lisburne. I was only there for half an
32 hour, but I had time to talk with some bird watchers, and they
33 pointed out some sheep right up on -- right on top of the
34 mountain. I was at Cape Lisburne. That's in Unit 26. Which
35 side of the mountain does Unit 26 end at Cape Lisburne? There
36 is sheep right there when you're at the tip of Wevok (ph) at
37 Cape Lisburne, there is sheep up there. That's at the
38 borderline of two units. That's where Unit 26 ends. Where
39 does it end? Where is the line? There is sheep there.

40

41 The statement was made that Point Lay and Point Hope do
42 not customarily and traditionally use sheep. That is not the
43 case. I would like to put that on record. I personally
44 observed sheep at Cape Lisburne. That was in July. And for
45 the record, I would like to know what -- where does which unit
46 end?

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Don't look at the map in the book,
49 because the map in the book is wrong, but.....

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1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's always wrong.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But we did get -- these maps got
6 corrected.

7

8 MR. UPICKSOUN: I was right at the tip of Cape
9 Lisburne, right there in the red area.

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, so I -- it would probably be
12 -- you were -- do you know.....

13

14 MR. UPICKSOUN: And the dotted line signifies Unit 26?

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, there -- the red line does.
17 This is the State GMU boundary.

18

19 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean, no, I'm sorry, you're right.
22 I said that wrong. This is 26, this is 23.

23

24 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. But where.....

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This is the North Slope boundary. I
27 mean, the.....

28

29 MR. UPICKSOUN: Helen, where is Unit 26 in regards to
30 where the sheep were at the top of the mountain at the tip of
31 Cape Lisburne.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This is the border for 26. Okay.

34

35 MR. UPICKSOUN: Maybe I take you to Cape Lisburne one
36 of these days, and you can tell me this is Unit 23, and this is
37 Unit 26.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This is Cape Lisburne. Oh, this is
40 Cape Lisburne. Oh, I see.

41

42 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

43

44 MR. ITTA: Yeah, it's right there. It splits it right
45 down the middle, so his question was how do you.....

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'd say it's right on the boundary.

48

49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes.

0056

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know.

2
3 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm not the right person to take
6 though to tell you which side is which.

7
8 MR. UPICKSOUN: Well, for the record, I'd like to state
9 that I -- there was sheep in my travels at Cape Lisburne when I
10 was travelling this summer. I'm too old to climb and go get
11 one.

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, if I can ask Gordon?

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Helen?

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This is the kind of testimony that I
18 need, that we need for doing the relooking at the c&t
19 determination for sheep. I think I asked you this last winter,
20 but I want to ask again. Have you ever known of anybody to get
21 sheep from Point Lay?

22
23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Koonuk from -- our council member
24 from Point Hope can answer your question in regards to Unit 26.

25
26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: How about for Point Lay people?

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN: Half the community is originally from
29 Point Hope, so.....

30
31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN:we're talking about.....

34
35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN:something that Mr. Koonuk could
38 answer in regards to sheep hunting in that area.

39
40 MR. KOONUK: They have been catching sheep from Point
41 Hope off and on. At least maybe one or two a year,.....

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

44
45 MR. KOONUK:within from Cape Lisburne going
46 through the mountains all the way to Cape Thompson area they
47 have spotted some sheep, and it's not just, you know, one year.
48 It's been going on for probably ten years. Within ten years.

49

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

0057

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you for.....

2
3 MR. UPICKSOUN: It's recorded.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep. Okay.

6
7 MR. KOONUK: I think I had made the statement before.

8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You did. Yeah.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, at the North Slope Fish & Game
12 Committee, too, Elijah Tananak (ph) who is from there also is
13 happy that there is sheep repopulating that area. I guess it
14 closed off for a while, or under state regulations, but he
15 noted that they were -- they've hunted sheep in that area for a
16 long time.

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: July 14 when I personally observed
19 sheep in Unit 26. I think they were on Unit 26 side of the
20 mountain.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. So we may have to take look
23 at what to do for Point Lay, in getting them included in the
24 c&t.

25
26 MR. KOONUK: One question on the boundary lines. Has
27 the boundary -- the boundary lines have been changed, right?
28 We're now in Unit 26 instead of Unit 23 as for Point Hope?

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, I was looking at the
31 sheep c&t right here. Could you please repeat your question?

32
33 MR. KOONUK: The boundary lines.

34
35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

36
37 MR. KOONUK: I guess the boundary line used to exist in
38 Unit 23 for Point Hope. Has the lines been changed, the
39 boundary lines have been changed?

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The boundary line didn't get
42 changed. Nothing has ever changed for the boundary for the
43 North Slope Regional Council. But what happened was this is
44 digitized, and the -- in all the rest of the regions, the
45 boundaries of the regional council follow GMU boundaries except
46 this one. And so when a map got made at one point, and I can't
47 tell you how it happened, but all of a sudden one day I noticed
48 that the map in the book was wrong. I think we talked about it
49 at the last meeting, Ray, and I said, oh, my God, this map is

50 wrong. And I went back and pointed it out. Now people are

0058

1 saying when did we change this boundary? But it never changed,
2 it was always the same. It just was an error in the map making
3 and so then I had -- we had those maps changed, and I just
4 realized that once again the map in the book is wrong, but some
5 day maybe we'll get it correct, I'm not sure.

6
7 MR. KOONUK: Well, I feel like I'm in.....

8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The boundary's wrong here.

10
11 MR. KOONUK:the wrong district. I should be 23
12 at times, you know.

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But, I mean, you're always.....

15
16 MR. KOONUK: I should be born in Kotzebue and be.....

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:in 23. It's whether or not
19 you're in -- I mean, the thing that is wrong is not the GMU
20 boundary. That remains the same. The thing that's wrong is
21 that the -- in the book, you can compare this map to that map,
22 that Point Hope is in Unit -- is in the North Slope Regional
23 Council in that map, and in here it looks like it's not. But
24 it is. So.....

25
26 MR. KOONUK: Well, I hope they change that, you know.

27
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Don't worry. I mean,.....

29
30 MR. KOONUK: Because I will continue to bring this up
31 as long as I see line here.

32
33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I will, too, Ray. I made sure those
34 maps were right, and I thought these maps were right, too. I'm
35 not sure how this happened. It's.....

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. What do we need to do then?
38 I think Gordon's concern is to include Point Lay.....

39
40 MR. ITTA: In the c&t for sheep.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:in c&t determination for sheep.

43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It is in right now. It's.....

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Point Lay?

47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:on page 146, all residents of
49 Unit -- in Unit 26A. It's on the top left-hand column. All

50 residents of Unit 26, and that includes Point Lay, Wainwright,

0059

1 Barrow, everybody.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: Which page?

6
7 MR. TAGAROOK: 146.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 146.

10
11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And Anaktuvuk Pass and Point Hope,
12 all have c&t for Unit 26A. The reason it will come before you
13 again is that the State disagreed with the Board's
14 determination, and they have made a request for
15 reconsideration. They requested that we relook at it, which is
16 why I'm glad you're giving me more information that I can put
17 into the analysis, and we're going to be bringing it back to
18 you in the winter meeting, and have you once again give us your
19 recommendation, and it will once again go before the Board.
20 But the State didn't agree with our determination, and the
21 reason was that it didn't fulfill all of the eight factors, and
22 they felt that we should have fulfilled more of the eight
23 factors.

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, for record just I can
26 safely say, but half the current residents of Point Lay are
27 descendants of Point Hope, originally from Point Hope, so when
28 she asked questions regarding sheep, we'd have to house-to-
29 house survey, and I think it would concur with your -- what you
30 stated regarding c&t determination regarding sheep. I'm glad
31 it is in there. I looked for the particular language and I'm
32 glad that it is there, Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. Any.....

35
36 MR. ITTA: Just one more.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

39
40 MR. ITTA: Barbara -- I mean, not Barbara, Helen. I
41 miss your sister here. Anyway, on what Ray's concern is on 23
42 and 26, just I was trying to recall a conversation we had if
43 there was ever going to be any possibilities of drawing the
44 line to match the North Slope Borough line so that what's
45 currently 23 to the North Slope Borough line becomes a part of
46 26. And I remember we had discussed that a little bit.
47 Anything on that, or any possibility on that? What I'm saying
48 is right here where 26 line is?

49

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I know -- Yeah, I know what you're

0060

1 saying. I.....

2

3 MR. ITTA: And this is the Borough. One time we had
4 talked of why not just make this -- because officially 23 is
5 with the Northwest Subsistence Advisory Council, and.....

6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

8

9 MR. ITTA: I mean, technically it's there. Ray's
10 right. Until we just acknowledge it on paper or whatnot. I
11 can sense Ray getting kind of frustrated, 'cause he has to deal
12 with another whole set of people.....

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

15

16 MR. ITTA:over there when we deal with the Region
17 10 up here, so my question was, is there any possibility of
18 that happening, or doing something to kind of rectify that?

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think maybe some other people
21 might want to speak to this issue, but I think one of the
22 problems is, is that it's also a boundary that the State uses,
23 and so when they -- you know, they -- and I think it could get
24 confusing to do that, but -- and I think that's why nothing has
25 happened on it, but it's been a while since it had been brought
26 up, and -- do you want to say something on that?

27

28 MS. MEEHAN: I think it would be important to hear from
29 the State on that,.....

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

32

33 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

34

35 MS. MEEHAN:because it's really a State boundary
36 that you're talking about. What we could do, since we've got
37 the boundaries for Region Ten, we could move our boundary up to
38 match the 23/26 boundary, but we can't move the 23/26 boundary
39 down to match the Region Ten. It's a matter -- you could think
40 of it as.....

41

42 MR. ITTA: Maybe I'm just asking if some research could
43 be done on what needs.....

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

46

47 MR. ITTA:what might be possible, or if there is
48 a way to change the line, or if anybody even wants to change
49 the line.

0061

1 MS. MEEHAN: We could do that. We could look into it.

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: Would there be any objections from
4 residents in 23?

5

6 MS. MEEHAN: That would have to be part of the research
7 would be to.....

8

9 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. Right.

10

11 MS. MEEHAN:look at try and get all sides of the
12 issue on it.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray and then I think we were going
15 to be looking at Ms. Andrews to make some comments on it. Ray?

16

17 MR. KOONUK: Here quite time ago a guy named Laurie
18 Kingik who used to work with the Borough, I guess under the
19 Fish & Wildlife, was working on that issue, and I think there
20 was -- there's some paperwork, background, stuff that the
21 Borough might have as far as -- in regard to changing the
22 boundary line.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Laurie, that's L-a-u-r-i-e,.....

25

26 MR. KOONUK: Right.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:Kingik?

29

30 MR. KOONUK: Kingik.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: K-i-n-g.....

33

34 MR. KOONUK: K-i-n-g-i-k.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: K-i-n-g-i-k.

37

38 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uvalik (ph)

39

40 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. And he didn't like, you know, Point
41 Hope being within Unit 23, and he, you know, was trying to
42 change it to Unit 26 at that time, and I don't know how far
43 that issue went, but maybe that could be part of your research,
44 and seeing what the Borough has as far as information.

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair?

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen?

49

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If I could suggest that maybe to put

0062

1 a little more weight into your desires, to make that a motion,
2 that this Council would like us to address that? I mean, it
3 would just put a lot more weight to it I think.

4
5 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Edward?

8
9 MR. ITTA: I would move to have staff research the Unit
10 23 and Unit 26 line boundary and see if -- look into seeing
11 what it would take, or what's out there to possibly moving the
12 boundary southward to coincide with the boundary of the North
13 Slope Borough. And I so move.

14
15 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Moved and seconded regarding the
18 boundary issue of Point Hope, or it being in Unit 23 to.....

19
20 MR. ITTA: To 26.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: To 26, for the staff to research
23 that issue. Any further discussion?

24
25 MR. KOONUK: Question.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question's called. All in favor
28 say aye?

29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

33
34 (No opposing votes.)

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Any other review of this
37 more -- I think we were.....

38
39 MR. ITTA: Fenton.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mrs. Andrews?

42
43 MR. ITTA: She was with who now?

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Juneau area subsistence liaison.

46
47 MR. ITTA: Fish & Game?

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: ADF&G, yeah.

0063

1 MS. ANDREWS: Are these working or kind of lean towards
2 this one?

3
4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems to me there's two
5 issues here. One you've just acted on, and that has to do with
6 moving the Unit 23 boundary to Unit 26, and that's certainly
7 something that's going to take some coordination between the
8 state and the federal program, because the federal program does
9 use and recognize the State of Alaska's game management units.

10
11 You are correct, there has been discussion about moving
12 that boundary even before there was a federal program.
13 Mr. Kingik was I know involved in that. I remember hearing
14 about this in the past. So we will have to do some research
15 both on the State side and the federal side, and try to
16 coordinate and talk to our regional supervisors, and research
17 some more the history of that boundary there.

18
19 In a practical sense, what we've done as a department
20 is when there are issues that Point Hope, of course, is
21 interested in, whether it's musk ox or caribou, in that portion
22 of what's Unit 23, we have gone up to Point Hope as we have
23 this summer and conducted meetings with local residents to
24 understand exactly what issues they're interested in so that we
25 can address them in Unit 23, because we're certainly aware
26 Point Hope is part of your North Slope Fish & Game Management
27 Committee, it's part of the Borough, and we understand the
28 larger perspective you take as a region. But we have tried to
29 address issues for that particular area just by going to Point
30 Hope and talking to the people there.

31
32 On the other issue that you raise about the sheep at
33 Cape Lisburne, my reading of that is that you're talking about
34 a use of the sheep right at Cape Lisburne, the sheep are on
35 both sides of that boundary, and what you're lacking right now
36 is a c&t use of sheep in Unit 23, and it seems to me, and I'll
37 ask your staff person there, it seems to me that you would need
38 to have the -- a proposal in that would recognize c&t use in
39 that portion of Unit 23, because right now the way the c&t
40 finding is for sheep in 23, it says rural residents of 23 north
41 of the Arctic Circle, so that includes Point Hope. So Point
42 Hope has a c&t use in that area, Point Lay does not. The way
43 I'm reading the regulation book. And the discussion that you
44 had a few minutes ago was only talking about Unit 26, so it
45 seems to me you still need to address the use by Point Lay in
46 Unit 23, because it's not recognized in the action that the
47 Northwest Advisory Council took at their meeting last spring.
48 So that would be.....

49

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

0064

1 MS. ANDREWS: That's where I'm coming from is you need
2 to have that looked at.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: When you're conducting meetings in
11 Point Hope, does your mind thinking that you're addressing the
12 issue relating it to Unit 26 instead of 23?

13
14 MS. ANDREWS: Well, the meeting that was -- it would be
15 my understanding, and Geoff here works with the area biologist
16 out in that area, and I know some of the meetings they had this
17 summer, they were talking about that portion of Unit 23 and the
18 use by Point Hope. And we had some issues that had to do with
19 your musk ox management plan, because there are uses in that
20 musk ox management plan that go beyond Unit 26 that affect Unit
21 23, and whether or not there's been people from Point Lay at
22 any of the Point Hope meetings, you know, I'm not sure, and I'm
23 not sure if, Ray, if you were at the meetings that they had
24 this summer or not?

25
26 MR. KOONUK: No.

27
28 MS. ANDREWS: I wasn't able to go to those myself. We
29 have area staff go to those.

30
31 MR. UPICKSOUN: My question was touching on are you
32 comfortable with addressing those issues, thinking that Point
33 Hope is on 26 instead of 23? That would solve a lot of your
34 problems.

35
36 MS. ANDREWS: Well, I agree, but.....

37
38 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's in line with what our chairman
39 stated earlier in regards to the boundary.

40
41 MS. ANDREWS: Right. I understand that, and that's
42 where the first point I was talking about, we need to make sure
43 we have some coordination and look back at the history for that
44 management unit, because there's a lot of species there, and
45 the reasons why that -- I mean, that boundary's been in place
46 probably for over 50 years, and looking at some of the reasons
47 there, but also recognizing if there's a need to change it,
48 then we should address that.

49

MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman?

0065

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Okay.

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: I can see her -- she's got a very valid
4 point, especially when it comes to the harvest plan that we
5 have for musk ox. I can see where that question would come up.
6 You brought up a very good point, especially in regards to musk
7 ox harvest management plan that we'll be discussing later.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

10

11 MR. UPICKSOUN: A very good point.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Elizabeth. Okay. I
14 think we need to make some coordinating efforts to work with
15 the State in making the changes to that, and also reviewing as
16 stated under sheep under Unit 23, to include Point Lay. I
17 think there were possibilities of that. Ray?

18

19 MR. KOONUK: Another point I'd like to bring up is we
20 have a North Slope Borough subsistence specialist, I think
21 that's what they call them.

22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes, that's Taqulik. She's not here
24 today.

25

26 MR. KOONUK: Fish & Wildlife, right, in Point Hope? Do
27 we have one in Point Hope?

28

29 MR. OLEMAUN: Al Pineak (ph).

30

31 MR. KOONUK: Al Pineak? Okay.

32

33 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, Point Hope, the Native
34 Village of Point Lay took over that function. They took the
35 funds from the Borough and your IRA Council took over that, the
36 subsistence specialist position. The council took over the
37 funds from the Borough, and you guys -- the village itself has
38 that position, the Native Village of Point Hope. The game unit
39 and your council took over that function that the Borough used
40 to have. They transferred the funds from that position, gave
41 it to the Native Village of Point Hope, so you guys have your
42 own subsistence specialist.

43

44 MR. KOONUK: This is the first I heard of it. But the
45 thing is that I think the guy that works there get kind of
46 confused of who to go to, because, you know,.....

47

48 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Maybe it's.....

49

MR. KOONUK:he has to go to Unit 23 to Jim

0066

1 Dau.....

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: You're right in asking Mr. Olemaun. Am
4 I right in saying that your department transferred funds to the
5 Native Village of Point Hope in regards to collecting data and
6 all that?

7

8 MR. OLEMAUN: Uh-hum.

9

10 MR. UPICKSOUN: Your department.....

11

12 MR. OLEMAUN: To the IRA Council.

13

14 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah. Your department transferred the
15 funds to the Native Village of Point Hope to regards to that,
16 Ray.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

19

20 MR. KOONUK: Okay.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Very well. I think we've got
23 some work cut out as far as working on the sheep.

24

25 MR. ITTA: Do we need that in the form of a motion
26 also?

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes, you do.

29

30 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Edward?

33

34 MR. ITTA: I would move to direct staff to research and
35 make a proposal on customary and traditional use for residents
36 of Point Lay to be included in Unit 23, 'cause they -- okay.
37 And I'll stop there. And I so move.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It's been moved.

40

41 MR. KOONUK: Second.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray.

44

45 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question.....

48

49 MR. UPICKSOUN: I have a question.

0067

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: Are you comfortable with the language
4 in regards to c&t regarding sheep in 26?

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well,.....

7

8 MR. UPICKSOUN: In line with the motion made by
9 Mr. Itta? Is the language sufficient as it is now?

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I guess actually the question would
12 be is -- are you comfortable with it, more than I mean whether
13 I'm comfortable with it or not.

14

15 MR. UPICKSOUN: No, I was trying to find that language.
16 I missed it, so this is the first time I've seen it. In
17 your.....

18

19 MR. ITTA: Maybe.....

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN: In your thinking, are -- do you think
24 that language is sufficient?

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: For Unit 26?

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

29

30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think so. I think we went through
31 that fairly.....

32

33 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. I didn't -- you know, I was
34 looking for this. I missed it completely. (Indiscernible --
35 simultaneous speech)

36

37 MR. ITTA: If I could, Mr. Chair?

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

40

41 MR. ITTA: And, Gordon, for your clarification, the way
42 I understand it, you're already covered under 26A for c&t.
43 They can get sheep over there, so that's no problem.

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's right.

46

47 MR. ITTA: What I'm envisioning, Gordon is that.....

48

49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Which side of the mountain.

0068

1 MR. ITTA:the one in 23 is going to be very
2 similar, it will just include you so you don't have to draw
3 yourself a line and say, well, I can't get that one, or I can
4 go over, so.....

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

7
8 MR. ITTA:I think that will be what we're trying
9 to do, okay?

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Mr. Chairman, that was my
12 question in regards to Mr. Itta's motion.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. You've heard the -- Helen?
15 You've heard the -- oh, Sandy, did you have something?

16
17 MR. RABINOWICH: No, I was just stretching.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. You've heard the motion to
20 have Point Lay included in Unit 23 for c&t determination of
21 sheep, or the research, and working out a proposal to have them
22 included in that area. All in favor of the motion signify by
23 saying aye?

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman? Did you have a question?

26
27 MS. MEEHAN: As I recall the regulation being read, the
28 determination for Unit 23 was north of the Arctic Circle for
29 sheep for Point Hope, and so I wanted -- I think it would help
30 your motion if you were clear, if you were comfortable with
31 that designation, also having that north of the Arctic Circle
32 designation, or if you think it's important for them to have
33 c&t for the entire unit?

34
35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In other words, I think what you
36 were saying to me earlier is correct, Gordon, that what you
37 want to say, that it should -- that your proposal is that all
38 residents of Unit 23 north of the Arctic Circle and Point
39 Lay.....

40
41 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:have c&t for sheep.

44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: That wasn't the way.....

46
47 MR. ITTA: No, that's what she.....

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN:the motion was.....

0069

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN:you said for the residents of
4 Point Lay, that was in his motion.

5

6 MR. ITTA: To include Point Lay was the motion, yes.

7

8 MR. UPICKSOUN: Oh, to include Point Lay?

9

10 MR. ITTA: Yes.

11

12 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

13

14 MR. ITTA: And if there's any question about it, I
15 think the wording with the Arctic Circle in there is fine.

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

18

19 MR. ITTA: There's no problem.

20

21 MR. UPICKSOUN: Is there -- another question,
22 Mr. Chairman?

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

25

26 MR. UPICKSOUN: Is there language in their regarding a
27 c&t determination in 23 for the area that we're talking about?

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes, there is. It's on page.....

30

31 MR. BERG: 128.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 128. And it reads c&t for sheep in
34 Unit 23, it reads rural residents of Unit 23 north of the
35 Arctic Circle, and as I'm understanding the Council, you want
36 that to read rural residents of Unit 23 north of the Arctic
37 Circle and Point Lay.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. 128.

40

41 (Whispered conversation)

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Are we ready for a vote?

44

45 MR. UPICKSOUN: Call for question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question is called. All in
48 favor of the motion to include Point Lay in Unit 23 for c&t
49 determination, and working out a proposal, or have the staff do

50 that, signify by saying aye?

0070

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

4

5 (No opposing votes.)

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'd would like -- the Chair will
8 call for a ten-minute break at this time. Then we'll continue
9 reviewing the regulations, because I do have some issues that
10 need to come up, so we'll have a ten-minute.....

11

12 (Off record - 10:15 a.m.)

13

14 (On record - 10:35 a.m.)

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll call the meeting back to order
17 from a brief recess. I think we covered pretty much the area
18 of boundary lines for sheep, Point Lay and for Unit 23. I
19 think the work orders are in place for that. We'll continue
20 reviewing the regulations for Unit 26. Any suggestions or any
21 further directions for the staff for proposals? I do have a
22 couple for review, or the staff to look into, if I may turn the
23 chair over to Mr. Itta for a minute if there's no other species
24 to look at?

25

26 Musk ox in Unit 26, under federal lands.....

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, what page are you?

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That will be on page 147.

31

32 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I probably need to work with Geoff
35 on this, or get Geoff on the table or near the mikes here.
36 Let's wait a minute to get Geoff in line here.

37

38 As you know, we will be discussing the draft musk ox
39 plan later on in our agenda. But as we're discussing under
40 proposals this morning, I'd -- there is a request from the
41 Community of Kaktovik. At the present time, the proposal reads
42 up to 15 permits of bull can be taken up in Unit 26C. There's
43 been a request for -- from the community residents to change
44 that from bulls only to possibly cow and other. Where
45 customary and traditionally our Inupiat hunt all types of
46 animals, and we want to take that opportunity, or see what the
47 opportunity could present us as far as taking cow and calf. I
48 don't what the numbers will change as far as 15 permits, but
49 the community would -- is looking for help or work with the

50 community of Kaktovik to change the regulations to include

0071

1 taking of cow at this time or in the near future.

2

3 We've been trying to schedule a community meeting to go
4 over the harvest plan in Kaktovik, however we've been
5 unsuccessful. I do not know what the time line schedule is. I
6 think this month's pretty much is shot, and we have until
7 October 24, which is the deadline, to bring up proposals. Will
8 that be enough time for the staff to work with the Community of
9 Kaktovik to look into changing the proposal -- or, I mean,
10 changing the regulations to include cow?

11

12 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I wish Pat Reynolds was still
13 here. I had talked to Pat Reynolds about that just a couple of
14 days ago on the phone. I wish she was here to present it. You
15 know, I hate to present it second hand, but she had mentioned
16 she was going to show you -- present to the Council some
17 computer modeling she had done, looking at a mixed sex harvest.
18 And what she had told me on the phone was she thought you would
19 have to go to a mixed sex harvest at some point, because you
20 can't just keep taking bulls from the same group, so she agreed
21 with you there. But what she had mentioned to me would be it
22 might drop the harvest down to nine animals realistically was
23 what she thought at this time, based on the current numbers.
24 But I hate to -- really that's second hand. As I said, I
25 really wish Pat was here to present this herself, but that's
26 what she had told me on the phone.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. With that brief report, I
29 would urge in the next meetings that most of the federal
30 agencies stick around during our two days of meetings. I think
31 without U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service or Arctic National
32 Wildlife Refuge biologists, and especially Mr. Jim Kurth, the
33 manager, should be available to help us with these important
34 regulation proposals. It behooves me to leave while business
35 is not quite complete, especially important species of musk
36 oxen, now that we rely on, so for the record I would urge or
37 demand or that the ANWR or any other federal agencies help us
38 or stay with us until our meetings are over.

39

40 With that, I know there are also federal lands in Unit
41 26A and possibly in Unit B or subsection B south of the hollow
42 there or the north foothills out in the corridor highway. To
43 have us -- it would help us in research in taking not only
44 bulls but cows. I think -- I don't know how to put that in the
45 form of a motion, but for the staff to work with the Community
46 of Kaktovik in working out proposals to put some sort of a
47 sustainable yield, also to take musk ox in Unit 26A. I think
48 we're getting pretty close to having the draft proposal, or a
49 management harvest proposal, or harvest plan, to be brought

50 before the Federal Subsistence Board this winter.

0072

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: I thought there was language to that
6 effect already in existence regarding 26A. No?

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, there's -- we only have c&t at
9 this time, we do not have any amount.

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. With that -- that's.....

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There is something in the works with
14 the Board of Game for Point Lay?

15
16 MR. CARROLL: Yes, we'll talk about that.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And Nuiqsut. And.....

19
20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. We will be discussing this in
21 the.....

22
23 MR. CARROLL: Yes.

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN:harvest management plan. Okay.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: But as far as the federal program
28 proposals, I think it's -- there needs to be some homework and
29 meetings with the Community of Kaktovik, and other areas for
30 getting specific numbers for 26A and B.

31
32 MR. UPICKSOUN: And B, that's in your area.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, B.

35
36 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Okay. Nuiqsut area.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It would be in this area right in
39 here I think.

40
41 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum. Okay.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And possibly this area in here.

44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So anyway I would move,
48 Mr. Chairman, to work some similar language to have the staff
49 address working with the Community of Kaktovik and other

50 communities that may be involved in 26A and B for harvesting

0073

1 musk oxen. I do not know the specific numbers, but there's
2 need to be coordination or meetings with the town, at least the
3 Village of Kaktovik, AKP, and those residents listed under 26A
4 for specific numbers of musk oxen to be taken.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, in regards to your
7 concerns regarding 26A, those concerns have been presented by
8 the Native Village of Anaktuvuk in different -- before
9 different forums regarding the need for the village to harvest
10 musk ox, because they may in fact be affecting the migratory
11 pattern of the caribou, the musk oxen. That issue is -- it
12 keeps coming up, and I'm glad that you include Anaktuvuk Pass
13 in that specific language for harvesting of musk ox.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We have motion here from Fenton, and I
16 believe the motion is understood, is it? Do we need to clarify
17 it, what.....

18
19 MANY VOICES: No.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ITTA: What Fenton is asking is that all
22 federal agencies involved work with the Community of Nuiq- -- I
23 mean Kaktovik, Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk in 26A and B into changing
24 the harvest limit from only bulls to allow also harvesting of
25 cows. Is that.....

26
27 MR. REXFORD: Yeah.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ITTA:about right? That's what he's
30 asking.

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Wait. But right now there is no
33 harvest in A and B. There's only a harvest in C. A federal
34 harvest.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ITTA: In A?

37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, there is no harvest in A. I
39 mean, so what you're asking is that there be a harvest,
40 but.....

41
42 MR. REXFORD: That's correct, yeah.

43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:not that it goes from bull to
45 cows, but there be a harvest?

46
47 MR. REXFORD: Yep.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. This council could -- you'd

50 rather not make a proposal, you want it to come from the

0074

1 villages?

2

3 MR. REXFORD: I do not -- we have to hear from the
4 Community of Kaktovik on the harvest plan, and I'd rather feel
5 more comfortable to have the Community of Kaktovik to support
6 or make some languages to fit their needs.

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And just so I understand, do you
9 want somebody from.....

10

11 MR. TAGAROOK: Staff.

12

13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:our office to go to a meeting
14 in Kaktovik, or do you want -- and I have -- the reason I'm
15 expressing this, is do you want somebody from the refuge,.....

16

17 MR. REXFORD: I think we need.....

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:from Arctic Refuge?

20

21 MR. REXFORD:somebody from the Anchorage
22 office.....

23

24 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah.

25

26 MR. REXFORD:to go along with the ANWR.....

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

29

30 MR. REXFORD:Refuge staff.

31

32 MS. MEEHAN: Mr. Chairman, if I could recommend some
33 language that would -- and see if this approach would suit what
34 you're looking for, and what I would recommend considering is a
35 motion by the Council to evaluate the proposal for a mixed sex
36 harvest in Unit 26C, and have that be the motion. And what
37 that would do as, you know, one motion, would start the process
38 to evaluate it. It would give us the latitude to then work
39 with the refuge and the communities to design it so that it
40 would meet community needs.

41

42 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, I think that's the.....

43

44 MS. MEEHAN: That's.....

45

46 MR. REXFORD:extent of my motion there.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

49

50 MS. MEEHAN: Okay. All right. So.....

0075

1 MR. REXFORD: I, you know, to.....

2

3 MS. MEEHAN:if that's the intent of the
4 motion,.....

5

6 MR. REXFORD:and that is the intent.....

7

8 MS. MEEHAN:we could put it that way.

9

10 MR. REXFORD:of the motion, yes.

11

12 MS. DEWHURST: Did you want it to include calves, too,
13 or just bulls and cows?

14

15 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Bulls and cows.

16

17 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, bulls and cows at this time.

18

19 MS. MEEHAN: And then a separate motion to address
20 harvest in 26A, so you keep it as two separate pieces. One is
21 to look at the mixed sex harvest where you have it.

22

23 MR. REXFORD: I don't know. I'm.....

24

25 CHAIRMAN ITTA: She's just talking on 26A or B where
26 it's affected.

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: In 26B, in Kaktovik we want the ability
29 to harvest both male and females, and then on 26A, you're not
30 specific about bull or cows,.....

31

32 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, I'm not specific. Yeah.

33

34 MR. UPICKSOUN:just the ability to harvest.

35

36 MR. REXFORD: I mean, I think it's all inclusive, where
37 it includes 26A and B in that motion.

38

39 MS. MEEHAN: Okay. So you want to look at.....

40

41 MR. REXFORD: I don't know the rationale to separate
42 the motions or not to. To also see, to get a harvest going for
43 26A and B.

44

45 MS. MEEHAN: Okay. So it's to -- the reason that I was
46 separating it is because the regulations right now, there's
47 only a harvest in 26C.

48

49 MR. REXFORD: Okay.

0076

1 MS. MEEHAN: In 26A and B right now there is no federal
2 harvest.

3
4 MR. REXFORD: Okay. I -- Mr. Chairman, I would amend
5 my motion to start a harvest, or evaluate a harvest for 26A and
6 B.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

9
10 MR. REXFORD: That would be good enough?

11
12 MS. DEWHURST: What communities do you want to be
13 allowed?

14
15 MR. REXFORD: Well, they're already stated in there.

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That already have c&t.

18
19 MR. REXFORD: They're already stated in there.

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They've got c&t.

22
23 MS. DEWHURST: Kaktovik doesn't have c&t for A.

24
25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, c&t is not -- Kaktovik does not
26 have c&t for A.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We're still on the motion, and Fenton
29 has amended his motion. We don't have a second to the motion.
30 On either one actually, so you're deferring your original
31 motion and coming up with a second motion, and I think it's
32 pretty clear what Fenton wants, so I would ask for a second on
33 the motion.

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Koonuk had a question.

36
37 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, are we talking two motions now?

38
39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: No, we've canceled, we've taken out --
40 he's withdrawn.....

41
42 MR. KOONUK: So you delete the first motion?

43
44 CHAIRMAN ITTA:first one, and.....

45
46 MR. KOONUK: Okay.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ITTA:amended it to reflect what we're
49 saying here. But we still don't have a second on the motion.

50 Technically.

0077

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, he deferred his first
2 motion, and I second his.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN:his pending motion.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: I declare the first motion died for a
9 lack of a second. But Fenton's amending motion stands with a
10 second from Gordon. So.....

11
12 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair?

13
14 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Ray?

15
16 MR. KOONUK: Could you have Fenton read his motion
17 again, please?

18
19 MR. REXFORD: Okay. All right. The motion is to
20 evaluate a mixed sex harvest in Unit 26C, for the staff to work
21 with the community or the Subsistence Anchorage staff to work
22 with the community along with the ANWR staff personnel, to go
23 to Kaktovik before the deadline of October 24. The motion also
24 includes to set a harvest limit and season, open season for
25 Unit 26A and B for those communities affected in the current
26 regulation. That sort of clears things up.

27
28 MS. MEEHAN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

31
32 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman?

33
34 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Ray?

35
36 MR. KOONUK: A question on Fenton, would you -- would
37 Nuiqsut and, what's the other village, Anaktuvuk?

38
39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Anaktuvuk.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, would they want to consider having
42 some hearings, too, on the staffing, besides Kaktovik?

43
44 MR. REXFORD: Under Nuiqsut, I think we have a separate
45 state proposal. Will we be going to the community there at
46 all, or.....

47
48 MR. CARROLL: Well, we have several times. We'll go
49 again.

0078

1 MR. REXFORD: Well, we can -- I know we've met in
2 Nuiqsut already.....

3
4 MR. CARROLL: Yes.

5
6 MR. REXFORD:for the harvest plan. We needed to
7 go over there, review of the harvest plan for Kaktovik, and
8 that has not happened yet. We did meet with the Community of
9 Nuiqsut, and we heard their concerns. So 26A I think is the
10 area west of Colville, and if there's a proposal that will come
11 up, we'll have them review the evaluation or potential proposal
12 that will come up for the Board. Meeting in Kaktovik was for
13 the purpose of reviewing the harvest plan, for them to comment
14 on it, and might as well work out something for a proposal for
15 -- I mean meet also on a potential proposal for that in
16 Kaktovik. But there were community meetings in Nuiqsut.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Any more.....

19
20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Call for the question on this motion.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Question has been called on the
23 motion. All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye?

24
25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Opposed, same sign?

28
29 (No opposing votes.)

30
31 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Hearing none, I'll give the chair back
32 to you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Edward.

35
36 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, before you relinquish the
37 chair back to -- in regards to Fenton's concern regarding our
38 staff from all agencies that are here to assist us to remain
39 here for the duration of our meetings, it has happened too many
40 times in the past where staff who are assigned to assist us are
41 here for one day and they've got to go. I think Fenton
42 Rexford's concerns are valid when he requested that staff who
43 are assigned to assist the Council remain here for the duration
44 of the meeting. I think he has a very valid concern when he
45 expressed that wish. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

46
47 MR. ITTA: Thank you, Gordon. I give the chair back to
48 you, Fenton.

49

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Edward. Okay.

0079

1 Any other further review of the current regulation of Unit 26?
2 Helen, did.....

3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You just -- Ben isn't here to cover
5 24, but I mean, just -- you might want to just look at 24, see
6 if Anaktuvuk Pass is covered under that, just as we had to look
7 at 23 for Point Hope. I mean, I don't know of any issues,
8 but.....

9
10 MR. KOONUK: Maybe one question.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

13
14 MR. KOONUK:as for.....

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

17
18 MR. KOONUK: The regulations here, you know, we printed
19 out everything here to see that Point Hope follows Unit 26,
20 right? And we're still in the boundaries of 23. You know, is
21 it legal for us to use 26 regulations, or do we have to use 23
22 yet?

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen?

25
26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, I believe that, and we
27 might want to just doublecheck, but I believe that in most --
28 and I'm just checking it right now, but that it says residents
29 of Unit 26, Anaktuvuk Pass, and Point Hope in all cases, so
30 that you are legal to use 26. And I was just making sure that
31 that's the case for -- that you're in there for all of them.

32
33 MR. ITTA: 146, page 146.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you are.

38
39 MR. KOONUK: Uh-hum.

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You're okay. You're legal.

42
43 MR. KOONUK: So it shouldn't be no problem as far as,
44 you know, if we run into the people from Kotzebue or Kivalina,
45 if they ask us what the hell are you doing, you're hunting in
46 Unit 23, you know.

47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think by the same token, Gordon,
49 you might want to look at Unit 23, and make sure that there's

50 nothing -- that you're not using that corner of 23, and Point

0080

1 Lay should be in there, and that may be another place where
2 you'd have some problems.

3

4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, as proceed with the proposal
5 changes or boundary changes, we may -- I've been reminded, or
6 suggested, to work with the region, NANA Region, or Northwest
7 Region on any proposals that.....

8

9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:will come up, rather than
12 catching them by surprise.

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think a copy of the minutes here
17 would help, because we've deferred some proposals in the past
18 that came up from another region that do affect us, so I think
19 it's important to link the communication, or to have close
20 communication as far as our proposal before they come up to the
21 Federal Subsistence Board.

22

23 I'm sorry, I may have sidetracked on -- musk ox for
24 Point Lay, Unit 23, may be affected. As far as Point Hope, I
25 looked at the 23 regulations, Unit 23 for musk ox. I don't see
26 any citations or anything regarding Point Hope residents. We
27 may need to have them consider including Point Hope in their
28 regu- -- I'm not sure or clear of the language on page 129 for
29 Point Hope and Point Lay for harvesting, or potentially
30 harvesting musk ox in Unit 23. I'm not quite clear on the
31 language there.

32

33 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

36

37 MR. UPICKSOUN: Under Unit 26, under species customary
38 and traditional use, they're quite specific with their -- they
39 include Point Hope and all other determinations, says all rural
40 residents, and then you look on the sheep, caribou, brown bear,
41 they're quite specific in including Point Hope under customary
42 and traditional use determination. Ray, you might be able to
43 make that note. You can see that Point Hope has been
44 specifically included under customary and traditional use
45 determination. And all other species says all rural residents.
46 Would that include -- the language the way it is, satisfy your
47 question, and yours regarding Unit 23, the language used in
48 Unit 26?

49

MR. KOONUK: No, you talk about Unit 23, and it says

0081

1 all rural residents. I mean, how far -- you know, we have a
2 boundary line.....

3
4 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

5
6 MR. KOONUK:between 26 and 23, or are we
7 just.....

8
9 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. The language.....

10
11 MR. KOONUK: It's kind of confusing here where, you
12 know,.....

13
14 MR. UPICKSOUN: The language under Unit 26 is not unit
15 specific there. There's specified Point Hope in the customary
16 and traditional use determination. They specify Point Hope
17 without addressing the issue of units.

18
19 MR. KOONUK: Yeah.

20
21 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah. They don't care whether you're
22 in Unit 23 or 26. The language is quite specific when they
23 include Point Hope, like on the sheep, under musk ox, moose,
24 caribou. They're specific in including Point Hope. They don't
25 care whether you're in 23 or 26. Would that satisfy your
26 question?

27
28 MR. KOONUK: Yeah.

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Twenty-six is pretty specific, but
33 when I look at musk ox for Unit 23 for Point Hope,.....

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. That's on one page. That's page
36 what? Is that.....

37
38 (Indiscernible -- simultaneous speech)

39
40 MR. UPICKSOUN:128?

41
42 MR. KOONUK: I mean, all these animals, they have
43 different bag limits and -- between 23 and 26.

44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Rexford, are you referring to page
46 what?

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 129.

49

MR. UPICKSOUN: 129 for musk ox?

0082

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. There may be other species
2 that Ray is referring to, but I think it pretty much covers
3 like you say rural residents are specified in there. Sheep, we
4 were pretty satisfied on the sheep north of the Arctic Circle,
5 but we'll look at the proposal, evaluate it to include Point
6 Hope residents.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Point Hope is included.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I mean Point Lay.

11
12 MS. MEEHAN: Point Lay.

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Point Lay. So we need to
17 review musk ox under page 129 to include Point Lay maybe, or
18 Point Hope? Mainly Point Hope?

19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Point Hope is in there. Point
21 Hope's part of Unit 23, so it is included.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It is.

24
25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Point Hope.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So how many can Point Lay get, or
28 the way we read this?

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But Point Lay is not. And
31 Point.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I mean Point Hope?

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: There's no.....

36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Point Hope, in Unit 23 Point Hope is
38 included in all of the determinations, they say all residents
39 of Units, you know, 21, 23. Wherever they say Unit 23, Point
40 Hope is included. Point Lay is not included since it's part of
41 Unit 26.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So if there are resources that Point
46 Lay takes in Unit 23, we need to address that. So I guess my
47 question to you, Gordon, is what does -- what has Point Lay
48 residents taken or what do they take today in Unit 23 that we
49 would need to add it to the c&t determinations?

0083

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's hard to answer. We never did
2 need permission to hunt in 23 before. Now we have to be -- now
3 we have to have specific language in order to -- you know, it's
4 hard to say, gee, do we need a permit to go hunt with our
5 neighbor?

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You don't need a -- No, you don't
8 need a permit, but we just want to make sure that what you're
9 doing, we make it legal and so.....

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN: If I go hunting with Ray, he say you
12 can't hunt in 23. I say, Ray, I'm going to dump you in the
13 ocean.

14
15 (Laughter)

16
17 MR. KOONUK: One question, Mr. Chairman. Unit 23, you
18 know, we're part of Unit 23 according to this may, right, and
19 Unit 23 board has been making decisions without anybody from
20 Point Hope being in their meetings.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN: You mean the Kotzebue Regional Advisory
23 Council has not.....

24
25 MR. KOONUK: I mean, their board and.....

26
27 MR. UPICKSOUN:conferred with you guys?

28
29 MR. KOONUK:their fishing (ph) subsistence,
30 whatever, board they have, you know, Point Hope has never been
31 into their meetings,.....

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

34
35 MR. KOONUK:and, you know, decisions are being
36 made without our consent,.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I think.....

39
40 MR. KOONUK:of what we need out there. And i
41 think it's time to draw the line here and, you know, work
42 something out with the Northwest area in regards.....

43
44 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

45
46 MR. KOONUK:to all the decisions that are being
47 made over there.

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

0084

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

2

3 MR. UPICKSOUN: The question regarding boundary became
4 an issue as stated very eloquently by our representative from
5 Point Hope. You can see where the boundary issue can become a
6 problem, and like he says, they are not -- the boundary issue
7 is already a problem where the Northwest Regional Advisory
8 Council does not consult with the Village of Point Hope. You
9 can see that it is a problem already and it could get worse
10 unless we -- unless the issue.....

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I think that justifies it,
13 yeah, justifies it more, what Ray just stated, to work and
14 resolve that -- the boundary issue. That will solve the
15 leaving out Point Hope in the decisions made by the Northwest
16 Council. So I think it makes more justification for that to be
17 cleared up, what he just stated.

18

19 So with that, let me just pass on my thoughts here as
20 far as working on that boundary change, or working on the
21 boundary change to resolve that issue. Point Hope is
22 comfortable with being able to get musk ox in 23. Do we need
23 to act on.....

24

25 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, I would have to talk with the
26 people.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

29

30 MR. KOONUK: I would have to talk with the government,
31 the tribal governments, city governments, and local people and
32 see.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

35

36 MR. KOONUK: As far as what Unit 23 have, which are in
37 black and white, I can't say if there are any other issues.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Mrs. Armstrong?

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just a reminder that if you go back
42 to Point Hope and you have them look at the regulations for
43 Unit 23, that you can -- they can make a proposal at any time
44 before October 24th, and we'll certainly address it. And it
45 wouldn't have to go before the Council. Any group or any
46 individual can do that. So.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. Any other further
49 review of the regulations before us? If not, we'll move on to

50 the other agenda items. Thank you, Helen. Did we -- are we

0085

1 done?

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I believe so, although I was
4 under the impression that Gordon might want to add Point Lay to
5 some of the Unit 23 ones, and maybe -- Gordon, you were out of
6 the room just a minute ago. Ray is going to go back to the
7 people in Point Hope and see if they have any changes they want
8 to make in Unit 23, and maybe by the same token, you might want
9 to go back to people in Point Lay and say, do we want to add
10 Point Lay to any of Unit 23's regulations. So we could do it
11 that way, and see which ones have the highest priority for this
12 year, and, you know, do those this year. Whatever.

13

14 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's -- you know, I discussed this
15 earlier here regarding which side of Cape Lisburne we are. So
16 in line with getting information regarding what we discussed
17 earlier, I can ask that question according to what Ray .

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just had something that would be
20 of interest I think to the Council, too.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Last year the Seward Peninsula had
25 made a proposal to the Board asking for family members to be
26 allowed to hunt with people in Unit 2- -- it was Unit 22A to
27 hunt for moose. And the Board vetoed it because the
28 regulations didn't allow it. But they did say -- make a
29 promise that they would look into it. So there will be a
30 proposal coming forward that you'll be reviewing. It will be a
31 statewide proposal that -- and I don't know the specifics of
32 the language, but it will be dealing with this issue that you
33 were just talking about, that even if you went to visit someone
34 in -- a relative in Noatak, you could go hunting with them even
35 though you don't have c&t for that area. That's the general
36 gist of what this regulation would be. And so this issue will
37 come up again at the next meeting, and I'm sure you'll have a
38 lot of time to have good debate over that one.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

41

42 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

45

46 MR. UPICKSOUN: With regards to what they're trying to
47 ask, that's already happening between Point Hope and Point Lay,
48 where Point Hope crews come and hunt with us at Point Lay, and
49 they wait for us to take them out to the hunt. That's when

50 we're hunting beluga. That's why I'm a little hesitant about

0086

1 putting this into language when it is in fact happening
2 already. Do we need permission, see? That's like asking for
3 permission to do something that we've traditionally done. We
4 have crews coming from Point Hope that come and hunt with us,
5 and they wait for us to take them out to go hunting, because
6 they don't want to hunt in our area without us escorting them.
7 They come and wait specifically for us to take them out to a
8 hunt in our area. An honor system that exists. And it's hard
9 to put something that's customary and traditional into language
10 and maybe possibly restrict it.

11
12 MR. KOONUK: It's the same way with whaling. Point Lay
13 people come down, and we hunt with them.

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: And then I come in from Point Hope -- I
16 mean, from Point Lay, and I go whaling here, see. Now, when
17 you starting doing that, when you ask -- when you start
18 putting that into language, then you're possibly restricting
19 what's already customary and traditional by being species
20 specific.

21
22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, this would be a broad -- it
23 wouldn't be species specific, although.....

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: How do you do a broad cust- -- there is
26 no such thing as a broad customary and traditional
27 determination that covers all species.

28
29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I think it will read something
30 -- I mean, we haven't decided it yet, and there's a committee
31 looking at it, but -- and you'll have an opportunity.....

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN: It will be interesting to watch what
34 happens,.....

35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right. Right.

37
38 MR. UPICKSOUN:how that issue is addressed.

39
40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And you'll have an opportunity to
41 address it and.....

42
43 MR. UPICKSOUN: I brought out -- I bring out two points
44 where, like me, I come in by snow machine and I go whaling in
45 Barrow.

46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: And Barrow -- Point Hoppers come by boat

50 to Point Lay and go hunting, go beluga hunting. Different

0087

1 things happening for different species between different towns.

2
3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Good point, Mr. Upicksoun.
8 Thank you.

9
10 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman? I'd like to make a
11 comment. Looking at the map, we have residents from Wainwright
12 hunting in the Poco (ph) Mountain area. That's a distance of
13 about 22 miles? And then sometimes they go maybe passed the
14 boundary line.

15
16 MR. UPICKSOUN: Terry's gone hunting many times past
17 Point Lay, coming from Wainwright, go past Point Lay and hunt
18 between Point Lay and Point Hope.

19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Perhaps you need to also then look
21 at those Unit 23 regulations and see if Wainwright should be
22 added to any of those, too.

23
24 MR. TAGAROOK: Because you never know, sometimes we go
25 past the boundary. Poco Mountain is just right there, and it's
26 close to the boundary.

27
28 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair?

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The same thing with Anaktuvuk Pass
31 going to.....

32
33 MR. KOONUK: Noatak.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:Noatak and Kobuk region. It's
36 gone on for aeons.

37
38 MR. TAGAROOK: And they make it all the way to Noatak
39 one time.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: How about.....

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other discussion on the
44 regulations? We'll wait for the proposal from the Seward
45 Peninsula area and review that. I think it is obvious that the
46 residents of Anaktuvuk Pass also go further west into NANA,
47 Unit 23, from 24, 26. So it is quite common today.

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: We've got to be careful so we don't put

50 restrictive language when we start talking about when we start

0088

1 becoming unit specific or not. We may be in fact inserting
2 restrictive language.

3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-hum.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Because -- this ought to be interesting
7 to see how the Board, the council, the Seward Peninsula Council
8 and the staff address that, and how they put that into
9 language, how the language addresses that problem.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. Any other
12 discussion on topic eight or number eight as far as the
13 regulations? If not, I'd like to move on, unless you want to
14 have another few minute break? Or do you want to go forth?

15
16 MR. UPICKSOUN: Five-minute break.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Five minutes? Okay.

19
20 MR. ITTA: Good.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN: Five-minute break.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And then we'll go onto under old
25 business, Geoff?

26
27 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You'll be up next.

30
31 (Off record - 11:15 a.m.)

32
33 (On record - 11:25 a.m.)

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I will call the meeting back to
36 order from a brief recess. I want to thank Helen and staff to
37 let us go through the proposals, or the current regulations,
38 and see what need to be changed.

39
40 So we'll move on to item nine under old business,
41 reports. Right now we have the Alaska Department of Fish &
42 Game, Geoff Carroll will be covering that for us. We'll be
43 talking about the harvest plan, and also some proposals that
44 will go before the Board of Game next month. Geoff, the floor
45 is yours.

46
47 MR. CARROLL: I guess we're talking into that one?

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

0089

1 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Thanks, Fenton. I passed around a
2 copy of the proposals that will be going to the Board of Game
3 in relation to Game Management Unit 26, and that's this one. I
4 also passed around -- this is a proposal packet. This is --
5 these ones just relate to musk ox, and this one is everything,
6 including musk oxen, but I just ran these other ones off,
7 because I hadn't received these yesterday, and I thought I was
8 going to talk yesterday.

9
10 I also have copies, I have five copies of the harvest
11 plan here, but we've been through that so many times, I think
12 we all have it memorized. If any of you want another copy, I
13 can.....

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any one of the council members want
16 a.....

17
18 MR. CARROLL:pass those around.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:copy of the harvest plan? Ray,
21 do you need a -- we don't have it here. He's got some.

22
23 MR. CARROLL: Want another copy of that? Have you got
24 a copy?

25
26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No.

27
28 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Do you have an extra one? Maybe
31 Edward and I can share.

32
33 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I've got one (Indiscernible --
34 simultaneous speech). Okay. I've got more copies of proposals
35 if anybody wants those. I think everybody's got one. Should
36 we wait for Edward, or is he.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, he'll.....

39
40 MR. CARROLL: Go ahead? Okay. Well, I think that most
41 of us that, you know, live and work on the North Slope have
42 pretty much come to an agreement of what we want in a musk ox
43 harvest plan. We've been through this several times and have
44 come to several compromises and worked out a plan we can all
45 agree with I think. This organization, the North Slope Borough
46 Fish & Game Management Committee, the North Slope villages, the
47 Wildlife Department, and representatives from the federal and
48 state agencies have all approved of the current version of the
49 plan, so that's where we are with that.

0090

1 The major criticism at least from, well, people within
2 the Alaska Department of Fish & Game is that we had very little
3 involvement from people that might be interested in this from,
4 you know, off the North Slope, from other organizations that
5 might be interested, so Fenton and I wrote up a cover letter
6 kind of explaining the history of this planning process, and we
7 sent the plan out for review to -- well, all of the state
8 advisory committees, to just about all the hunting groups, just
9 about all the conservation organizations, to the individual
10 Board of Game members. I don't know, I think we stopped a
11 little bit short of sending one to every family in the state,
12 but we did circulate it to a lot of organizations for review.
13 And we asked them to review the plan and get comments back by
14 September 30th. Then our harvest plan working group will need
15 to communicate with each other, kind of look over what comments
16 we've gotten back in, and -- anyway. In the cover letter we
17 said we would consider those comments, so we'll consider them,
18 and I don't think we can, you know, at this point, after
19 everybody has already approved of the plan, we can't rewrite
20 the plan, but maybe we add the comments on to the end of it in
21 some kind of a form to accompany the plan when it goes to the
22 Board of Game.

23
24 Okay. So then the plan will be submitted to the Board
25 of Game along with these proposals that we'll be discussing in
26 a minute, and to change the musk ox hunting regulations on the
27 North Slope. We presented -- anyway, so that's where the plan
28 is at this point. It will go to the Board and the Board will
29 consider it.

30
31 There were kind of two approaches we could have taken
32 on this. We could have sent the plan around to -- for all the
33 signatories to sign and then submitted it to the Board, but I
34 was recommend -- the recommendation I was given, that it would
35 be better to send a -- to take it to the Board as a draft copy,
36 and then it's not like they have to either approve or
37 disapprove of it as if it was written in stone. They could
38 approve of it with, you know, with modifications or something
39 like that. So it isn't -- doesn't become a stopping -- you
40 know, something that's going to stop us right there or
41 something, that we'll still be able to work with.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do you have a date when that goes to
44 the Board of Game, when they'll be reviewing it?

45
46 MR. CARROLL: Well, the Board of Game members have it
47 right now to review, and then when we get the comments sometime
48 between September 30th and the Board meeting, hopefully
49 probably a week -- the first week in September (sic) we'll get

50 a copy to the Board of Game for them to review.

0091

1 So that's kind of been our strategy with that harvest
2 plan. I haven't been flooded with comments or anything. In
3 fact, I haven't received any yet, so hopefully we won't get --
4 have a whole lot of interest. I mean, it was sent to a lot of
5 organizations that probably don't have very much interest in
6 it, but then others like the Alaska Outdoor Council or someone
7 might have a fair amount of interest in it, so we'll see what
8 we hear from those guys.

9
10 Now, the proposals we have -- our working group from
11 the musk ox harvest planning group got together, and we've
12 worked -- spent a working day discussing what we wanted to go
13 into the proposals for these regulations, and then those were
14 written up and they've been submitted to the Board of Game, and
15 that's what we'll be discussing here. People will be able to
16 submit written comments on these proposals, or they can make
17 public comments at the Board of Game meeting. The Board of
18 Game meeting will be October 24 through 30th in Nome. And then
19 the Board of Game will act on those proposals.

20
21 This is, you know, all kind of state business. I
22 wasn't quite sure how much you wanted to go into this, but I
23 thought it might be a good idea for you guys to be aware of
24 what is happening through the State system, and what's involved
25 in our proposals, because, you know, I've kind of, you know,
26 taken care of the state side of things I think and you guys are
27 going to have to work it through the federal system, so it
28 would be good for you to know what's -- you know, what we've
29 done, and then decide what needs to be done on the federal
30 side.

31
32 So do you want to kind of work through these proposals,
33 or do we have any questions so far about anything?

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

38
39 MR. UPICKSOUN: Do you know of any other harvest plan
40 that these stakeholders have ever come up with? The
41 stakeholders I'm referring to the people involved in developing
42 the musk ox harvest plan. Do you know of any other harvest
43 plan that these stakeholders have developed, this plan have
44 ever came up? Has anyone ever came up with a harvest plan
45 before that involved these stakeholders?

46
47 MR. CARROLL: You mean the stakeholder in our planning
48 group?

49

MR. UPICKSOUN: You refer to stakeholders several

0092

1 times, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, U.S. Fish &
2 Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park
3 Service, North Slope Borough. They're referred to as
4 stakeholders several times, referring to those?

5
6 MR. CARROLL: Well, there have been other planning
7 efforts around the state, you know. I mean, there's a lot of
8 -- for instance, there's a Seward Peninsula Musk Ox Management
9 Plan, and all the, you know, various stakeholders were involved
10 in coming up with that plan.

11
12 MR. UPICKSOUN: A harvest plan?

13
14 MR. CARROLL: Well, no. No, a harvest -- I don't think
15 anyone has ever titled theirs a harvest plan before. In fact,
16 that's drawn some comment why we didn't make a management plan
17 rather than a harvest plan, and, you know, the.....

18
19 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. So this plan is unique in that
20 respect?

21
22 MR. CARROLL: Yes, it is.

23
24 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

25
26 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, we're breaking some new ground here
27 in a few areas. And, you know, we're really asking the Board
28 of Game to, you know, make a major shift in state policy as far
29 as musk ox management, so that's going to be a pretty big deal
30 for them when they consider this, so.....

31
32 MR. UPICKSOUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward, do you have a suggestion?

35
36 MR. ITTA: Yeah. Firstly, I'm just glad to -- I know
37 you put a lot of work into this. It's been a long time.
38 Appreciate the time you've put into it, as well as the staff.
39 Knowing that we're going to submit this to the Board of Game
40 and see what their reaction was. And again like you said,
41 there were -- their management philosophy was maximum
42 population. In essence, our proposal is to do a reasonable,
43 practical harvest, and more or less maintain current levels.

44
45 MR. CARROLL: Right.

46
47 MR. ITTA: Having said that, what are your feelings
48 when -- if this goes before the Board on how they might react
49 to this? What do you see? 'Cause I.....

0093

1 MR. CARROLL: Well, one thing we've got going for us is
2 it's probably the best board we've had in the last ten years as
3 far as being open minded in, you know, considering things like
4 this. The timing's right, you know. We've got the right
5 Governor in there, and who's appointed people on the Board
6 that, you know, open minded towards rural issue.

7
8 I think, you know, the bottom line, you know, what
9 we're going for is to increase the harvest in 26B up, you know,
10 kind of coinciding with a growing population there. And that's
11 a perfectly reasonable request. You know, I don't -- I'll be
12 surprised if they don't go along with it.

13
14 Kind of the unknown is what sort of a, you know, permit
15 system they will recommend. And, you know, if it's determined
16 that there is -- you know, if there's not a harvestable surplus
17 beyond what the subsistence hunters need, then basically they
18 have to recommend a Tier II subsistence hunt system. If
19 somehow it's interpreted that there is a harvestable surplus
20 beyond what the subsistence hunters need, there is a
21 possibility that there could be a drawing hunt for a few
22 animals, and then a registration hunt, which would mean we
23 would issue the permits and, you know, whoever shows up to get
24 the permit gets one, but we would issue them in probably
25 Nuiqsut, you know, so Nuiqsut people would be right there to
26 get the permit, so -- I mean, it's hard for me to imagine that
27 with, you know, that size of a population that it won't just be
28 a Tier II hunt, but there is a possibility that it could be a
29 little different.

30
31 And I'm really not sure which one I would prefer, you
32 know. The Tier II hunt is -- at this time in history, the
33 State system is very awkward and difficult to work through as
34 far as rural issues, because we cannot give local preference,
35 and even though it's a Tier II hunt, you cannot give local
36 preference. You can give preference over who's hunted for that
37 species in that area the longest, you know, so that, you know,
38 if you answer the questions right, you can work it so that
39 local people do get most of the permits, but it requires
40 everybody filling out a permit and usually it requires me going
41 around and, you know, helping people out, because it's a
42 complicated permit system. Whereas, if we were going with a
43 registration hunt, we could just work something out like, you
44 know, 15 permits are going to be issued in Nuiqsut, and kind of
45 leave it, you know, to the Community of Nuiqsut to figure out,
46 you know, they could have a drawing on their own or whatever,
47 and, you know, whatever 15 people were selected to get the
48 permits could show up to pick them up, and that would be much
49 simpler, but, you know, it's kind of a matter -- it's kind of a

50 legal matter, you know, what -- how they determine whether it's

0094

1 going to be a Tier II subsistence hunt or a registration and
2 drawing permit hunt.

3
4 On the other one, and I'd kind of like to talk about it
5 when Gordon gets back so -- anyway, the 26A one was fairly
6 complicated, because, you know, in order to legally have a
7 hunt, you need to have a harvestable surplus within that area
8 of musk ox, and we really don't have a harvestable surplus of
9 musk ox in 26A that you can point at, you know, there's no
10 established breeding population. That (indiscernible,
11 coughing) breeding population is down in Game Management Unit
12 23, and we get disbursing musk oxen, so we had to be a little
13 more creative to come up with a way to -- for Point Lay to be
14 able to harvest musk oxen in that proposal.

15
16 And kind of what we came up with was a result of
17 another situation that Fenton was involved with this summer.
18 We had a group of musk oxen stuck on Ari (ph) Island right next
19 to Barter Island, and they were kind of standing there slowly
20 starving to death, and we needed to do something about it. And
21 so Fenton wrote letters to the Commissioner of the Alaska
22 Department of Fish & Game, and we contacted the Board of Game
23 as to what we could do about it. At that time the only way
24 that they could authorize a hunt was for the Board of Game to
25 authorize that. So they had an emergency meeting to discuss
26 that. And if you turn to the last page in your packet,
27 Proposal #22, that concerns that. And that says that at
28 emergency teleconference the Board of Game passed an emergency
29 regulation authorizing the Commissioner to issue permits for
30 taking stranded musk oxen. The Board intends to make this
31 regulation permanent, and reprinting the regulation here for
32 public comment and action at its fall 1997 meeting in Nome. So
33 as a result of that meeting, they did authorize emergency
34 taking of musk oxen, and now the Commissioner can authorize
35 that.

36
37 There are a few stipulations. One is that -- well,
38 okay. The Commissioner may issue permits for the taking of
39 musk oxen which are stranded on sea ice or islands if the
40 Department determines that the musk oxen have inadequate food
41 and water resources for survival, or that they are doing severe
42 damage to other resources of the islands, and that all
43 reasonable effort has been made to remove them from the island
44 or sea ice, and that there won't be a tag fee, and that the
45 meat of the musk oxen must be salvaged.

46
47 Now, in the Ari Island incident, while we were working
48 on the -- making sure that all reasonable effort was -- had
49 been made to remove them from the island, and Fenton and I were

50 working on that, and they actually left the island, so we

0095

1 didn't, you know, go to the next stage, which was to harvest
2 them if they wouldn't leave, so the musk oxen kind of solved
3 that problem for us by leaving, but it did establish a
4 precedent where the Commissioner can now issue permits for the
5 taking of stranded musk oxen, so the approach now, and for the
6 Point Lay area.....

7
8 I also want to say that the reason we're only dealing
9 with Point Lay in the state regulations is you can see on the
10 maps Point Lay is about the only North Slope Village in 26A
11 that's surrounded by stand land, so we figured we needed to
12 address that with state regulations, and that the other
13 villages would actually be better served, you know, working
14 through the federal process, simply because there's not state
15 land around there to -- you know, we don't have the authority
16 to do that.

17
18 So anyway that the approach -- well, as we -- authorize
19 the taking of incidental musk oxen which disburse into western
20 Unit 26A and occur near the Village of Point Lay as follows:
21 The Commissioner may issue permits for incidental taking of
22 musk oxen in that portion of 26A west of the National Petroleum
23 Reserve, and there won't be a tag fee, and the meat of the musk
24 oxen must be salvaged. So there is probably some good aspects
25 with this, and some not so good ones, but one is that it gives
26 us a lot of flexibility, so if musk oxen show up in the Point
27 Lay area and you guys feel that they're affecting the caribou
28 hunting, we can just request the Commissioner authorize that
29 you harvest them and you can go harvest them. And, you know,
30 we don't have -- it's not a specific person that gets a permit,
31 you know, it's more of a, you know, more of a community type
32 thing.

33
34 You know, a bad point is, you know, it is kind of at
35 the whim of the Commissioner, and hopefully the commissioners
36 will, you know, be open minded enough to do that. I'm sure the
37 commissioner we have now will be, but you never know about the
38 future, so anyway, we're kind of working the legal angles and
39 doing the best we can on this, and I think there's some real
40 advantages to the way this proposal was written. In fact, we
41 couldn't really do it any other way. We couldn't just set up a
42 hunt, because as I say, there isn't, you know, a harvestable
43 surplus in 26A, so, anyway, this is the approach that we took
44 in trying to satisfy our need there.

45
46 MR. UPICKSOUN: We were following what you and Geoff
47 were doing. I was wondering if Geoff had invested in wet suits
48 yet?

49

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: He has. I know he has, but due to

0096

1 the excitement and stuff, he forgot his wet suit.

2

3 MR. ITTA: Forgot to put it on, and lost his jacket
4 and.....

5

6 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, well, I'm permanently numb from the
7 waist down, so I don't need one any more.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So he has a permanent wet suit or
10 dress suit on him. Impenetrable.

11

12 MR. CARROLL: So as I say, this is -- you know, we're
13 kind of breaking some new ground with the Board of Game here,
14 and, you know, we're going to give our best argument there, and
15 see what -- see if they can go along with this. You know, it
16 seems reasonable to me, and it's -- we'll see how this works
17 out. I don't know, our -- you know, you can read through this,
18 and we explain the issue, how we've been working on this, you
19 know, in a cooperative effort for quite a while, and each side
20 has made compromises and, you know, we've come up with a
21 management plan that we think is reasonable. You know, kind of
22 the question's, you know, who's likely to benefit, and, yeah,
23 we state in there, the people of the North Slope and local,
24 state and agency staff, the cooperative spirit of the North
25 Slope Musk Ox Plan will be met. It will help us to work
26 together to resolve problems concerning musk ox in the future,
27 so, you know, in relation to 26A, you know, I think we have --
28 you know, we've addressed the Point Lay area, and, you know, my
29 next recommendation is for you to work with your staff people
30 to, you know, come up with something for the other villages,
31 and you've already kind of discussed that, so.....

32

33 I don't know, do you want to talk about this proposal
34 any more? Or we can go back to the 26B.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any questions on the two?

37

38 MR. CARROLL: You haven't had much chance to read
39 through this, so.....

40

41 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the
42 question of three percent, five, 10 to 15 percent would become
43 an issue?

44

45 MR. CARROLL: Well, we do deal with that in the other
46 proposal, we can talk about that. In 26A it isn't, because
47 we're just hunting these disbursing musk oxen. You know, when
48 they start setting how many musk oxen are going to be harvested
49 in, you know, the Cape Thompson population in 23, then, you

50 know, they'll have to decide what percentage they're going to

0097

1 harvest that population at, and we did address that for the 26B
2 population, so we can talk about that.

3
4 MR. UPICKSOUN: You know, we've discussed this musk ox
5 situation many times, and then especially the size of the musk
6 ox population in Anaktuvuk area -- I mean, Kaktovik, where it's
7 stabilized now. I thought we used language at one time that
8 it's stabilized, because it can only grow to that level. Now,
9 if we were to make that population just below the size that
10 they're stabilized at, that means that they -- it can still
11 grow, and we can -- as far as we talked about increasing the
12 size of the take in Kaktovik area. It's stabilized at 300
13 something, then at that -- for some of the area, that must mean
14 they can only grow to that size. What's wrong with stabilizing
15 at 250 instead of 300 and something? Increase your take. They
16 discussed it in the aspects of this for so long. I'm glad you
17 guys have finally -- I like the stakeholders involved, and your
18 chances before the Board, Geoff.

19
20 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, we've got a lot of.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We have a question from Ray?

23
24 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, as far as around Point Hope area,
25 within that Unit 23, would we have to go through Northwest
26 Arctic Subsistence Board as regards to what we could catch? I
27 mean, you'd have 26, we're going to have, you know, a limit
28 here for 26A with 23, Unit 23 is another issue, and another
29 board to deal with, and how is this going to work out, you
30 know, as far as settling how many musk ox, because, you know,
31 the musk ox travel, you know, from Point Hope, Kivalina area.

32
33 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

34
35 MR. KOONUK: You know, and the Noatak area.

36
37 MR. CARROLL: Well, I know that they began discussions
38 to try to make proposals for Game Management Unit 23 this year
39 for a musk ox harvest, and I spoke to Jim Dau, the area
40 biologist at Kotzebue, and he travelled to Point Hope and there
41 was a public meeting on what the Point Hope people would like
42 to see in musk ox regulations, and after he explained kind of
43 how the state system works, and that there is a possibility
44 that if there is a harvest that some permits could go to people
45 that aren't from that area, people from Point Hope decided that
46 it really wasn't worth the risk of having outsiders come in,
47 you know, in order for them to be able to harvest six musk oxen
48 or whatever the number they came up with. So the -- what
49 they're doing this time is there aren't any proposals in the

50 state system for a musk ox harvest in 23. They are going to

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1 see if they can get a c&t determination for 23, and once they
2 know that if they get a positive customary and traditional
3 finding, then they'll know what they're working with. They'll
4 know if they go through and have a hunt, will it just be a
5 subsistence hunt, or is it going to be something that's open to
6 anybody in the state to get permits. So they decided down
7 there, I wasn't very much a part of those meetings, to wait and
8 then see what develops there, and, I don't know, it just seems
9 to me like it would be a good opportunity to start a musk ox
10 management planning process down there, and you guys discuss
11 things and decide what you really want as far as musk ox
12 regulations, and have that, you know, ready for the next board
13 meeting.

14
15 MR. KOONUK: Well, they, you know, allowed themselves
16 so much, I mean, with the herd of musk ox that, you know, sits
17 between Point Hope and Kotzebue area, and they allowed
18 themselves so much, and then we allowed ourself here 26A, then
19 your population will go down a little faster than, you
20 know,.....

21
22 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, yeah, it's all got to be
23 taken into account, that's for sure.

24
25 MR. KOONUK: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

26
27 MR. CARROLL: I think we can talk about this 26B
28 proposal.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

31
32 MR. CARROLL: Okay. The way the proposal ended up
33 being written is, you know, the proposal itself is very
34 general. The only thing the proposal really says is to amend
35 musk ox hunting regulations in 26B and C to increase the
36 harvest quota from 15 bulls to 40 musk oxen, and establish
37 appropriate permit requirements and season dates. And the
38 specific regulatory language will depend on the type and number
39 of permits, and the season dates that the Board determines to
40 be appropriate. And then basically underneath that we make all
41 the recommendations that our planning group decided on, you
42 know, what we would want to see go into a regulation. And
43 basically that would be -- well, first of all, you know, the
44 changes -- well, the reason that it's so general is that the
45 law that we're changing in the administrative codes that, you
46 know, the official -- there's like official law, state law
47 books, and then there's a regulation book, which is supposed to
48 make the codified regulations more simple so that people can
49 understand, but people can still never understand them, but --

50 so it doesn't quite work, but anyway, when we're writing a

0099

1 regulation, we have to address that codified regulation.

2

3 And all the codified regulation said was that up to 15
4 bull musk oxen could be harvested in 26B and C, and beyond
5 that, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game decides just how the
6 Tier II subsistence hunt is set up, you know, the seasons, and
7 the number of animals that are harvested in the west side of
8 26B and the east side. So in the proposal all we did was
9 change that from 15 bulls to 40 musk oxen, but by saying 40
10 musk oxen, that means a mixed sex harvest, so that's a pretty
11 major change right there.

12

13 And then again we kind of go through the history of the
14 planning process and the stakeholders, and then kind of in our
15 explanation for what we -- why we're changing this regulation
16 is that it's the most rapidly growing segment of the North
17 Slope musk ox population is in 26B. The number counted
18 increased from approximately 122 in 1990 to approximately 330
19 in 1995. The harvest from this portion of the population has
20 been limited from two to five bulls by Tier II permit in the
21 past several years. And then it says management goal 1(b) in
22 the North Slope Management Harvest Plan recommends that the
23 harvest in 26B increase in response to the growing population.
24 It says the working group proposes that the total harvest
25 initially be set at five percent of the spring pre-calving
26 population. Based on the 1995 count of 330 animals, the quota
27 would initially be set at 16 animals. And then it says,
28 because Nuiqsut hunters believe that musk oxen in 26B west of
29 the pipeline are displacing caribou in their hunting area, this
30 segment of the population will be harvested at a higher
31 percentage than the segment in eastern 26B. And so the plan is
32 -- what the Department intends to do if this regulation passes
33 is to plan to take nine animals in the -- during the 1997/98
34 season in the western area and then seven in the eastern
35 segment. And then population surveys will be conducted each
36 year to determine population trends. If the population is
37 increasing or decreasing, the level of harvest can be adjusted
38 to maintain a stable population.

39

40 So in addition to that, we -- well, I'll just go on.
41 Current state regulations authorize taking of up to 15 bulls by
42 Tier II permit in Units 26B and C. and then we state that the
43 State has not issued any permits in 26C in recent years because
44 the Federal Subsistence Board closed federal lands in the unit
45 to nonlocal resident hunting for musk ox and established a
46 federal hunt for 15 bulls. All federal permits are issued in
47 Kaktovik.

48

49 The proposal would amend the bag limit to allow taking

50 cow musk oxen. This change is necessary to limit population

0100

1 growth without skewing the sex ratio. We didn't want to, you
2 know, just take 15 bulls out of it every year, because that's
3 -- pretty soon you're going to have very few bulls and lots of
4 cows. And in addition, females are a preferred subsistence
5 animal. So we are trying to make it a mixed sex harvest.

6
7 The way we wanted to -- let's see. The way we wanted
8 to set up the sex ratio is one-third of the animals would be
9 females, so it would be nine -- or six males and three females
10 in the west side, and -- oh, what is it, five and two in the
11 east side.

12
13 The reason that we -- you'll notice we asked them to
14 approve a maximum quota of 40 animals, even though we're only
15 asking for a take of 16 musk oxen in 26B. That's because
16 there's already 15 being taken in 26C, and it will also give us
17 flexibility in the future, so that if we do a survey next year
18 and see that the population is increasing at this rate, we can
19 increase the number of musk oxen that are harvested without
20 going through a formal Board of Game process. So that large
21 number basically just gives us the flexibility to work with
22 things without going through the Board.

23
24 We're also asking -- regarding season dates, many North
25 Slope hunters are involved in whale hunting, butchering and
26 preserving meat and muktuk during September and October, and
27 would like more time to hunt musk oxen, so we asked to add the
28 month of February as well as the month of March. It will be
29 September 15th through November 15th, and then February through
30 March. So that will add an extra month in the spring for
31 people to hunt.

32
33 So that's how that proposal is set up. We're -- and we
34 intend to, you know, set the level at -- the only change we're
35 really planning on making is in 26B, and that will be
36 harvesting 16 musk oxen, one-third of those will be female.
37 And -- but we're asking for them to authorize a larger harvest
38 so that we'll have flexibility and can increase that harvest in
39 future years as the population is still increasing.

40
41 Down here under other solutions considered, Gordon,
42 this kind of relates to your what percentage of the population
43 to harvest, we considered harvesting both a higher and lower
44 percentage of the population. A five percent harvest rate was
45 recommended, because it's greater than the three percent
46 harvest rate recommended in the Seward Peninsula Musk Ox Plan
47 to allow for population growth, and is less than the ten to 15
48 percent harvest rate required to stabilize musk ox populations
49 on Nelson and Nunivak Islands. We don't really have enough

50 data on that population to determine productivity accurately,

0101

1 so we stated here that we decided to proceed conservatively to
2 avoid overharvest. If the population continues to increase the
3 number of permits will be increased, so that's how we settled
4 on that particular percentage in this proposal.

5
6 So as far as the plan is concerned -- well, I don't
7 know, any questions on the proposals? I know it's kind of, I
8 don't know, a mouthful, but.....

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: I wish our representative from Nuiqsut
11 was here.

12
13 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that would be helpful. But when we
14 went to Nuiqsut and met with them earlier and presented the
15 musk ox harvest plan to them, you know, they had met before
16 that, and had requested to be able to harvest ten musk oxen,
17 and so our proposal to harvest 15 is a little above what they
18 were asking for, so I think they're satisfied with this.

19
20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Yokel and I have attended meetings
21 in Nuiqsut where they discussed musk ox in different terms.

22
23 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. I've been to a few of those, too.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It's 12:00 o'clock at this
26 time. I just want to remind Geoff if maybe this would be a
27 good place to take a break and continue after lunch, unless
28 there's any questions right now on the proposals, and what we
29 need to do next as far as the Council.

30
31 MR. ITTA: A good idea. I could use a lunch break.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So, Geoff, if we could continue.
34 What is the wish of the committee or council here, to come --
35 reconvene at 1:00 or 1:30? 1:15 or 1:30?

36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN: 1:15.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 1:15? Okay.

40
41 MR. UPICKSOUN: We start getting sleepy at 1:30. If we
42 have to come back at 1:15, we'll be all right.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. We'll try and
45 start up again at 1:15. Take a lunch break.

46
47 (Off record - 12:05 p.m.)

48
49 (On record - 1:35 p.m.)

0102

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I would like to call the meeting
2 back to order. It's 1:30, after lunch break.

3
4 Geoff went over the proposals that will go before the
5 Board of Game in October, and also summarized the harvest plan,
6 how we got to the harvest plan and where it's going. So with
7 that I'll turn the floor back over to Geoff to go over anything
8 else regarding this musk oxen harvest plan and the proposals.

9
10 MR. CARROLL: I guess I don't I have much else to say.
11 I just thought if there were any questions we could talk about
12 that.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any questions from the
15 Council? Or comments? Edward?

16
17 MR. ITTA: I just had a question, Geoff. On the --
18 this is going to be presented at the Nome meeting, correct?

19
20 MR. CARROLL: Yes.

21
22 MR. ITTA: And who's going to be presenting the
23 proposal?

24
25 MR. CARROLL: Well, I guess I'll be presenting it to
26 the Board. Hopefully we'll have other people there to testify.

27
28 MR. ITTA: Uh-hum. Well, that makes sense. I mean,
29 you're the one that's been it right from the beginning. Good.

30
31 MR. CARROLL: You know, they'll have a time for public
32 comment on the weekend beginning the 24th, and so hopefully
33 we'll have some other people from the Wildlife Department, or
34 maybe Fenton or somebody there to, you know, say a few words in
35 favor of it.

36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN: When did -- excuse me. When did you
38 say the comment periods will be on this?

39
40 MR. CARROLL: Well, it's open for written comments now.
41 The public comments will be that -- Friday is -- the 24th is a
42 Friday, and I think public comments will be through that
43 weekend Elizabeth might know more about that, but I'm pretty
44 sure that's what it'll be.

45
46 MS. BUCKNELL: What's that? The comment deadline for
47 Board of Game proposals?

48
49 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

0103

1 MS. BUCKNELL: For written comments, it's actually
2 October 10th, and that's to get them written in and appended
3 into the record that everyone will have in front of them. Any
4 comments after October 10th will still be printed up and
5 distributed. They just won't go out ahead of time with the
6 whole packets for people to do their homework on ahead of time.
7 But October 10th I guess is the deadline I understand.

8
9 MR. CARROLL: Okay. All right.

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN: We wish Geoff all the luck. He's done
12 a lot of work over the course of what, several years that.....

13
14 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, I was hoping to get
15 something reasonable out of it.

16
17 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum. We've argued about it, and
18 cussed at musk ox and we put it down on paper, and that makes
19 sense out of all what we've been arguing about all this time.

20
21 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, I appreciate everybody's
22 input on this.

23
24 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

25
26 MR. CARROLL: We've all worked hard on it.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. For the record, too, it's --
29 although it's written in the introduction, the various agencies
30 and departments and that were involved with -- the North Slope
31 Borough Fish & Game Committee was involved in this, the
32 Wildlife Department. We've approved this. There's been I
33 think most or all of the villages on the North Slope approve of
34 the plan, and that's where we are to date, so all of the
35 community members. We still have to have a meeting in Kaktovik
36 after this has been done. We'll try and setup something again
37 before the deadline, or before we get going on that.

38
39 The question I have for you, Geoff, is the 16 that is
40 proposed out of a count of 330 animals. Is that 330 in 26B?

41
42 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And that's five percent is 16, so
45 how -- is there not a table, but some sort of graph or
46 something to split the count, you know, male/female ratio that
47 will be pretty safe you think as Ms. Dewhurst was talking about
48 from 15 to nine. We'd like to continue -- 15 or 16 is what
49 we'd like to continue to keep taking. That's why I'm asking

50 that particular question, how safe is that as far as coming to

0104

1 the Federal Subsistence Board to have a continuous or close to
2 15 and not really down to nine really. How was that derived
3 for like seven to two, five to two ratio of something like
4 that, to be safe?

5
6 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, we worked with Pat on that, and we
7 just did some modeling exercises, you know, and I think our
8 feeling on 26B is that, you know, we can go ahead and push that
9 a little harder, and if the population goes down a little bit,
10 it's not too much of a tragedy. We can, you know, we can
11 decrease the harvest later and get it back up.

12
13 But the five percent and one-third of them females, you
14 know, that really just levels the population right off, at
15 probably at a slightly lower rate than what it is now. You
16 know, it'll drop a little bit and then -- then level off.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. So there is some sort of way
19 to arrive at.....

20
21 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, and, you know, we're using.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:that to give keep it at -- just
24 to keep it safe?

25
26 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. We just haven't looked at that
27 population very long, you know, and done composition counts, so
28 we don't really know, you know, what the survival rate of each
29 age group, and, you know, or not by sex and everything is, so
30 we're guessing on some of the numbers, and we're trying to be a
31 little bit cautious to start out with, so.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. So you did work with Pat
34 to.....

35
36 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:come up with a mixed sex ratio?

39
40 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. Any other
43 questions or comments on the proposals? I would maybe
44 recommend to support the proposals that will be going in front
45 of the Board of Game for the -- on the state lands, and also
46 give Geoff support from this Council. A matter of record
47 and.....

48
49 MR. KOONUK: Do you want it by motion?

0105

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry?

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: I just have one question. Are you
4 tagging musk ox also?

5

6 MR. CARROLL: We haven't so far. I'd like to. Some of
7 these ones in 26B, put some radio collars on them so they would
8 be easier to find when we're counting them, but that's the
9 problem now is it's a big area and it's hard to find you know.
10 When we did the count last spring, we basically did transects
11 and just covered that whole area, which is very time consuming,
12 and -- but it covered, and then we went back to do composition
13 counts, and we had a real hard time finding them, so it would
14 be nice to have some collars on some of the animals.

15

16 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

19

20 MR. KOONUK: By your recommendation, I guess I can make
21 a motion to support Geoff's proposal, and I guess the approval
22 of the body here in support of his proposal.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Motion by Ray to support the
25 proposal that will be going before the Board of Game, which
26 Geoff will be presenting, and possibly others.

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: I'd second his motion, and ask for
29 unanimous consent.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Gordon. We are asking for --
32 any objection to that? No? No objection. You have the --
33 Mrs. Armstrong?

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: May I make a clarification? Is it
36 all -- to support all three proposals, or just.....

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, all, the proposal package is
39 what.....

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In the package.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:I think Ray is -- Okay. Geoff,
44 you have our support.

45

46 MR. CARROLL: All right. Thanks. All right. Thank
47 you very much.

48

49 MR. ITTA: Thank you, Geoff.

0106

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: We'll put that musk ox issue for rest
2 for a while.

3
4 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that would be great.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: We'll be watching you.

7
8 MR. ITTA: How long have we been working on this?
9 Almost two years?

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

12
13 MR. ITTA: It is two years.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's been about two years, yeah.

16
17 MR. CARROLL: Be nice to think about something else.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, we're supposed to have
20 something in April of this spring by orders of the chairman.
21 We went beyond that, so we'll probably go next spring before
22 them on this. So unless there's a scheduled meeting. All
23 right. Thank you very much, Geoff. Or was there any questions
24 from the audience or from the floor for Mr. Carroll on the
25 harvest, or the musk ox issue? All right. Thank you very
26 much, Geoff.

27
28 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Job well done. Just before we leave
31 the subject, I just wanted to say that Geoff did a very good
32 job in hazing the seven musk oxen out of Ari Island. Without
33 Geoff, I think they would have still been stuck, because he was
34 in there chest deep into the delta of Hulahula there. I think
35 he was in there about 45 to maybe one hour going back and
36 forth. We had a lot of drift wood to have a big bonfire, and
37 we had a good time. It will be a memorable -- it's been a
38 memorable experience. I had a little bit of flack from some of
39 my council members which will remain anonymous, that we were
40 trying to delete or deplete the musk oxen, and here I am the
41 chairman of the council here saving musk oxen, trying to get
42 them off, so I just have to put that on, too.

43
44 MR. CARROLL: Fenton saved the day on that one.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So if you ever have any stranded
47 musk oxen, call Geoff and Fenton to take care them, so we're
48 really well versed on how to take care of those animals. Thank
49 you very much, Geoff.

0107

1 Okay. We've covered under nine, under old business,
2 National Park Service. Again Steve Ulvi handed out the
3 management plan, and that on-going. I hope that he may have
4 left some out there on the table if people want to get that.

5
6 BLM, Dave Yokel presented the report on that, so we'll
7 by-pass that one. ANWR was Pat Reynolds, Patricia Reynolds was
8 here to give a report of what's going on in ANWR.

9
10 So it brings us to -- that's a typo I guess. No, it
11 isn't. 9.A.5, there's five subtopics there. And I don't know
12 who to turn to on this one. I saw Sandy -- oh, there we go. I
13 have my glasses on. Rosa Meehan will help us go through this
14 next item on the Federal Subsistence Management Program task
15 force report, Federal Board restructure. That is an action
16 item that the council may have to have.....

17
18 MS. MEEHAN: This is an information item for the
19 council.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 5(a)?

22
23 MS. MEEHAN: 5(a).

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. 5(b) information,.....

26
27 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:non-action item on fisheries
30 update. Regulatory year, that may require some action on that
31 one?

32
33 MS. MEEHAN: That may, yes, that will require action.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And also there's some training
36 material, orientation for new members.

37
38 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Or for review and refamiliarize
41 ourselves on the material, that's happening with the program.
42 So, Rosa, the floor is yours.

43
44 MS. MEEHAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under tab G in
45 your books, there is a report on the Federal Subsistence Board
46 restructuring. And I've got some overheads that -- to help us
47 follow along through this item.

48
49 This topic of restructuring the Federal Board is one

50 that has been discussed amongst the councils for quite a while,

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1 and what I want to report to you today is the progress that's
2 been made on this. And if you have any comments that you'd
3 like to share back to the task group that's working on this,
4 we'll take those -- we'll take comments.

5
6 Next? This issue, as I'd mentioned, has been discussed
7 several times in the last two years, and specifically in April
8 of last year when there was the joint chair/Board session,
9 there was a commitment made to look in detail at the potential
10 for restructuring the Board, and a task group was formed to
11 look at this. And this task force that's looking at this issue
12 includes Mitch Demientieff, who's the chair of the Board, Bill
13 Thomas who's the chair from the Southeast Region, Jim Caplan
14 from the Forest Service, and Dave Allen from the Fish &
15 Wildlife Service.

16
17 And at the time, at the discussion, it was recognized
18 that when the Federal Board was initially established seven
19 years ago, everybody thought that the federal program would be
20 very short-lived, and that the State would resume management.
21 Well, here we are seven years later, we have exactly the same
22 Board structure, and this is a good time to evaluate whether
23 it's the most effective board structure for the program now.

24
25 And so the purpose of this task group was to therefore
26 look at options for board structure. The task force met on
27 June 3rd, and they were given a lot of information that is
28 summarized in this handout that you have in your book, so if
29 you wanted to read it in more detail, it is here. But just
30 real -- to cover it kind of quickly for you, they were provided
31 with specific information about the FACA requirements, and
32 that's the Federal Advisory Committee Act that you work under,
33 since -- this committee does. And the Board also is affected
34 by that act, and so there's some legal parameters that are
35 involved. There -- the task force looked at different
36 structures for the Board, different alternatives, and then also
37 examples of existing boards.

38
39 There are some pretty significant constraints that were
40 identified in terms of looking at potential options, and one of
41 the big ones is related to this delegation of regulatory
42 authority. And one of the things that Mitch Demientieff said
43 when he went into this, something that was very important to
44 him, was that he wanted to maintain the regulatory authority of
45 the Federal Board. That if the Federal Board did not have
46 regulatory authority, it would mean that the decisions that the
47 Board makes now regarding seasons and harvest limits, the c&t
48 determinations, that all those decisions would have to be made
49 in Washington, D.C., and Mitch very clearly said that he did

50 not what to have that happen. He wanted to make sure it stayed

0109

1 with the Board. So that was -- that delegation was very
2 critical.

3

4 There's also constraints on establishing new advisory
5 committees, which is another legal constraint.

6

7 Given that, those constraints, they came up with three
8 board structures that would be legally possible. And one of
9 them is, of course, the existing board. One, the third -- the
10 second one is the existing board plus at least one regional
11 council chair nominated by the chairs. And the third one is
12 the existing board plus one subsistence user and one user
13 appointed or nominated by the Governor.

14

15 And an alternate that you may see is not listed here is
16 the alternative that was recommended strongly by the chairs,
17 and that was that the Federal Board be made up of instead of
18 the heads of the federal land managing agencies, to instead
19 have the board made up of the chairs of the regional advisory
20 councils. And while that is a possibility, the specific
21 problems with it is that since the chairs are not federal
22 employees, they would not have the authority to make regulatory
23 decisions. They would have to be an advisory group, and so
24 therefore they could not make the decisions to set the seasons,
25 bag limits and harvest limits. They could only provide advice,
26 and so that advice would have to go back to Washington, and the
27 decisions made there. And so that breaks one of those
28 important tenets that Mitch Demientieff initially brought to
29 the table. And so that was a real concern.

30

31 And another concern related to that particular
32 structure is that the Federal Government is under restriction
33 to not establish new advisory committees, so committees like
34 yours that provide formal advice to a federal program. And so
35 it's a possibility that if people decided that even though they
36 couldn't make the decisions it would still be preferable to
37 have the chairs be the Board, it possible that they would not
38 be recognized as an advisory committee. And that's just due to
39 federal constraints on recognizing new advisory committees. So
40 there's some real legal constraints that are out of -- that are
41 sort of beyond our control and affecting the decision on what
42 to do with the Board.

43

44 So given those, the constraints on the originally
45 recommended structure of the Board, which is all the regional
46 council chairs, we ended up with those three options, and so
47 the next steps are for us to take any comments that you would
48 like the task force, any concerns you would like the task force
49 to consider, back to that task force. The task force will meet

50 again to review what comes from all of the regional councils,

0110

1 and then they will make a final recommendation back to the full
2 Board. And that recommendation will go back at the next Board
3 meeting in the spring.

4
5 And so I realize I went through this rather quickly.
6 There are comment -- I mean this is written in detail in your
7 packet and so we could take any comments that you have at this
8 time. Additionally, if you would like to have time
9 individually to go home and read this in more detail, and then
10 share comments, we'd be glad to take those as well.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Rosa, on the
13 report on the restructuring. A comment, I think your summary
14 was very good. And I'm glad that Bill Thomas was able to help,
15 be one of the task force. The council chairs did vote him in
16 to be on the task force to look into that, so we appreciate his
17 input, being our voice, the council chairs' voice at least in
18 the task force to look at restructuring the Federal Subsistence
19 Board.

20
21 So you've heard the three alternatives. At this time
22 what -- and a chance to either read them further and comment
23 back or we can do -- make some comments at this time.

24
25 MR. ITTA: I just have a question,.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

28
29 MR. ITTA:if I could, Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ask a question?

32
33 MR. ITTA: Yeah. Would you go over again the time
34 lines on what the next steps are?

35
36 MS. MEEHAN: The next steps, the current step we're
37 doing right now,.....

38
39 MR. ITTA: Right. Uh-hum.

40
41 MS. MEEHAN:is presenting all of this to the
42 regional councils,.....

43
44 MR. ITTA: Right.

45
46 MS. MEEHAN:and asking for feedback. The next
47 step is for the task force to meet again and look at all the
48 comments from the regional councils,.....

49

MR. ITTA: Which is when?

0111

1 MS. MEEHAN: Which will happen later this winter, so it
2 will happen after October, but it will happen before March.
3 They don't have a date set. They want to make sure that we get
4 all the input. And then they will make -- come up with a final
5 recommendation to give to the Board, and that will be given to
6 the Board for a decision in the spring meeting.

7
8 MR. ITTA: The spring meeting?

9
10 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

11
12 MR. ITTA: Okay. Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any comments from the council
15 members on the three alternatives? Or do you want to take time
16 to read them and comment later?

17
18 MR. TAGAROOK: I read this when I got the packet, and I
19 think that we should -- I like the way it's set up right now.
20 We have our voices, and we have the authority, right?

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, we have comments, but we don't
23 vote on the -- when it comes to voting into the regulations, we
24 have -- the council chairs have that opportunity during
25 deliberation, questions and answers or comments with the Board,
26 so that is our capacity. What the -- the alternatives listed
27 here, existing board, alternative two, would allow at least one
28 chair -- one of the ten to become a voting member of the
29 Federal Subsistence Board. But they'll have to be voted during
30 the chairmen's meeting of who that would be part of the voting
31 -- or become a voting member. That is going to be going that
32 way.

33
34 And the one that -- alternative three's a -- it looks
35 like they had some pretty good meetings to come up with one
36 subsistence user and another representative nominated by the
37 Governor. It's a new alternative which I haven't seen or that.
38 But I'm glad that the task force met and came up with these
39 alternatives for us to discuss or comment on.

40
41 Right now the existing Board is listed to five, but the
42 council chairs sits around the table and have the opportunity
43 to make comments is all. They -- we can make not voting power.

44
45 I'd like to just give a comment. I'll turn the chair
46 over to Edward real quick and talk about how and why we are
47 getting this far as far as restructuring.

48
49 The chairmans felt that the restructure needs to take a

50 look at that. That's why they gave us a strong recommendation

0112

1 to at least have the Federal Subsistence Board be consisting of
2 ten chairmen to make the regulations. But I see that this is
3 one that will be pretty hard to -- or not be viable way to go
4 to restructure the Federal Subsistence Board, so if.....

5
6 Part of the Title VIII deals with having experience or
7 knowing what goes on as far as subsistence uses, covers -- that
8 is one of the main reasons we wanted to be a voting member or
9 take over the Federal Subsistence Board, because we are
10 intimately aware of what's going on as far as subsistence uses
11 and customary and traditions are. We know about that very
12 well, and the arguments were that their current Federal
13 Subsistence Board, federal agency department personnel, are not
14 quite familiar with rural status, or being out in the Bush or
15 being in the villages of how we live, or do not experience
16 that. So we touched upon that Title VIII, I forget what number
17 that was, but that was one of our main arguments. We need
18 somebody in the Federal Subsistence Board that will be --
19 really know what's going on out there in the villages or in the
20 rural status.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN: I move to take -- Mr. Chairman, I move
23 we take the good parts of alternative two and three, put one
24 regional council chair there and a subsistence user, and we'd
25 have -- we could combine the two. Those two parts. We'd have
26 a subsistence user and a council -- one regional council chair.
27 We can slide them into the Board. We'd have lot of voice, and
28 stay within the existing, like they say, administrative and
29 funding structure, only that would still be the case.

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: We can take it back as a suggestion, and
32 have them look at it.

33
34 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes, that would give you three
35 alternatives, and I can't see why they -- it would have been
36 nice to have a third, a fourth alternative where you combine
37 the better parts of alternative two and three.

38
39 MR. ITTA: Give the chair back to you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep.

42
43 MR. ITTA: On both option two and three, you say on the
44 implications on both of them that the Board's regulatory status
45 would be more subject to challenge than the existing board
46 structure. Why would that be? Or would you know?

47
48 MS. MEEHAN: It has to do with the people on the board
49 being federal employees. That's a requirement of FACA.

0113

1 MR. ITTA: Okay.

2
3 MS. MEEHAN: And.....

4
5 MR. ITTA: Because these new appointments wouldn't be
6 federal employees, you're saying.....

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: Exactly.

9
10 MR. ITTA:that there is a possibility I guess
11 that.....

12
13 MS. MEEHAN: It makes it a question that we would have
14 to ask -- that would have to go back to the lawyers and the big
15 bureaucrats.....

16
17 MR. ITTA: Uh-hum.

18
19 MS. MEEHAN:with regards to -- the question
20 becomes, well, the majority of the Board would still be federal
21 employees, just some of them aren't. And we don't know the
22 answer to that.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: How is Mitch -- he's not a federal
25 employee.

26
27 MR. ITTA: He's appointed though by the Secretary.

28
29 MS. MEEHAN: He is -- actually he is an employee, he's
30 a part-time employee, like minimally part time. He's paid for
31 a couple weeks a year or something like that. And that was
32 done on purpose to specifically address this particular
33 concern. It's one of those things where frankly sometimes you
34 just don't want to ask the question, and so you look for a way
35 to get around having to ask it. And that was done to give
36 Mitch, to specifically give Mitch the status to be on the Board
37 and not raise the question. So.....

38
39 MR. ITTA: Okay.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, maybe they could work it out
42 that way for.....

43
44 MR. UPICKSOUN: You know, that's a good question that
45 Edward brought up. If in fact five of the members of the Board
46 are federal employees, and the fact that you insert two of
47 them, why -- Edward's question, why does it make it more -- the
48 Board's regulatory status more subject to challenge than the
49 existing? Just because you put two non-employees, where do you

50 go from regulatory to advisory? Where is that line when you

0114

1 just insert two non-employees in there? Where is that -- why
2 -- on all three alternatives where you say that -- the last two
3 alternatives, where you say that the Board's regulatory status
4 would be more subject to challenge, why? I mean, where do you
5 see that line when -- just by inserting two non-employees into
6 the Board?

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: That's a question I cannot answer
9 specifically, because it's out of -- I just don't know. My
10 understanding is that it comes from that, from the FACA, the
11 Federal Advisory Committee Act, and that Act has a definition
12 of what's an advisory group versus a regulatory group. And so
13 it's getting into a legal/legislative type question, and so --
14 and I cannot come up with a better answer than that. It is
15 something -- it is a question we could take back to the task
16 force, and ask them to look into in detail and see if they
17 could find that boundary, or where that prohibition is.

18
19 MR. UPICKSOUN: If we had access to Board meetings,
20 we'd go there in person to advise and consent, but we can't
21 attend all the Board meetings.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Just to summarize, you have
24 heard Gordon trying to get the best of the two, alternatives
25 two and three.

26
27 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And.....

30
31 MR. UPICKSOUN: We can slide them in, one council
32 chair, and one subsistence user.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any comments on that from the other
35 fellow council members on that? Trying to get the best,
36 subsistence user or governor's appointee and a chairman as
37 maybe an alternative four.

38
39 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, when the council chairs
40 selected alternative two, did you guys ever discuss maybe the
41 combining two and three?

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, this is the task force result.

44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: After the chairmans recommended that
48 take a look at restructuring to have the Federal Subsistence
49 Board consist of all ten council members,.....

0115

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:and do away with the federal
4 agency, the five federal agencies. So these alternatives are
5 from the task force, not from the chairmen.

6

7 MR. UPICKSOUN: And why does it state here under
8 alternative two, Mr. Chairman, when it states that this option
9 was collectively recommended by the regional council chairs at
10 the April joint Board/chair work session.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Rosa, do you have a.....

13

14 MS. MEEHAN: What happened was at that joint work
15 session which was right before the Board meeting last April,
16 there was this joint working session, and at that time the
17 restructuring the Board was brought up as an agenda item, and
18 there was some discussion about it, and the concern about the
19 Board not retaining regulatory authority with ten chairs on it
20 was brought up, and so as a result of that piece of
21 information, the chairs did recommend that the alternative of
22 at least including one chair be included in further
23 discussions. And so that was -- it was a tentative
24 recommendation, but it was given with the understanding that
25 the task force would walk away from that meeting and look at
26 any other possible options they could. Does that.....

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: They assumed that you okayed alterative
29 two, is that what you're trying to say?

30

31 MS. MEEHAN: No, it was a recommendation that that was
32 on the right path, if you will, but it was -- and it was given
33 by the chairs, but it was given with the knowledge that the
34 task force would look at that and any other alternative they
35 could come up with.

36

37 MR. UPICKSOUN: The way it's worded, Mr. Chairman, it's
38 you assume that.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

41

42 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

43

44 MR. UPICKSOUN:out of the three alternatives, the
45 regional.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That this is recommended above all
48 the.....

49

MR. UPICKSOUN:council chairs recommended that

0116

1 out of the three, which was not case.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

4
5 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah. That.....

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other comments on the
10 5(a)? If not, I think our comments were heard, and will be
11 forwarded to the task force. Rosa, continue?

12
13 MS. MEEHAN: I want to finish this comment, one second.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

16
17 MS. MEEHAN: Okay. What's the next one? Stipend. The
18 update on the meeting stipends. This is purely an update, and
19 I don't believe this made it into your packet, but my assistant
20 here will pass this out. Jerry?

21
22 MR. BERG: I think it is under K, under charters.

23
24 MS. MEEHAN: Is it under K?

25
26 MR. BERG: The letter's from Mitch.

27
28 MS. MEEHAN: I want to make sure that it's in here. It
29 is. It's under tab K, the first page under tab K says renewal
30 of regional council charters in '98. And the next page is a
31 memorandum that's from -- that's to the Secretary of Interior.
32 It's signed by the chair of the Subsistence Board, so it's
33 signed by Mitch. This is a follow-up communication to the
34 Secretary. As you may recall, a year ago the question of
35 compensating regional council members came up, and was
36 discussed at great length, and a very strong recommendation
37 made during a joint chair/Board meeting. The very strong
38 recommendation was made to pursue the option of compensation
39 for regional council members. As a result of that, a
40 memorandum went from Mitch to the Secretary of Interior
41 requesting compensation. The letter itself that was sent had
42 quite a lengthy discussion of the benefits of doing it, but
43 also of the potential problems of doing a stipend, and this is
44 problems from a government perspective.

45
46 When the regional council -- when the chairs had a
47 chance to see that memo after it had been sent, there was a
48 great deal of concern that the memo that -- the first memo that
49 was sent did not accurately portray the request. Did not

50 positively portray the request, and so there was a very strong

0117

1 recommendation to please rewrite the memo and get it right, and
2 portray the request as a positive request from the program to
3 provide stipends for the council members.
4

5 And so that's what this memo is written in response to,
6 and Mitch -- at that meeting, Mitch made a commitment that he
7 would do a follow-up memo. This is it. And this memo clearly
8 highlights some of the specific concerns that the council
9 chairs had raised in those joint meetings.
10

11 And I would -- you know, just a couple of the points to
12 highlight, in the second paragraph it's -- the paragraph does
13 point out that in most of rural Alaska, income producing
14 opportunities are scarce, and so the paragraph highlights the
15 issue that this does cost time and in many cases salary for
16 council members to leave their jobs and come here for these
17 meetings. Another issue that is brought up in here, on the
18 next page, points out the remoteness and small size of most of
19 Alaska's rural communities, and therefore that the prices for
20 things are very high. And so we've got, you know, obviously
21 two very difficult factors here. One, there's not many job
22 opportunities, and, two, buying basic goods and staples costs a
23 lot of money.
24

25 And this memo closes by saying that the regional
26 advisory councils feel that the current reimbursement coverage,
27 which just covers travel expenses is inadequate, and that it
28 falls short of a realistic compensation for the time and energy
29 that you as council members provide to this program.
30

31 And as you can see, this was dated August 27th, and it
32 has been received the Secretary's office.
33

34 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?
37

38 MR. UPICKSOUN: All this, on the bottom line, no matter
39 what he says, no matter what he wrote, the bottom line is even
40 though that they were to try and do something, nothing will
41 happen until '99. We've got to.....
42

43 MS. MEEHAN: That's true.
44

45 MR. UPICKSOUN:keep pushing for this, because --
46 take my case for instance. I'm working on a seasonal job. I'm
47 missing out on four days of work. Four days. That's -- and no
48 stipend from this. That's wages out of my pocket.
49

MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

0118

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's over 1,000 bucks out of my
2 pocket for these four days that I've missed.

3
4 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Out of my own pocket, so by leaving
7 that sore wound, you're hoping that it will heal? You know,
8 that's probably true of a lot of the other council members.
9 Some of the council members here are fortunate to -- that their
10 employers give them community service where they continue to
11 get their wages, but that's not true of all. Wages lost, you
12 know, that's out of your pocket. They mention the fact that
13 you, our staff members, you continue -- you're on salaries,
14 see, that -- and that creates this friction. He mentioned that
15 several times.

16
17 MS. MEEHAN: Yes, this is in here. That fact is also
18 in.

19
20 MR. UPICKSOUN: That issue will not go away.

21
22 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

23
24 MR. UPICKSOUN: And we've got to keep trying for a
25 stipend for those council members that will be on board down
26 the road.

27
28 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: And like I said, you can't do nothing
31 about it anyway, we've just got to keep pushing, because
32 nothing's going to happen until '99, even if they approve
33 something on a stipend.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

36
37 MR. ITTA: Yeah. Thanks, Gordon. You know, they
38 authorize per diem and travel expenses. I think I'd just like
39 to comment on the per diem rate that's established, and the
40 rules on establishing that per diem rate. There's certainly
41 other voluntary groups are within a region where they don't
42 have to travel the big time distances that we do here. So I
43 think regionally you need to make some adjustments in that per
44 diem process, because it does allow it. It's just a matter of
45 how much.

46
47 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

48
49 MR. ITTA: I mean, I think that's an issue that's worth

50 looking into, that -- and the other one is that like Gordon

0119

1 said, or like in Ray's situation, you know, there's just
2 nowhere to turn. I mean, that's just it. You've lost all that
3 time, plus who knows how much else in the weather, but I think
4 there's got to be more sensitivity to differentiations in
5 regions such as our region versus the Southcentral. I mean
6 everything's -- you can drive there. Everything's pretty
7 close. I mean, to some you've got to fly, but, you know,
8 there's a world of difference I think that needs to -- somebody
9 needs to be cognizant of, and it's those people I think who
10 determine what the per diem rate is. I know it varies from
11 here to there. I know the Federal Government tries to keep
12 consistent, but -- I agree with Gordon. I mean, it's still
13 going to be an issue, and I think it's a direct factor on why I
14 think some other people once they heard about it got chased
15 away. They said it's not -- they don't -- I mean, it's too
16 much for nothing. I mean, you lose too much. Your family
17 time, your -- I mean, it's not just purely monetary.

18
19 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

20
21 MR. ITTA: But I think just that fact alone kind of
22 takes back from candidates who would be more willing to come
23 forward, quality people that would help the advisory council.
24 And I think it's a direct effect of that. So I just want to
25 make those couple of comments, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. Yeah, it is true
28 that we mostly are volunteers, spend a lot of time, and Gordon
29 is right, it takes me Monday, and I'll be going home Thursday,
30 and that's pretty much the whole week right there. That's --
31 on \$200, that's loss of wages. Anyway, I was going to turn the
32 floor over to Edward. Ray?

33
34 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, I feel for each member here, too, as
35 far as what we've been receiving the last few years, and, you
36 know, we've just got a stipend for what, \$200, and we came in,
37 what, Tuesday?

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Monday.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: Monday. And today's Wednesday, so that's
42 what, \$50 a day, and you go buy dinner or lunch at Pepe's, and
43 averaged dinner almost at Pepe's costs a little over 20, \$25.
44 And so you have about what, \$15 left? Maybe you can have half
45 a breakfast and half a lunch out of that \$50. And you still
46 have the other three days that you have, you know, to look
47 after, you know, with the stipends we get. I mean, it's not
48 right, you know. You know, we choose to be here, because we
49 feel for what's going on with our animals out there.

0120

1 And you, -- you know, the travel arrangements, you
2 know, we travel through these little commuter airlines. You
3 guys can just fly right in through these jets with all these
4 nice chairs and nice food, the hospitality, while we have to
5 hop on these little bitty planes. And there's no coffee,
6 there's no nothing. You travel for how many hours?

7
8 Transportation. You guys have a lot of government
9 people working here. Give us a car or something, you know,
10 take us to our hotel or whatever things we have to do. I mean,
11 you know, with this money we receive from the government, it's
12 not, you know, satisfying each one of us. Like I say, we can
13 -- you know, could have been working out there and making the
14 money, but we choose to come here, because there's some issues
15 that are very important for our people out there that, you
16 know, decisions need to be made.

17
18 MS. MEEHAN: Ray, I want to.....

19
20 MR. KOONUK: So I'm going to, you know, go with Gordon,
21 Edward's comments, and Terry, and I wish the other councilmen
22 were here. I'm pretty sure they would have a piece of their
23 mind to talk on how we're being treated, especially this last
24 hotel situation. But I'm glad that was resolved. And, you
25 know, -- and I strongly would recommend this proposal go
26 through, you know, not for our sake, but for your sake,
27 because, you know, because you're going to keep hearing this
28 over and over like Gordon said. No, it's not going to die off.
29 I'm going to continue to speak as long as I'm on the board.

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: Ray, I want to assure you and the other
32 council members that I personally really appreciate the time
33 and energy that you put into this, and I know that the others
34 in the program also do, and recognize very well that we cannot
35 do the program without you. And so very much support seeing
36 this recommendation go forward.

37
38 As far as the travel expenses go, the way the
39 government travel regulations are set up, any expense you incur
40 while travelling is to be recovered by you. You shouldn't have
41 to do anything out of your pocket. And the \$200 that you
42 received is an advance. When you complete the travel papers,
43 that any expenses for food that go beyond it, you will be
44 compensated for.

45
46 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, I understand that. Yeah.

47
48 MS. MEEHAN: So I -- it's.....

49

MR. KOONUK: But, you know, we came here at least a

0121

1 day, you know, before the meeting, and we spend maybe half a
2 day here, but, you know, it's not covered.

3
4 MS. MEEHAN: It is covered.

5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It is covered.

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: It is covered. The time -- your expenses
9 are covered from the time you walk out your door at home to
10 when you go back in your door at home.

11
12 MR. KOONUK: Well, the way I read it under their
13 regulations here, it's not covered.

14
15 MS. MEEHAN: It is, and, Ray, I would be very happy to
16 go over that with you in greater detail, to make sure that you
17 are getting properly compensated for it, because that's -- it's
18 not fair if you're not. But that's the way the regulations are
19 intended, and.....

20
21 MR. KOONUK: Okay. Well,.....

22
23 MS. MEEHAN:we'll be glad to make sure. And that
24 includes taxi fare. We don't have a truck up here. There's no
25 Interior agencies based in Barrow, so we can't do that. We did
26 the same. We walked to, you know, around town, so -- anything
27 we can do to help make the logistics work we certainly want to
28 do and make the meetings work well. And I just want to
29 reassure that we really appreciate your time and energy on
30 this. So that's.....

31
32 MR. KOONUK: You forgot the jet part and the commuter
33 airlines.

34
35 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 MR. ITTA: Anyway.....

40
41 MS. MEEHAN: Airlines I can't deal with.

42
43 MR. ITTA: I think, Ray, just remember what she said
44 about from the time you're out the door until the time you get
45 back in. Any expenses you incur will be covered above and
46 beyond the 200, right, which is an advance?

47
48 MS. MEEHAN: Absolutely.

49

MR. KOONUK: Uh-hum.

0122

1 MS. MEEHAN: Absolutely.

2

3 MR. ITTA: But then there's always that paperwork and
4 receipts and what not. Helen, you had a.....

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, I just want -- Rosa said what I
7 was going to.

8

9 MR. ITTA: Okay.

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I was going to make sure everybody
12 knew that cab fares were covered, and you just -- you don't
13 even have to have a receipt if it's under \$25. You just write
14 down that you took a cab. You don't even have to say what you
15 took the cab for, just the date, cab, and the amount, and you
16 can take a cab from here to lunch and, you know, here to the
17 hotel, and you can do that all day long, and they'll cover it.
18 It's above and beyond your amount, so that -- just so you all
19 understand that you can take a cab. And now I guess they have
20 a car rental place which they didn't use to have, but, you
21 know, we can.....

22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN: How about.....

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:see about getting a car rental,
26 too.

27

28 MR. UPICKSOUN: How about our conscience. We can't
29 collectively lie.

30

31 MR. ITTA: I think 25 bucks a day should just be given
32 anyway.

33

34 MR. UPICKSOUN: We can't collectively lie when you know
35 we're not taking a taxi, you know.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, but I'm saying if want to take a
38 cab, because.....

39

40 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:Ray's complaint is.....

43

44 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah, I know what you mean,.....

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:that you can.

47

48 MR. UPICKSOUN:but I -- you know that we wouldn't
49 lie like that. Collectively lie.

0123

1 MR. ITTA: And I don't think we're been asked to.....

2
3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We wouldn't either, Ray.

4
5 MR. ITTA: I don't think anybody's asking.....

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We're under the same rules.

8
9 MR. ITTA:anybody to lie or submit any.....

10
11 MS. MEEHAN: Unh-unh. (Negative)

12
13 MR. ITTA:falsified documents, but I think
14 suffice to say obviously there's members with very strong
15 feelings about this, me included, that I really think it is
16 detrimental to the quality of service that provide. I'd rather
17 see willing and ready and able wherein guys went to work and
18 not have to worry about this, and put it behind them. I think
19 that's the way, like we're just going to keep bringing it up
20 until something hopefully somewhere comes up. But do we have
21 any more on the stipend update?

22
23 MR. KOONUK: Is there any action that need to be taken?

24
25 MR. ITTA: I don't believe so, not on this. This is
26 just more informational right now, and just letting us know
27 what the Federal Subsistence Board is up to.....

28
29 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

30
31 MR. ITTA:on trying to meet the regional council
32 -- this came directly from the regional council chairman.
33 This.....

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: And I appreciate what our chair is
36 doing on behalf in attempting to get us more compensation for
37 the meetings. Mitch in his letters that he wrote on our behalf
38 in regards to stipend I think he's in my estimation, he's
39 doing as best as he could,.....

40
41 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

42
43 MR. UPICKSOUN:within what his authority is, and
44 I think he's giving it one good go all right on our behalf.

45
46 MR. ITTA: Well, the Federal Government once a
47 precedent been set, they got to -- think they can't move any
48 more or get creative I guess, you know. So we've just got to
49 keep pushing. And we'll do that.

0124

1 So thanks for that update, and we'll go ahead and go to
2 item (c), fisheries update, and I believe tab H? Or you just
3 -- that's the Katie John deal?

4
5 MS. MEEHAN: Yes, this is the Katie.....

6
7 MR. ITTA: Okay.

8
9 MS. MEEHAN:John deal, and.....

10
11 MR. ITTA: Katie John update, is that what we're
12 getting?

13
14 MS. MEEHAN: Yes, sir.

15
16 MR. ITTA: Okay.

17
18 MS. MEEHAN: As we've been discussing for the past
19 year, I think we've talked about the Katie John issue for the
20 past several council meetings, the -- we're sort of in a
21 holding pattern right now. Here's the briefing statement that
22 you have in your packet gives the background information on
23 what the case was, the challenge that the Federal Government
24 should include navigable waters, and the fact that we're
25 currently under a moratorium in the budget language that stops
26 doing a program.

27
28 The State is, of course, pursuing an initiative to
29 regain management of fish and -- subsistence fish and game
30 management. That's the Governor's proposal, and that is
31 currently undergoing legislative hearings in the state.

32
33 There is -- I'm kind of breezing through this, because
34 these are the on-going issues that've all been involved in very
35 much.

36
37 The Governor's -- the magic deadline right now is the
38 end of the federal fiscal year, and the beginning of the next
39 one, which is October 1st. At that time, the moratorium on the
40 federal program is lifted, because we're out of the budget year
41 and into the next budget year. And so the question is whether
42 the State will make sufficient progress to resume management.
43 I don't know that. I don't think anybody knows what's going to
44 happen.

45
46 But what I can share with you is that the federal
47 program is prepared to publish a proposed regulations to expand
48 the federal program to include subsistence fisheries. We can't
49 do that until the moratorium's lifted, but we're prepared to do

50 it. Should that happen, the next step would be to hold public

0125

1 hearings, and the intent would be to hold them around the
2 state, to take input on a proposed rule, and then to take those
3 -- take the input from the hearings back, prepare a final rule,
4 and with the publication of a final rule in the Federal
5 Register, then that would begin the inclusion of fisheries into
6 the existing federal program.

7
8 Now, from this Council's perspective, this Council did
9 recommend that if fisheries was included into the federal
10 program, that this Council address fishery issues as well as
11 wildlife issues. So that you just take on both of them, and
12 that the regulatory year for fish be essentially opposite from
13 the regulatory year for wildlife. In other words, right now we
14 take proposals in the fall for wildlife and then have a final
15 rule published in the summer. And with fish it would be the
16 other way around. There would be proposals taken in the
17 spring, and a final rule published in the winter. So it's just
18 -- it would be a switch on the way the regulatory year runs.
19 The reason for that is to minimize any involvement by
20 subsistence users during the fishing season.

21
22 The areas that would potentially be effected up here on
23 the North Slope, there's a map on the wall, and we passed out
24 those tabloid size maps that you have in front of you. The
25 areas that would be affected are all of the drainages that are
26 on colored land within Region 10, so all of the drainages on
27 the National Petroleum Reserve, that big patch of yellow area,
28 and all of the drainages over on the Arctic National Wildlife
29 Refuge, the pink area, as well as the drainages on the Park
30 Service land.

31
32 MR. ITTA: On the what?

33
34 MS. MEEHAN: On the Park Service land. Gates of the
35 Arctic is down in the very southern part of the -- well, you
36 know, down on the very bottom point of Region 10. So it's all
37 of the drainages on federal land.

38
39 MR. UPICKSOUN: What do you mean by drainages?

40
41 MS. MEEHAN: The streams and rivers.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The navigable waters.

44
45 MS. MEEHAN: The navigable waters. So like the
46 Colville River would be included, and as would the Canning
47 River, the Hulahula, by way of example.

48
49 Another comment about fishery issues in this region,

50 there's very little commercial fishing, and in our sort of kind

0126

1 of first cut analysis, there doesn't seem to be much conflict,
2 and so fisheries in general are not likely to be a major issue
3 for this Council in this region.

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: I wish we had our representative here
6 from Nuiqsut.

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: That's.....

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: They get a substantial amount of fish
11 that may be -- that may approach the ability for commercially
12 harvest, so you can't say that.

13
14 MS. MEEHAN: Right. Nuiqsut would be the one place
15 that I would look to and raise the question.

16
17 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. I think they've got enough
18 fish.....

19
20 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

21
22 MR. UPICKSOUN:for commercial operation there in
23 the wintertime.

24
25 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

26
27 MR. UPICKSOUN: So to say that we're not impacted, I
28 wish -- that's why I wish our representative from Nuiqsut was
29 here.

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah. And I don't mean to say there will
32 not be any conflicts. What I'm presenting is if we step back
33 and look at it from a statewide perspective, we're not dealing
34 with the Yukon River.

35
36 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. I see.....

37
38 MS. MEEHAN: And so that's the.....

39
40 MR. UPICKSOUN:your point.

41
42 MS. MEEHAN: That's the perspective, but at any rate,
43 that's a kind of quick,.....

44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: We're not dealing with False Pass here.

46
47 MS. MEEHAN: Amen. Yes.

48
49 MR. ITTA: Okay. Our chairman's back, so I will go

50 ahead and hand the chair back to Fenton.

0127

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Edward.

2

3 MR. ITTA: Uh-hum. We're obviously in the middle
4 of.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

7

8 MR. ITTA:Katie John update here.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Are.....

11

12 MS. MEEHAN: And I can just leave you with, you know,
13 we're all waiting to see what happens with the State, with the
14 Governor's proposal. As soon as something definitive happens,
15 we certainly will be getting word out, making public
16 announcements. We're just waiting like everyone else.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Rosa.

19

20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Wouldn't that what they call moratorium
21 language expires, anything can happen after October 1st.
22 That's in a couple of weeks.

23

24 MS. MEEHAN: That's right.

25

26 MR. UPICKSOUN: Anything can happen. You or anybody
27 here can't predict.....

28

29 MS. MEEHAN: That's right.

30

31 MR. UPICKSOUN:the powers that are in Washington
32 can come up, even though nothing is funded. We can be.....

33

34 MS. MEEHAN: That's right.

35

36 MR. UPICKSOUN:be very adversely impact, and get
37 sideswiped here after this moratorium language expires after
38 October 1st.

39

40 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

41

42 MR. UPICKSOUN: And they've done that before,
43 they've.....

44

45 MS. MEEHAN: I know.

46

47 MR. UPICKSOUN:we've been slapped blind by D.C.
48 They do an about face. It's happened.

49

MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

0128

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. Continue, Rosa.
2 It looks like you have regulatory?

3
4 MS. MEEHAN: That's -- yeah. Am I on next again?

5
6 MR. BERG: Uh-hum. You're on a roll.

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: The next issue, the regulatory year
9 schedule is under tab I in your book. And this is one where we
10 are seeking input from the Council. The -- one of the issues
11 that we face in trying to provide good service to the regional
12 councils is -- has to do with preparing the analyses that the
13 councils review in the winter meetings. And with the way our
14 current schedule is, the council meetings begin in January, and
15 that means that any analyses that are written by our office
16 have to be written in December, and so that they're prepared
17 for the council meetings that start in January. And what we
18 find has been happening is that we do not have the most current
19 information from field studies, because the field reports
20 aren't completed yet, and we do not necessarily have -- have
21 not had the opportunity to do -- coordinate with the land
22 managers and in some cases with affected communities, as you
23 have asked for meetings on the musk ox issue, that we for sure
24 get out and talk with Kaktovik about setting up a musk ox
25 harvest. We don't necessarily -- with the current schedule, we
26 don't necessarily have time to do all of that before the
27 meetings begin in January. So one of the things we've done is
28 look at the schedule and see if there is a way to shift those
29 meetings, those winter meetings about a month later so that we
30 would have an extra month to prepare those analyses and bring
31 them to the councils.

32
33 The reason that -- and this is something just within
34 our office, within our program we're real anxious to do this,
35 is so that we can bring to the winter meetings a more complete
36 analysis. And from a regional council perspective, the problem
37 that we have heard from the councils is that the analyses
38 presented at the winter meetings are sometimes rough and
39 incomplete, and therefore there are a lot of changes made
40 between the winter council and when those analyses are
41 presented to the board in the spring. And, therefore, what the
42 council is making a recommendation on is not necessarily the
43 same analysis and recommendation that then goes to the Board
44 meeting. And so we're looking to address that problem that the
45 councils have raised, and to provide the staff with -- by
46 providing staff with time they need to work on the analyses.

47
48 And so the question to you as a council is would it be
49 acceptable to have a meeting -- have the next winter meeting

50 sometime between February 16th and March 20th as opposed to the

0129

1 current schedule, if we just continued on the way we've always
2 done it, it would be sometime between January 26th and February
3 27th. So, in other words, do you see any conflicts with doing
4 it basically a month later?

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: I don't see a conflict with that
11 February, March thing, but then as I look across the make up of
12 the Council here, the next proposal that you will make when you
13 talk about the beginning of May, every one of us will be out on
14 the ice, we'll be whaling in May.

15
16 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: So I think that would be out.

19
20 MS. MEEHAN: The one thing -- well, what it would
21 change is the spring Board meeting would be in May.

22
23 MR. UPICKSOUN: That one is, like I said, as I look
24 across the board here,.....

25
26 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN:every one of us will be out
29 whaling.

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: The person it would affect is the chair,
32 because of the chair going to the Board meeting. The council
33 as a whole doesn't go to the Board meeting.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's usually the chair.

36
37 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

38
39 MR. ITTA: It's kind of -- yeah, that's just for
40 clarification. Just our.....

41
42 MS. MEEHAN: Just for clarification.

43
44 MR. ITTA:chair usually goes to the Federal.....

45
46 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

47
48 MR. ITTA: Subsistence Board meeting. But it.....

49

MR. UPICKSOUN: Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't notice that it

0130

1 said -- Okay.

2

3 MR. ITTA: But it usually works real well, because
4 Fenton does his whaling in the falltime, and he can usually go
5 in May, so it works out real well.

6

7 MR. UPICKSOUN: Take your time on it.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

10
11 MR. KOONUK: So that's why they keep giving
12 (Indiscernible -- simultaneous speech)

13

14 MR. ITTA: In April it works out pretty well.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

17

18 MR. KOONUK: No, that's okay. I was going to question,
19 so.....

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

22

23 MR. KOONUK: On the schedule.

24

25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, every year we have a
26 master festival here, and there's one scheduled. I wonder when
27 it's going to be? We were discussing this yesterday.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, I don't know the.....

30

31 MR. UPICKSOUN: We don't know the Kiviat (ph) dates.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Biannual or.....

34

35 MR. UPICKSOUN: We were discussing this last night, and
36 we were wishing that we knew how -- we could find out the dates
37 for Kiviat.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Isn't it every other year, and they
40 had it last year, so it won't be this year?

41

42 MR. UPICKSOUN: No, it will be.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It will be this winter.

45

46 MR. UPICKSOUN: January or February of '98. Were you
47 here last time?

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, but wasn't it last winter we

50 had it?

0131

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No.

2
3 MR. UPICKSOUN: No.

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Time flies.

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN: It's scheduled for '98. January or
8 February.

9
10 MR. KOONUK: Are you talking about the councils here
11 or.....

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, for us.

14
15 MR. KOONUK: For us. Oh, okay. Then I have a comment.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray? He has a comment on the.....

18
19 MR. KOONUK: I have. March would be kind of hard for
20 me, 'cause it's in preparation of whaling also, 'cause there's
21 a lot of work to be done in preparation. And it takes time to
22 get all your whaling equipment done and whatever needs to get
23 -- you know, needs to be done for whaling, so -- and at times
24 we would start, you know, pretty early in whaling, so you just
25 never know, 'cause once the leads open, and we're out there
26 looking out for whales or belugas, and once they're sighted out
27 there, then we're off. But March, you know, we prepare in
28 March.

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: Several of us belong to several boards
31 and commissions, and we're cramming January and February
32 already, 'cause like Ray mentioned, March is when they start
33 getting ready for whaling, and the other commissions and boards
34 are trying to schedule also in January and February.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum.

37
38 MR. UPICKSOUN: But the window, Mr. Chairman,.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

41
42 MR. UPICKSOUN:of February 16 where that window
43 starts, anywhere at the start of that window would be fine?

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, except for Ray's comment,
46 probably getting into the 14th probably be our window would
47 close probably, or what do you think?

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Valentine's day.

0132

1 MR. KOONUK: 14th?

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's earliest we can.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we probably want to ask March
8 14th and then push February 16th back another week, back to the
9 9th. We could open the window there. That might work. Would
10 that create a problem?

11
12 MS. MEEHAN: We can make the suggestion, but what we
13 were -- the next part that we were going to ask of this was
14 that if you could pick potential meeting dates in both -- under
15 both schedules that you think would work, and then that way
16 whichever schedule comes out, your meeting for the winter will
17 be okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Our region is a little bit
20 more different than the other regions, and like Ray was saying,
21 there's preparation for spring whaling and.....

22
23 MS. MEEHAN: Right.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:getting into the 21st or 20th
26 of March is kind of starting to get.....

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN: Too close.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:thin for pulling.....

31
32 MS. MEEHAN: Right.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:in the council members here.
35 It will be pretty tough.

36
37 MS. MEEHAN: I guess my question would be, could you
38 schedule -- by looking at this calendar, could you do the
39 meeting the week of February 16th or February 23rd? Would that
40 be.....

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, there's AWC meets.....

43
44 MR. UPICKSOUN: There's a lot of meetings.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:right about that date.

47
48 MR. UPICKSOUN: A lot of meetings scheduled.

49

50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right about that date.

0133

1

2 MR. UPICKSOUN: It would be nice if we knew when the
3 Kiviat was going to be, because there's going to be so many
4 other meetings scheduled to coincide with Kiviat.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

7

8 MR. UPICKSOUN: And I'm sure what you brought up,
9 Fenton, regarding AWC, there's other organizations that's going
10 to be cramming that Kiviat date, and we don't know what day
11 they're going to have Kiviat.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: If we can recommend making another
14 alternate calendar, I think we would back up to February 9,
15 open the window there through March 13 or 14. I think we'd be
16 pretty safe in there is what I can say, Rosa.

17

18 MR. UPICKSOUN: You're suggesting the earlier, the
19 better, Mr. Chairman?

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes, I agree with you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 'Cause Ray's commenting on
26 preparations just around.....

27

28 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:Point Hope, and we have
31 different hunting seasons than the other areas.....

32

33 MS. MEEHAN: Right.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:in the State of Alaska, and
36 they're trying to make it.....

37

38 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:the same all across the State,
41 it just doesn't fit our area here. So if we could go back
42 another -- move up a week, and.....

43

44 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:would be perfect I think.

47

48 MS. MEEHAN: Okay.

49

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We would have no problems with that.

0134

1

2 MS. MEEHAN: If during a break, we could ask the
3 Mayor's Office and see when the festival is scheduled,.....

4

5 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, we take a ten-minute
6 break?

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Good idea. You may take a
9 break now. Thank you, Rosa.

10

11 (Off record - 2:50 p.m.)

12

13 (On record - 3:05 p.m.)

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'd call the Council meeting back to
16 order. I want to thank Rosa for helping us -- see if I can
17 find my agenda here. 9.A.5. Any -- before we go -- okay. No,
18 we were not quite done with that yet, are we. So our
19 recommendation for the regulatory schedule according to that
20 last calendar,.....

21

22 MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:would be to move up a week.

25

26 MS. MEEHAN: Move up one week.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Move up a week.

29

30 MS. MEEHAN: Is the general part of the schedule that
31 you would feel comfortable scheduling a meeting within, like
32 within the first three weeks sometime?

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: In February, yeah.

35

36 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

37

38 MS. MEEHAN: So sometime in February?

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

41

42 MS. MEEHAN: What the Noatak -- what the Northwest
43 Council did was they identified just a general block of time
44 like that, and said that the chair could then schedule a
45 specific meeting within that block of time, and so.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, usually in our.....

48

49 MS. MEEHAN:I just suggest that.....

0135

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:agenda we have the next meeting
2 date and time. I think we'll be discussing that.

3
4 MS. MEEHAN: Right.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Under item 9 -- I mean, number 10.
7 So it will be within that February 6th through March 14th, or
8 something in that time frame.

9
10 MS. MEEHAN: Okay.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think we can discuss that.

13
14 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: In view of the fact that we don't know
19 when Kiviat is going to be, we should have a specific date so
20 reservations can be made.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Exactly.

23
24 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

25
26 MR. UPICKSOUN: And we'll stick to those dates that we
27 pick, and at least -- in the event that we do schedule at the
28 same time as Kiviat, we'll be -- every one of us will be in
29 trouble for housing.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

32
33 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep, it will be full house here.

36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN: So we should come up with a specific
38 date regardless,.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep.

41
42 MR. UPICKSOUN:whether it's the regular date you
43 want and the alternative, or alternate date. We should be
44 specific on both those dates in January and February.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Gordon. All
47 right. With that understanding, we'll move on to number -- or
48 letter (e), training material, orientation. I think that's
49 pretty much information. Oh, was there a hand over there?

0136

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do they not know yet when Kiviat is?

2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No. No.

3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I see.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's still up in the air.

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: Just -- could I borrow your yellow thing?
9 Just real briefly on the orientation materials, this was mailed
10 to everyone, and hopefully you've all received it. And what
11 this is, is the short overview of a new training manual. And
12 we're really interested in your feedback on this, and so I have
13 just -- here's a form that when you have a chance to review
14 this, we'd be interested in your comments on it.

15
16 The other part is still being finished, and that's a
17 larger packet, an orientation manual. And when that is
18 completed, it will replace the operations manual that you
19 currently have. And so that's something that you will be
20 seeing within the next month.

21
22 And just to -- a little, quick background on -- the new
23 orientation material was prepared largely out of a desire to
24 have -- that operations manual I think we could all agree is
25 kind of scary to open and try to read through, and so the new
26 materials were presented to be easily understood, and to be
27 organized so that when you have specific questions, you've got
28 a reference book that you can find things in easily.

29
30 The preparation of the materials was done through the
31 help of a focus group that included the regional coordinators
32 and several council members. And folks that helped on that
33 focus group included Fred Armstrong, Roy Ewan from one of the
34 Interior councils, Craig Kleaner also from an Interior Council,
35 Fritz George, Robert Heyano, Melvin Smith and Bill Thomas. So
36 there was quite a group of people that worked on that.

37
38 At any rate, you will be seeing that within a month,
39 and again we're really interested in your comments on it, so
40 that we can get a nice useful reference put together. That's
41 all I have to say about it.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Rosa. Very good.
44 Okay. We'll put a big star on my yellow booklet there, and
45 make -- to do. So we can.....

46
47 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:get back to the group there.

0137

1
2 MS. MEEHAN: I'm done.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you very much. Brings
5 us down to item 9.B., the annual report response. Find that
6 under tab J. I sent this off with the help of our coordinator
7 and staff, summarizing what has happened. We tried to include
8 our minutes as part of the letter that went off to Mitch. It
9 constitutes the '96 annual report, the activities that
10 happened. The meetings were all held in Barrow. There was a
11 vacancy filled by Nayukok from Atqasuk. We chose the chair,
12 and vice chair and secretary every year. And it shows the
13 results of who the members are and who the officers are.

14
15 We held two meetings in '96. The following is the
16 summarization of those meetings. In February 8 we received
17 reports from State and federal wildlife agencies on items of
18 interest in northwest area.

19
20 Our committee or Council reviewed and made
21 recommendations on the following proposals that affected our
22 region:

23
24 Proposal 65, customary and traditional determination
25 for caribou in Unit 26. We voted in favor of the proposal with
26 a modification which read 26A residents of Unit 26, Anaktuvuk
27 Pass and Point Hope. Unit 26B residents of Unit 26, Anaktuvuk
28 Pass, Point Hope and Wiseman. And 26C residents of Unit 26,
29 included Anaktuvuk Pass and Point Hope.

30
31 Proposal 66 regarding moose in 26A. Due to adverse
32 impacts on the moose population, the staff analysis modified
33 the proposal to read, close the upper Colville River and
34 instead provide a limited opening in the following -- lower
35 portions of the river. The Council adopted the proposed
36 recommendation with the modification by unanimous vote.

37
38 Proposal 67, musk oxen in Unit 26C. The Council
39 supported their original proposal of the harvest of 15 musk
40 oxen with a continuous season of September 1 through March 31.

41
42 Proposal 1, use of motorized vehicle. I think this was
43 a statewide proposal. The Council supported the proposal
44 without modification.

45
46 Proposal 55, sheep in Unit 26A, discussion on was
47 whether Kaktovik Village resident used Cane Creek and Red Sheep
48 Creeks, and deferred the proposal until more information is
49 available.

0138

1 Proposal 47 dealt with moose in a portion of 24. We
2 discussed the uses of the upper Alatna River by residents of
3 AKP. Our Council supported the proposal with some
4 modifications. It read Unit 24, portions of John River, August
5 1 to December 31; Alatna River drainages within the Gates of
6 the Arctic, March 3 to March 31 and National Park, one moose.

7
8 Request for reconsideration 95-12. The Council support
9 a recommendation of Unit 26A, B, and C, one year -- one bear
10 per year from September 1 through May 31.

11
12 We are happy to note that the villages of the North
13 Slope are now represented on the Regional Council, which we
14 want to continue.

15
16 Musk oxen co-management meetings will happen soon.
17 Geoff Carroll from ADF&G and Harry Brower from our Council will
18 take the lead in the set up of the meetings. Everyone will be
19 involved. The plan, although not quite ready for signatures by
20 the participants, has been submitted. We are pleased with the
21 progress and have made -- and are certain that our goals on
22 musk oxen will eventually be met.

23
24 Then we had another fall meeting in September 10 and
25 11. The Regional Advisory Council met, did the annual
26 elections of officers. Fenton Rexford, Chair. Edward Itta,
27 Vice Chair. Harry Brower as Secretary. We received status
28 reports from various federal and state agencies regarding fish
29 and wildlife in our region.

30
31 This was a joint meeting with the North Slope Borough
32 Fish & Game Committee, and we are looking forward to meeting
33 with them more in the near future.

34
35 Regional subsistence issues, real briefly, number one,
36 the issues that affect our region are caribou shortages around
37 Kaktovik and Nuiqsut; state fishery regulations are not
38 adopted, the regulations are not favorable to the subsistence
39 users; and, third, legal counsel for regional advisory
40 councils.

41
42 And there was a response. Maybe I'll just -- I wonder
43 if all the council members received a copy of the response from
44 Mitch?

45
46 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Just briefly, Mitch wrote back,
49 number one, expressed concern at the caribou shortage around

50 village of Kaktovik. Is pretty well self-explanatory.

1

2 He answered on the state fishery regulations should not
3 be adopted, as stated by the Regional Council. He talks about
4 the Katie John decision. In summary he proposed revision to
5 the draft proposed rule, delineation of issues on fisheries.
6 Made some detailed answers on the fisheries issues. And
7 Ms. Meehan talked about that just a moment ago. The first one,
8 two, three paragraphs talk about the fishery issues. Well, the
9 second page talks about pretty much all of that.

10

11 The third item, on the last page, we requested that we
12 have independent legal counsel as adequate technical staff.
13 The Board's response is that there is no change on this issue.
14 The Regional Solicitor's Office welcome opportunity to
15 communicate with us, with the councils on questions concerning
16 federal subsistence management. However, there is no
17 legislative or regulatory provision for the regional councils
18 to independently employ legal counsel using federal funds.

19

20 So that -- we did get a response from Mitch on our
21 annual report, and we try and include both of our minutes, our
22 actions that were taken, and summarize it into a letter form
23 from here on out. So we'll continue to work on that format,
24 because our minutes reflect the concerns and happenings that
25 are going on in Region 10.

26

27 Before I move on, any questions on the annual report?
28 If there are no questions or comments, I would like to move on
29 to regional council charter, under tab K, you'll find the
30 things that we will probably need to act on to renew our
31 council charter during 1998. The purpose is to -- the
32 charter's required under FACA, provides guidelines for regional
33 council structure and procedures. These charters expire every
34 two years on the anniversary date of ANILCA in even-numbered
35 calendar years. The current charters expire December 2, 1998.
36 Secretary of Interior with concurrence of the Secretary of
37 Agriculture must renew the charters by that date, so we'll have
38 a role in making recommended changes to the charters before
39 then.

40

41 Our recommendations or recommendations to consider,
42 some of the items in charters are a result of specific
43 regulations so cannot be changed through the renewal process;
44 however, on other items, the councils can recommend changes
45 which the Board will evaluate in developing its advice to the
46 Secretaries.

47

48 Since the last charter renewal the councils have been
49 discussing two charter items with the Board. The results of

50 earlier consultations and staff work will be included in Board

0140

1 deliberations on the items below during the current round of
2 charter renewal. And they are alternate members, and maybe we
3 can discuss this after the brief report here, or brief summary.
4 And also the compensation, which we discussed. I think we
5 pretty well stated our views on that, on the compensation.

6
7 Other items that we could provide recommendation with
8 justification include a name change, boundary change, the size
9 of regional council membership, and these are -- discussing
10 role i specific resource commission appointments, criteria for
11 removing a member.

12
13 Among the items set in regulation now are the
14 objectives and scope of activity, the duration of the charter,
15 the individual to whom the regional council reports, the duties
16 of the council, advance approval of the regional coordinator
17 for calling meetings or establishing agendas, and the term of
18 office for members.

19
20 The time line for this should be right around September
21 through October '97 to review our charters and identify areas
22 for revision. Then they'll bring it over in February -- during
23 February '98, and again the councils will review any staff work
24 regarding the proposed charter changes and finalize the
25 recommendations. Estimate for around June '98 the Board will
26 review the council's recommendation and charter renewal, bring
27 them on to the Secretaries, and then by September '98 the
28 Interior can sign the new charters by then.

29
30 So I think the items we've discussed earlier was the
31 compensation and alternate members. I think the name change,
32 boundary change, and size seems to be fairly good, my opinion.
33 We may need to touch up on removing member or criteria for
34 that, and if any other items that you see in here to renew or
35 amend the council charters, we can do that at this time.

36
37 So as far as the alternate members, I think it's very
38 important. We've had a little bit of problem yesterday due to
39 circumstances beyond our control to try and have a timely
40 meeting, and made for action. The chair would recommend at
41 least to have alternate members. I don't know how many or we
42 can discuss that at this time now.

43
44 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

47
48 MR. UPICKSOUN: We have three members from Barrow. If
49 we -- the council members concur, it would be nice if we have

50 those representatives from Barrow have alternates, or

0141

1 alternates be two, maybe two alternates for the Barrow members
2 so that in the event that when we have our meetings here that
3 there is -- we don't have a quorum, we can tap.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You mean have an alternate be a
6 resident of Barrow?

7
8 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I mean, that would really
11 accessible.

12
13 MR. UPICKSOUN: Because we were in dire -- we were in
14 trouble yesterday when we didn't -- when it looked like that we
15 may not have a quorum, you know.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I think we could either go
18 with one or two alternates that will cover for all, and one of
19 the members that may be missing or due to lack of quorum, yeah.

20
21 MR. UPICKSOUN: Or one or two, but if we had an
22 alternate that was based in Barrow. Just a suggestion, because
23 we did have problems yesterday, and I'm sure the staff was
24 aware of that.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

27
28 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, would the alternate have to go
29 through the process by the Interior Secretary approving this?

30
31 MR. UPICKSOUN: There is no precedent yet.

32
33 MR. KOONUK: For alternates?

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN: They haven't -- this is always being
38 discussed in all the councils.

39
40 MR. KOONUK: No, I'm just asking the question.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, there's no provision or anyway
43 that's in the charter that we have to follow through that
44 appoints an alternate.

45
46 MR. KOONUK: Yeah.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So this -- we can insert or make
49 recommendations to amend to include an alternate choice for an

50 advisory council. Now, I'm not too familiar with FACA or the

0142

1 other areas. I know there's off-shore advisory committees for
2 MMS. I don't see any specific lines that addresses alternates,
3 but in that council I know that they just provide a letter
4 stating the name that can cover for the person. I don't know
5 how or what jurisdictional or how legal that is or whether this
6 alternate needs to be in the charter.

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: Mr. Chair, what I would suggest is that if
9 you as a council could make a recommendation on whether an
10 alternate is a good -- if you think it's a good idea, you know,
11 make such a recommendation.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

14
15 MS. MEEHAN: As far as the bureaucratic requirements,
16 if you will,.....

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

19
20 MS. MEEHAN:we can sort that out later.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right.

23
24 MS. MEEHAN: And let you know.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I myself think that we do need
27 an alternate or at least two. Or be able to name somebody. I
28 don't know, or with a letter. Something to that effect, but at
29 least find ways and means to have an alternate.

30
31 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

32
33 MR. KOONUK: We can try to get alternates from here,
34 from Barrow or just tell them we want to get.....

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I don't know if we want to get
37 specific or not, but at least to have alternates.

38
39 MR. KOONUK: Because that was mentioned by Gordon.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. That would be pretty
42 good.....

43
44 MR. KOONUK: So that can help us get a quorum.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep. So I'm hearing from the
47 council members that we definitely need an alternate or two
48 alternates.

49

MR. ITTA: Uh-hum.

0143

1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: One or two?

3
4 MR. ITTA: If we could, Mr. Chair, I kind of was
5 following Gordon's talk here, like in my case, I was sick
6 yesterday, and Harry was out on vacation. And most of the
7 times we have our meetings in Barrow. And I -- you know, if we
8 had had the alternates, we wouldn't have had the problem on
9 quorums over here. But I'd just like to add further to that,
10 that my counterparts on the North Slope Borough Wildlife
11 Management Committee are also individuals who are well versed
12 on all the issues generally up here, and I just want to throw
13 that out. That maybe if we're going to consider alternates for
14 Barrow, that members of our committee one of the first to be
15 asked, you know, that are from Barrow, on that Wildlife
16 Management.....

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Good.

19
20 MR. ITTA:Committee, you know.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Very good.

23
24 MR. ITTA: Then we'd always be covered I think. But I
25 would support if I could the -- putting a section in our
26 charter, and I would so move, to include alternates as a
27 category to be introduced in our charter, and I so move.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. You've heard Edward Itta's
30 motion to amend or include an alternate for the regular
31 members.

32
33 MR. KOONUK: Second.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. Gordon's
36 discussion was very valid, and Edwards is even a very good idea
37 to have familiar people that are involved in the North Slope
38 Borough Fish & Game Committee, Barrow members would fill in the
39 slot very naturally, since they're -- we've been having joint
40 meetings with them, at least yearly, and it works out real
41 well. We're pretty well kept informed of what's happening, and
42 it works really good. So that's my discussion. Any further
43 discussion on the motion?

44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, yes. He made a motion to
46 the effect that we need an alternate. Will specific language
47 be inserted in there as to how we'll address who will be.....

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think administratively, or what

50 did you call that, Rosa, that we can find out the avenues.....

0144
1
2 MS. MEEHAN: We can.....
3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:to work out the.....
5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Staff will earn their pay.
7
8 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah, we need to do the staff work.....
9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.
11
12 MS. MEEHAN:to find out what the requirements
13 are.
14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And then in February or so we can
16 make the final.
17
18 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah. And we'll get back to you with
19 that.
20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. You've heard Edward's
22 comments that.....
23
24 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.
25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:his idea and Gordon's idea
27 were.....
28
29 MS. MEEHAN: Yes. Wonderful.
30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:well noted?
32
33 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.
34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You got that, Gordon?
36
37 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yes. Yes.
38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Are there any comments on the
40 motion? Ray?
41
42 MR. TAGAROOK: Call for question.
43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question is called. All in
45 favor of including or inserting an alternate member for the
46 regular council members, signify by saying aye?
47
48 IN UNISON: Aye.
49

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

0145

1

2 (No opposing votes.)

3

4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Thank you. The other
5 item, we'd discussed earlier, just maybe we can re-elaborate or
6 rediscuss the compensation for regional council members were
7 pretty well noted, or comments made. We can just bring that
8 forth to bring the comments to this point here.

9

10 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Would be good enough, okay? All
13 right. The other items -- Gordon?

14

15 MR. UPICKSOUN: We've got to include language regarding
16 compensation in our charter renewal?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. And Edward's comments earlier
19 was to try and work something out that our region -- I think
20 it's the most highest, or -- there probably is a scale for
21 various areas of Alaska. Like in Anchorage.....

22

23 MS. MEEHAN: There is.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:it's a little bit different, or
26 lower than it would be for the Arctic. Is there -- does anyone
27 know anything about that, or as far as per diem for various
28 parts of the state?

29

30 MS. MEEHAN: There is a table that's put together by
31 GSA, the Government Services organization, and they determine
32 the rate of compensation for travel, the per diem rate for
33 different cities within the state, and also different regions.
34 And that's set by an agency completely outside of us.

35

36 MR. UPICKSOUN: How does Barrow rate?

37

38 MS. MEEHAN: You know, I don't have the table in front
39 of me, and I just -- I honestly don't know. But the idea is
40 that the per diem rate is to cover lodging plus meals. So the
41 rate's supposed to cover all of your expenses.

42

43 My personal experience has been, traveling around the
44 state, that the per diem rate has always been enough to cover
45 my expenses. And if you're ever in a situation where for some
46 reason your lodging costs more than what the per diem rate
47 allows, it's because there's no other lodging -- you can't get
48 any lodging cheaper, you can write on your travel thing that
49 there was none available, and you will be paid that extra

50 amount. Yeah. So all I can share with you is just -- is that

0146

1 my personal experience has been that it's been all right.

2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Other compensation was -- trying to
3 get the highest rate. That was discussed very in depth of
4 various scales, great -- I don't know how far up they went, and
5 talked about compensation. We're talking about compensation,
6 loss of pay, honorarium, and per diem, all put together or
7 something like that.

8
9 MR. UPICKSOUN: So what you're saying is that their
10 compensation rate, we can -- we'll come up with our own
11 suggestions?

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we can get those various
14 tables to come up with a fair compensation like Ray was saying
15 earlier. He doesn't have a job, and that's been discussed
16 quite in depth or detail in the.....

17
18 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:Anchorage federal chairmen's
21 meeting. You could bring that back up for our February
22 meeting?

23
24 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It would be good I think, rather
27 than just one sentence regarding compensation, I think that we
28 maybe cover that in February.

29
30 MR. UPICKSOUN: If we were to make recommendations now,
31 she will be finalizing these recommendations in February?

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: February, yep. Yeah.

34
35 MR. UPICKSOUN: We can propose charter changes now.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum. Yes. We need to consider
38 changes in the charter for compensation.

39
40 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. Mr. Chairman, what did you think
41 of their suggestions on this compensation brief that they have?

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The compensation I know, especially
44 around Y-K, they really adamantly suggested compensation.

45
46 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: At some level that will take care of
49 them. There's been talk of honorarium, per diem, and also loss

50 of pay. At what level, I'm not sure what it was discussed,

0147

1 like \$300 a day for loss of pay. Those kind of issues were
2 brought up, so I'm -- I can't quite say what those specific
3 numbers are.

4
5 MR. UPICKSOUN: So we can't -- what you're saying is we
6 can't come up with a recommendation now with a dollar figure?

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, with a dollar figure, yeah.
9 And what Edward mentioned about the alternate, at least to work
10 up something and come back in February with the specifics I
11 think would be good. But to make recommendations to have the
12 staff look at -- or bring us the information would be good in
13 February. Is that.....

14
15 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

16
17 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: But maybe in the form of a motion
20 would be good to direct the staff to bring that full
21 information in February. As a directive.

22
23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I move that the staff be
24 directed to provide us information regarding different forms of
25 compensation that we may be able to insert into our charter at
26 the February meeting.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

29
30 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Terry. At this time the
33 charter reads that we shall receive no compensation as members,
34 and we want that reversed, or be compensated.

35
36 MR. ITTA: Call for the question.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question's called. All in favor
39 of having the staff work on the compensation and bring it back
40 in February meeting do so by saying aye?

41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

45
46 (No opposing votes.)

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Did we get that?

49

MS. MEEHAN: Uh-hum.

0148

1

2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. Now, the other
3 items, do we want to go over that? Is there anything else as
4 far as renewing or amending the charters? The charter.

5

6 MR. ITTA: Just a question if I could on removal of
7 members, on the last page? Is there a formal process in place,
8 if I could ask staff, I guess? Would somebody know? On
9 removal of members, is there any -- is there a process already
10 in place on how we accomplish that?

11

12 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chair. There is in charter, it
13 specifically states that.....

14

15 MR. ITTA: Right.

16

17 MR. BERG:upon recommendation from the Council,
18 that the Federal Board -- it's on the second page of your
19 charter, or on the last page of your charter, that if a council
20 member appointed under paragraph nine misses two consecutive
21 regular scheduled meetings, the Chair of the Federal
22 Subsistence Board may recommend to the Secretary of Interior,
23 with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, to remove
24 that individual. And the Federal Board would only make that
25 recommendation if that was -- if there was a recommendation
26 coming from the Council.

27

28 MR. ITTA: From us?

29

30 MR. BERG: Right.

31

32 MR. ITTA: Okay. And what's the normal process, like I
33 know maybe this is kind of out of the subject area, but it's
34 still something we need to do, and maybe did you direct them to
35 go ahead and start the removal process a while ago?

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No.

38

39 MR. ITTA: Okay. Maybe I'm getting ahead of myself. I
40 thought there might have been some -- another ten pages of how
41 you're going to implement each category in here. We don't have
42 any such thing?

43

44 MR. BERG: No, there's not.

45

46 MR. ITTA: Okay. All right.

47

48 MS. MEEHAN: If I could add to this discussion, the
49 Council.....

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1 MR. ITTA: Go ahead.

2 MS. MEEHAN: The Council did make a motion to pursue
3 this.....

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: (Indiscernible, away from
6 microphone)

7
8 MS. MEEHAN: Okay. Agreed that the staff should look
9 into the council member from -- for Jimmy Nayukok, since he has
10 missed -- since he's got two unexcused absences.

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Two consecutive.

13
14 MS. MEEHAN: Okay. Two consecutive unexcused absences.
15 And so what we would do with that recommendation from the
16 Council is we would pursue it by writing a letter for Mitch to
17 review, and then if he agrees, to go ahead and sign. And then
18 he would send that to the Secretary. And then it would be
19 secretarial action which would be a letter back to Jimmy
20 Nayukok to -- taking him off of the Council. So that's the
21 process that has been suggested that be started.

22
23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, did I put that -- did I
24 not.....

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think that was.....

27
28 MR. UPICKSOUN:put that in the form of a motion
29 to.....

30
31 MR. ITTA: I think you did.

32
33 MR. UPICKSOUN: And then we direct the -- and that
34 motion, that I direct -- asked that the staff start that
35 process.

36
37 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

38
39 MR. UPICKSOUN: And that was in the form of a motion
40 this morning.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Was that in.....

43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It wasn't actually -- I am looking
45 in my notes here. It wasn't actually in a.....

46
47 MS. MEEHAN: I think it started as a motion though.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It -- well,.....

0150

1 MR. UPICKSOUN: Well, I asked the Chair to direct the
2 staff to start the process.

3
4 MS. MEEHAN: Right.

5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: Now, so you still need a motion to --
7 you're saying that it has to be in the form of a motion?

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think that would carry -- what do
10 you -- any.....

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: A motion was not made. It was just
13 said that, you know, that asked that we'd do it, because you
14 agreed to it, but there wasn't an official motion made to --
15 you certainly could do that.

16
17 MR. UPICKSOUN: And you're asking -- you're saying that
18 it has to be in the form of a motion?

19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't think the charter says that.
21 It says the chair can do it.

22
23 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah, it's not required.

24
25 MR. BERG: Right. And it would come -- it would be a
26 recommendation from the Council.

27
28 MR. ITTA: Okay. That's all I was asking. I wanted to
29 know in that section if there was some formal process other
30 than what we talked about earlier that's related to the
31 charter. And that's all I wanted to know.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I think it's alerted,.....

34
35 MR. ITTA: If that's the case,.....

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:or at least it's.....

38
39 MR. ITTA:that's fine. I just.....

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:highlighted for.....

42
43 MR. ITTA:wanted clarification.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:Mitch to look into.

46
47 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah. Okay.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

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1 MR. ITTA: Okay.

2 MS. MEEHAN: But you as a council still want us to
3 pursue that.

4
5 MR. ITTA: Right.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

8
9 MR. ITTA: Right.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other items you see in the
12 charter that needs amending or deleting or inserting? If not,
13 maybe we can move on?

14
15 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Brings us down to number
18 four, any -- the round table Regional Advisory Council member
19 concerns or village concerns. Actually any matters or issues
20 of concern from the Regional Advisory Council members at this
21 time?

22
23 MR. KOONUK: Yes, Mr. Chair.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray?

26
27 MR. KOONUK: I just want to bring up one concern, and I
28 talked with Barbara before the AFN subsistence summit, to see
29 if we can go down to the summit, and the remark was that we
30 couldn't go, 'cause we would either have to pay our own
31 tickets, and get our own hotel if we wanted to attend, you
32 know, the meeting. And this has been on my mind the last --
33 ever since the Borough itself had their, you know, subsistence
34 summit. And AFN had their subsistence summit, and, you know,
35 the Federal Subsistence Board never got invited to the meeting,
36 and I don't know what our part is as board members as far as
37 these -- as far as issues, you know, that were talked about in
38 our area.

39
40 And the other thing was that in the villages there
41 wasn't very many that were invited within the Borough to this
42 summit, and people were disappointed as far as not being
43 invited, because we have a Walrus Commission, Whaling
44 Commission, city councils, tribal councils, you know, and these
45 individuals were not invited. That's one part.

46
47 And the other part is that, you know, I don't know why
48 we were not, you know, invited to these summits, you know, the
49 Federal Subsistence Board, Advisory Council. And what Barbara

50 mentioned to me was you're not -- what they told her was that

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1 we're going to be out there most likely lobbying, but that
2 wasn't what we were going to, you know, -- as a board member, I
3 want to listen to what's going on, and see what actions were
4 taken, 'cause that's what we're here for as far as being
5 Federal Subsistence Advisory Council.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum.

8
9 MR. KOONUK:for our region. And I understand
10 that, you know, these were pretty good summits, and, you know,
11 I wish we had, you know, an invitation to attend. And if
12 there's no funding for us to go out, I'd like to see that, you
13 know, funding be looked for for us to go, you know, to these
14 summits or any kind of special meetings, you know, on
15 subsistence issues, that we can attend. Because I'm, you know,
16 I don't know what really happened out there, you know, in these
17 two meetings, and I'd like to know what, you know, if there's
18 any kind of formal report from the Borough or from our agency,
19 and I'd like to see it.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, there's under 9.A we'll be
22 discussing the full report on that. But anyone want to try and
23 answer why our council members cannot -- we've been trying to
24 address that a couple of years ago through Tom Boyd and you got
25 the same answer I did, was that these are -- how should I state
26 it? Lobbying efforts or political atmosphere, or I don't quite
27 recall that.

28
29 MR. ITTA: It was as council member, you're forbidden
30 by some rule from advocating your own cause in a public forum,
31 or some such thing. Because we are tied into the U. S. Fish &
32 Wildlife Service I guess. We are under that blanket category
33 that says you cannot go to a public meeting and advocate your
34 position, which is just another one of those things I didn't
35 understand, but I can understand if it's part of the federal
36 bureaucracy.

37
38 But I've often said that this whole thing was set up to
39 make us fail. I still feel the same way, but we're still going
40 to keep going on and I know it's frustrating. I feel exactly
41 the same way you did. I felt left out, felt kind of scorned
42 and say what the hell are we doing here anyways. So just
43 express that, but got over the frustrations, and other than
44 that, that's what I know, Ray. I mean, it's crazy.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any one else from the staff want to
47 try and say we cannot attend these things, important summits?

48
49 MS. MEEHAN: The prohibition on advocating for a

50 position, that applies -- that's why you as a formal body of a

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1 regional advisory council couldn't go down and say this is our
2 opinion as this body. It's because of that prohibition against
3 lobbying for a particular interest. It does not prevent you as
4 an individual, however, from going and expressing your personal
5 opinion as you as an individual. It just prevents -- it's the
6 prohibition is on you identifying yourself as I'm a member of
7 the Regional Advisory Council, and as a council, we think and
8 then whatever the position is. That's what the prohibition
9 speaks to.

10
11 As far as receiving travel funds to go to these
12 meetings, that's -- it is a state process, they're state-called
13 meetings. Not the AFN, but the Governor's subsistence meetings
14 for the Governor's Task Force, they're state-called meetings.
15 We don't have a budget to go to those meetings. So -- I mean,
16 we didn't go to those. I didn't go to any of those meetings
17 and nobody on my staff did.

18
19 As far as the AFN meeting goes, again, that's a meeting
20 that's called.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll have to say.....

23
24 MS. MEEHAN:by another organization.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:I'll have to disagree with you
27 on.....

28
29 MS. MEEHAN: But.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:your staff did not go there.

32
33 MS. MEEHAN: We did go to the AFN, because it was in
34 town. And we did not -- we did not pay to travel to it. And
35 so.....

36
37 MR. KOONUK: I don't think the State called the
38 meeting. I think it was Rural CAP and.....

39
40 MR. ITTA: AFN.

41
42 MR. KOONUK: AFN, yeah. They're not.....

43
44 MS. MEEHAN: AFN. But that meeting.....

45
46 MR. KOONUK:they're not state entities.

47
48 MR. ITTA: But it was their.....

49

MS. MEEHAN: No, I was talking about the State

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1 legislative hearings, those were meetings. The AFN/RurAL CAP
2 -- my point is that they're meetings that are called, not by
3 us, by another organization. We don't have the budget to pay
4 for people to travel to these meetings, and so that's why --
5 that's part of why the compensation isn't there. And I'm
6 saying this not to disagree with the level of interest in the
7 meetings, and the desire to go to the meetings, because
8 obviously they're tremendously critical meetings, and very
9 important to what happens to this issue in the state, what
10 happens to you and to your children and everything. But it's
11 just -- all I can share with you is some of the constraints
12 that we face. And that's the best that I can do in terms of
13 sharing information. We certainly can elevate the concern and
14 carry it back.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I'd just like to highlight or
17 put into quote what Ray Koonuk was saying about not being able
18 to attend, and let the folks know in Anchorage our discontent
19 about not being able to attend. I know I seen several federal
20 staff members there at the meeting. In fact pretty much
21 everybody was there from the Federal Subsistence Office, and I
22 was almost sending my hotel and ticket to see if I could get
23 reimbursed for that, but I guess -- I don't know how far I'll
24 get on that one. But it -- anyway, we understand your
25 frustration, Ray. It's been discussed several times. We
26 wanted to attend several meetings, and then we were turned down
27 and upset on that, and it's a matter of record of not only will
28 be in this meeting, but it's been stated in several meetings
29 before that as well from this Council, so.....

30
31 MR. KOONUK: I wish the other villages were here,
32 Nuiqsut and Atqasuk. I'd sure like to hear what they have to
33 say, too, you know, as regards -- I don't know if they went or
34 not, but, you know, I'd sure like to hear what they have to
35 say, and -- because, you know, I feel like we've been
36 separated, you know.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum.

39
40 MR. KOONUK: Being separated, you know, in these vital
41 issues that were talked about, you know, because we hunt the
42 same animals out there, you know. We're no different. We make
43 -- you know, we listen to all these concerns and what not, and,
44 you know, it doesn't make sense, you know.

45
46 MR. UPICKSOUN: In our regional -- Mr. Chairman? In
47 our regional subsistence meeting, I saw two people from Point
48 Hope, Caroline and Elijah. Elijah's on the Wildlife Management
49 Committee,.....

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum. Right.

2 MR. UPICKSOUN:North Slope Borough Wildlife
3 Management Committee, and.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jack Schaeffer.

6
7 MR. UPICKSOUN:Caroline is your president.....

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jack was there.

10
11 MR. UPICKSOUN:of your village.

12
13 MR. KOONUK: City council, yeah.

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: Council member? Okay.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jack Schaeffer was there, too.

18
19 MR. KOONUK: But the thing is that she didn't notify
20 us, or notified anybody about these meetings, and the IRA
21 itself, I guess. You know, I.....

22
23 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah, you're quite right though, there
24 was a lot of people from the villages and it was an interesting
25 regional summit that we had here, Ray. It was.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, here in Barrow. Okay.

28
29 MR. UPICKSOUN: Here in Barrow, yeah. It was just as
30 good as the one in Anchorage.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

33
34 MR. KOONUK: Well, I wish we were here, you know.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. A point well taken, Ray.

37
38 MR. KOONUK: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other regional member concerns
41 to be brought from.....

42
43 MR. UPICKSOUN: None from Point -- none from Point Lay.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:before this committee, before
46 this council?

47
48 MR. TAGAROOK: Can't think of any.

49

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I think pretty much all our

0156

1 concerns were.....

2 MR. KOONUK: I brought one up earlier yesterday with
3 Jeff Gowan. I'd sure like to see some results, you know. It's
4 been how many years? Well, a year, maybe two years now that we
5 have talked about it, and, you know, we still haven't seen
6 anything yet.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The test -- scientific results of
9 the studies that are going on, scientific study results
10 caribou, murre. And especially the one of Department of
11 Defense analyzing the seawater samples. There were 11,000
12 samples. Those kinds of things. And there were also earlier
13 requests from the Fish & Game Committee of the North Slope, and
14 I think Ray brought it up, to analyze before subsistence of
15 musk ox be taken. Is that still a valid concern, to sample a
16 couple of musk oxen.....

17
18 MR. KOONUK: Yes.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:for carcinogens --or, I mean,
21 the other contaminants? I think.....

22
23 MR. KOONUK: That would be good.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:I don't know what federal or
26 state agency that will be responsible for getting the permits
27 to do a biological study on what is within the bodies of the
28 musk oxen. Can the staff find out.....

29
30 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:about taking at least to
33 analyze their -- or get -- answer their requests for that area
34 on account of Project Chariot was the one that was really going
35 on a couple of years ago, a couple of falls ago.

36
37 MR. KOONUK: Still going on.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep. So that is a valid concern.
40 And I think we want to -- we're getting close to setting a
41 season and bag limit for that area. We need to get some
42 samples from that. If there are no other concerns, I don't
43 have any concerns either. But I do want to thank those that
44 gave us some reports earlier. This brings us down to item 9,
45 new business, task force report regarding the summit in
46 Anchorage, it's under item -- or tab M. It's a fairly brief --
47 let's see, what is this? Sandy, are you going to cover that
48 for us?

49

MR. RABINOWICH: Yes, but let me clarify the topic on

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1 the agenda. The agenda item that I have in front of me, and
2 I'll read it, is task force report on the State memorandum of
3 agreement, not on the subsistence summit.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, okay. Okay.

6
7 MR. RABINOWICH: I don't know if you have something
8 different in writing?

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Okay. No.

11
12 MR. RABINOWICH: Okay.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Thank you, Sandy. Sandy
15 Rabinowich.

16
17 MR. RABINOWICH: Again, I'm Sandy Rabinowich with the
18 National Park Service, and I work as a staff committee member
19 to the Federal Subsistence Board. Rosa will turn on the
20 overhead here, and I'll work from these overheads.

21
22 The quick background is that about a year ago now the
23 Department of Fish & Game, Commissioner Rue, sent over a period
24 of a few months two letters to Dave Allen of the Fish &
25 Wildlife Service as the lead agency of the Federal Board.
26 Letters on the topic of a proposed memorandum of agreement
27 between the Department of Fish & Game and the Federal
28 Subsistence Board. The letters were, you know, reviewed. I
29 believe one of them was answered. And where that took us is
30 then to the situation where the Federal Board had some
31 discussion about this last spring, and directed the staff
32 committee, of which I am a member to engage in some discussions
33 with the Department of Fish & Game on that subject. So that's
34 sort of how it got started, an exchange of letters, a period of
35 time went by, and then the Federal Board directed us to
36 essentially look into it. So what I'm doing is giving you a
37 quick summary report of where we are in looking into that.

38
39 And there's -- in your packet there's a two-page write-
40 up under tab M. You may have already read that, and if not,
41 you can certainly review it later. These overheads are really
42 just a summary of that written material that you have, and you
43 know, we've all been looking at a lot of words, change our
44 focus and hopefully is going to be a little more interesting
45 this way.

46
47 Let's see, I've already covered the first part up
48 there. The second part I've really covered, that the Federal
49 Board directed us to work. We formed a group of four people:

50 myself, Peggy Fox of BLM, Ken Thompson of the Forest Service,

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1 all on the staff committee, and Greg Boss in Fish & Wildlife's
2 Office of Subsistence Management. The four of us were the
3 federal group. And then Elizabeth Andrews, who's here, you've
4 already heard from her a few times yesterday and today, led the
5 State group, and she has three other members on the State side.

6
7 Rosa, if you'd go ahead and flip that for me?

8
9 The concept here as put forward by the State, and I
10 believe as potentially envisioned by the Federal Board, is to
11 look and see if we can improve both sort of the relationships,
12 but the actual -- the results for users, for hunters. We all
13 know there's a state book and a federal book, and we all know
14 that that can be confusing at time to have those two books, or
15 two sets of regulations, different seasons and all manner of
16 things. So as the overhead says, there's a potential benefit
17 here of reducing confus- -- reduced confusion and conflicts
18 between the two programs, trying to improve the information
19 presented to councils such as yours and the other councils, and
20 also trying to improve the analysis of the proposals. In the
21 winter you'll see the written analyses as you have in past
22 years on proposals. There's a hopeful goal that those can be
23 improved, the quality of those can be improved.

24
25 Rosa, if you'll go ahead and put on the next one?

26
27 Some of the preliminary ideas that we've talked about,
28 and I really want to stress that these are preliminary ideas.
29 They've been talked about one time, one time only. Is could we
30 get closer alignment between the state and federal proposal
31 cycles? As you all know well, the Federal Board meets at one
32 point, and the State Board of Game meets at another, and
33 there's nothing very organized about how those occur currently.
34 So just a question, could we get the board cycles better lined
35 up, and would that be a benefit from your point of view?

36
37 Closer coordination of the subsistence resource surveys
38 and studies. State agencies do studies, federal agencies do
39 studies. Although personally I think there's a lot of on-the-
40 ground coordination in local areas around the state, there's
41 probably still room to do better, so that's the concept.

42
43 Another one, the third bullet up there, the fish and
44 game advisory committees, could we develop something more
45 formal, because right now there's nothing formal that exists,
46 of having someone from those committees be at meetings like
47 this? Now, I recognize that some of you are on some of those
48 committees, okay, and that's always changing, of course, who's
49 on what committees, but could something be done more formally,

50 and would that be something that you all would support? You

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1 may want to support it, you may not want to support it, but
2 that's the kind of a question.

3
4 And then another one, and something fairly concrete,
5 the last bullet there, would anybody be interested in seeing if
6 the federal program and the state program could take their two
7 regulation books and combine them, and instead of you all
8 having two regulation books, you could have all the
9 regulations, both state and federal, but in the same book.

10
11 MR. ITTA: Pass the savings on to our per diem.

12
13 MR. RABINOWICH: I don't know.

14
15 (Laughter)

16
17 MR. RABINOWICH: I don't know if there would be a
18 savings or not. It would probably be twice as thick.

19
20 MR. ITTA: Yeah, here's -- identified some funds here
21 already.

22
23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We'll pass those on to Al Gore.

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Gordon?

28
29 MR. UPICKSOUN: Could you expand more, what's -- on the
30 third item there, what.....

31
32 MR. RABINOWICH: Sure.

33
34 MR. UPICKSOUN:what's the make-up of a fish and
35 game advisory committee that you're referring to?

36
37 MR. RABINOWICH: Well, I might look for some help from
38 Elizabeth on this, but the point -- so if I don't completely
39 answer, tell me, and we'll have Elizabeth help. Throughout the
40 state, there are fish and game advisory committees. I don't
41 have great familiarity with those. I've never worked with
42 them. But the idea as I understand it from the state side is
43 they would like to see a more formal opportunity for those
44 committees to participate in meetings like this one. Okay?
45 And on the federal side, we're simply listening to that, and
46 we're trying to through briefings like this, bring that idea to
47 you, see what you think about it. See if you think it's a good
48 idea, you know, maybe -- or a bad idea. You know, we're
49 looking for input from you, but I don't know if that fully

50 answers your question, and -- does it?

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1
2 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

3
4 MR. RABINOWICH: Okay. Elizabeth might want to offer
5 some comments when I'm done here, and it's at your pleasure,
6 but I'd encourage you to listen if she has some things that
7 maybe I've missed.

8
9 If you'd flip to the next overhead, Rosa?

10
11 In terms of coordination, some of you may understand
12 this well and others maybe don't, that when the federal staff,
13 particularly people like Donna who work on the biological side,
14 begin their work, an awful lot of the information that Donna
15 works with comes from the Department of Fish & Game. And it's
16 something that I think people within the staff of the program
17 understand very well, and it's probably a mixed understanding
18 at councils about how much reliance the federal program
19 actually has on, quote/unquote, "state data". And there's a
20 lot of reasons for that. I think you probably know many of
21 them. But that's a fundamental element in really the whole
22 federal program, and particularly in the preparation of
23 analyses of proposals that you all consider. And ultimately
24 that information presented to you in part you also rely on that
25 information. So as I say, it's kind of a core thing, and
26 you'll see some suggestions in a minute here on that point.

27
28 The State also has some interest in having a
29 representative at some points in the staff committee meetings,
30 as you have -- well, maybe I should say this differently. As
31 the Federal Board meets, it's very normal prior to the Federal
32 Board meeting for the staff committee to meet, so the group
33 that I'm part of on the staff committee, we usually meet the
34 week before. We go through the agenda, try to, you know, work
35 things out for presentation so they go smoothly to the Federal
36 Board. And the State has some interest in playing a role in
37 those meetings, not to lobby us about the outcome of decisions,
38 but back to the point about the information that often comes
39 from the State, to try to insure kind of a quality control of
40 how the federal program interprets the information that often
41 comes from the State. I don't want to beat that point into the
42 ground, but it's a real key. It's a real key point.

43
44 And then the last bullet on this overhead is
45 coordination for joint subsistence management plans. You all
46 know all about that, because you've listened for quite a long
47 time today about essentially a joint state/federal musk ox
48 plan. That plan that you've talked about today is an example
49 of that bullet, looking for way to encourage more planning

50 efforts like that around the state. Pretty much every one

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1 that's been done I think is at the local level probably would
2 be considered successful, and so we're looking for ways, both
3 state and federal, to encourage more of that kind of work to
4 occur.

5
6 I've kind of already said this, but any ideas that you
7 have to improve coordination between the state and the federal
8 programs, that's the whole point of this effort. You know,
9 we'd like to bring -- we'd like to get better information in
10 front of everybody. To the extent we can improve cooperation
11 and trust, we want to do that. We understand clearly that
12 there are lots of, you know, sore points on various issues
13 between the state and the federal program, and the regulations,
14 but nonetheless, we think it makes sense to look for ways to
15 always cooperate and try to do a better job for everybody.
16 So.....

17
18 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, it's amazing that they
19 decided that it's okay to talk to each other. It's taken them
20 all this time to, now they have to justify communicating. You
21 know, this should have been an on-going thing from the word go.

22
23 MR. RABINOWICH: I think has been an on-going thing. I
24 think that in the beginning as tensions -- as the federal
25 program came into creation, I think tensions were probably
26 quite high between many state and federal agency people. This
27 is just my interpretation. I'm not suggesting that I have the
28 only view or the right view here. I think in some levels one
29 could argue that the tensions have perhaps subsided a little
30 bit, and the communication is better. And clearly at other
31 levels, and clearly at the political levels right now, of
32 course, the tensions are tremendously high. I need not speak
33 about that. And probably worse than they have been. So it's
34 real mixed.

35
36 And I don't think the goal here is permission to talk.
37 I think the goal is that the State's approached the Federal
38 Board and said, we think we can do better in our coordination,
39 and so we're trying to, you know, meet them half way and talk
40 about it.

41
42 Why don't you go on to the next slide?

43
44 The next steps, and this is really the end of what I
45 need to put in front of you, is that any ideas you have, ideas,
46 concerns, really any comments, we're going to collect those
47 together, bring them back to the group that I'm part of, and
48 ultimately to the Federal Board, and also make sure that the
49 members of the state side of the group hear it all. And, of

50 course, Elizabeth can share those, too. And that we consider

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1 -- well, it's really kind of repetitive, but your ideas in
2 developing any of these strategies.

3
4 The one point I want to sort of close on is that I'm
5 pretty comfortable to suggest that whatever we may develop,
6 because I don't really know what's going to develop. I mean,
7 we've had one meeting, okay, but whatever we develop, it seems
8 clear to me that before the Federal Board would ever sign off
9 on anything, that they would have to see a value in doing so.
10 That something would get better, okay? And I have to believe
11 the same is true on the state side, that before the State would
12 sign off on anything, they would have to believe that something
13 would get better.

14
15 And I am told, this was before I came to work within
16 the program, I'm told that there were some efforts in I guess
17 about 1990 through '92 or '93, there were some efforts to
18 develop an MOA similar -- well, I don't know if similar, but
19 along the lines of what's being talked about here, and it just
20 simply didn't work. It didn't work. People couldn't come to
21 agreement, and so there was no MOA signed several years ago.
22 So this is sort of a second try, and I think I'll stop there.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

25
26 MR. RABINOWICH: I'll see if you have any more
27 questions.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

30
31 MR. RABINOWICH: I know that it's late in the day.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Sandy. Any
34 questions or comments on the presentation?

35
36 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, we see what's going
37 on like in around Kivalina, where there's hundreds and hundreds
38 and hundreds of birds dying out, and there's an article last
39 night in the paper where -- in line with the concern that our
40 member from Point Hope brought up regarding the akpalaruk (ph),
41 the murre, the large die-off they're having in Cape Thompson
42 area, and then in the article where they say there's a 50
43 percent decline in the akpalaruks, the murre, a 50 percent
44 decline. And we're seeing part of it in regard to the concern
45 that he brought up before the article came out. So there's --
46 in fact, there can be better coordination between the state and
47 the feds, maybe they could foresaw something like this. They
48 had information, and they just published it, they just brought
49 it out yesterday. By the way, which Department was the one

50 that brought -- made all those observations regarding Bering

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1 Sea in yesterday's paper, because that was quite interesting.

2 MR. KOONUK: Department of Interior?

3

4 MR. UPICKSOUN: The Department of Interior.

5

6 MS. MEEHAN: It was the Department of Interior.

7

8 MR. UPICKSOUN: And did -- what's the State's position
9 on it? Did the State know any of this, or you just weren't
10 communicating?

11

12 MS. MEEHAN: No, that report that came out that you're
13 referencing was put out by Deborah Williams, who is the
14 Secretary of Interior's representative to Alaska. She's a
15 political appointment. But her office put that report out.
16 When they prepared that report, they did coordinate, they
17 talked with the State and with all the federal agencies to --
18 the purpose of that report was to paint a picture if you will
19 of the Bering Sea, and unfortunately the picture that they put
20 together, with input from all of these different agencies,
21 including the State, was that there's some significant problems
22 in the Bering Sea, and it is very interesting. It's frankly
23 scary.

24

25 MR. UPICKSOUN: The point I made was that the concern
26 by our member from Point Hope regarding the die-offs was -- his
27 concerns were brought out before the article came out, so we do
28 have a problem there.

29

30 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

31

32 MR. UPICKSOUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any comments or questions for
35 Sandy or.....

36

37 MR. ITTA: Yeah. Just time line wise, what -- I know
38 you're being pretty general, but do you have a time line, a
39 time frame of when you expect, if there's an MOA needed, when
40 that might occur or.....

41

42 MR. RABINOWICH: There isn't a specific schedule, but
43 let me look to Elizabeth. I'll make a comment and we'll see
44 which way her head goes, up and down or back and forth. Is my
45 memory right, Elizabeth, that we were hoping to see if we could
46 -- that if we had a draft document, that we would make a goal
47 of having it prior to the winter meetings? Is that kind of
48 what's on your mind, or do you see it mov- -- the time going
49 beyond then that we might get to a draft?

0164

1 MS. ANDREWS: Well, sooner rather than later.
2 Definitely the winter meetings. Right now as Sandy said, we've
3 had one meeting, and we're still trying to sort out what are
4 some things that we can just take care of.....

5
6 MR. ITTA: Okay.

7
8 MS. ANDREWS:administratively, like in-house, and
9 what things do we need to address actually in an agreement. So
10 we're still doing that sorting. And then we'll have a better
11 time line, but we -- I think he's correct, we were looking at
12 the winter meetings to have something.

13
14 MR. ITTA: Well, okay. That will answer my question.
15 What I just want to say, I seriously applaud you guys for your
16 effort in getting a little task group together and agreeing to
17 at least get started. I think that's all right, you know, just
18 keep working at it, you know, don't come to blows, but.....

19
20 MR. RABINOWICH: No, we were all pretty friendly the
21 first time. I mean,.....

22
23 MR. ITTA: Yeah? Well, that's good though. I'm glad
24 to see that.

25
26 MR. RABINOWICH: I think -- if I may, I think it's safe
27 to predict that for some number of your meetings to come in the
28 future, you'll hear -- we'll be on the agenda with this, and
29 you'll get a report, you know, just each time,.....

30
31 MR. ITTA: Okay.

32
33 MR. RABINOWICH:and if there's something that
34 we're looking for a specific motion on or whatever, we'll let
35 you know, but we'll keep you posted as we go so that it's not a
36 big surprise. The goal here is to make sure we don't get a big
37 surprise, and.....

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep.

40
41 MR. RABINOWICH:what was this all about? How
42 come we never.....

43
44 MR. ITTA: Yeah, I can say.....

45
46 MR. RABINOWICH:heard as it was being developed.

47
48 MR. ITTA: Bureaucracy for a new millennia. It's a new
49 way of doing things. But that's good. I appreciate it. Thank

50 you.

0165

1

2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think the council members you've
3 heard are commenting that the State and Federal Government
4 continue trying to work out some agreements or memorandum to
5 agree or disagree. I think it's good.

6

7 MR. RABINOWICH: Hopefully some agreement.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Okay. Thank you. If there's
10 no other questions, I appreciate your report, Sandy.

11

12 There's some other information under tab N, for your
13 information. There was a letter from Mitch that summarized the
14 action of the Federal Regional Advisory Council, summarizing
15 the actions taken during the spring meeting. Seven and 10th,
16 for your information. At least they acknowledge -- they didn't
17 vote yea or nay on musk ox management plan, just for your
18 information.....

19

20 MR. ITTA: Right.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:at least they acknowledge there
23 is -- was a plan from the Federal Subsistence Board that was
24 being worked on.

25

26 Anything else from the council members under N -- I
27 mean, number 11?

28

29 Before that, maybe we can try and set up a specific
30 date and time for our next regional advisory council meeting,
31 and you saw the calendar there. I forget what tab it was
32 under. Yeah, it was under tab I. We could probably start from
33 February 6th, the week -- let's see, 15 from the 9th or 8th, or
34 February 9.

35

36 For your information there was a recommendation or a
37 suggestion that we make some comments on the draft EIS for
38 NPR-A, so we may want to try and schedule something before that
39 maybe, since it's a very important issue, or do you want to
40 take it up as individually to write comments on that NPR-A EIS.
41 That's on February 10, and our window if we go with the old
42 one, the current one starts January 26. Would that be too much
43 of a problem to use the current window?

44

45 MS. MEEHAN: What we would like you to do is select a
46 meeting time within the current schedule, but also select one
47 in the alternate schedule, so that we're covered whichever way
48 the program goes. You'll have a meeting that's going to work
49 for you.

0166

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah, just for your
2 information, February 10th was the deadline again for draft --
3 or I mean comments for the NPR-A, where the deadline was
4 February 10th. And it was urged or recommended that this
5 council or this body make some comments on that or.....
6

7 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I had a whole bunch of
8 recommendations for that draft EIS, and if Dave Yokel honors
9 all those recommendations, it's going to be one heck of a good
10 time, I will state that. Right, Dave? If you honor all the
11 recommendations given, by golly, that would be a real nice
12 draft.
13

14 MR. YOKEL: I was on the same panel as you that made
15 the recommendations, Gordon. I don't think it's up to me to
16 make a decision that they'll all be in here.
17

18 MR. UPICKSOUN: I don't know where they'll go,
19 those.....
20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. But anyway, that would.....
22

23 MR. UPICKSOUN:fantastic recommendations.....
24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.
26

27 MR. UPICKSOUN:that were made.
28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. So anyway that's just for
30 your information We could -- I guess we can go ahead and use
31 the current meeting window. It starts on January 26th through,
32 well, actually March 20th.
33

34 MR. UPICKSOUN: We'll have the rough draft.....
35

36 MR. ITTA: But she wants two dates.
37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, two dates.
39

40 MR. UPICKSOUN:when is that, in November?
41

42 MS. MEEHAN: Two dates, yeah.
43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Two dates?
45

46 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah. Or you could -- they over lap, that
47 period from February 16th to February 28th is in both
48 schedules, and so if you pick time within one of those two
49 weeks, then you'd work on either schedule.

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

2 MR. YOKEL: Mr. Chairman?

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Yokel.

5
6 MR. YOKEL: If I could answer Gordon's question, when I
7 spoke yesterday, three of the current council members weren't
8 here, so if I could ask you to turn to section F in your
9 booklet, briefly?

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: F?

12
13 MR. YOKEL: Yes.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-hum.

16
17 MR. YOKEL: It says report to council by the Bureau of
18 Land Management. If you turn to the second page of that
19 report, the next to the last paragraph that referred to
20 schedule, and since I typed up.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I talked about that this
23 morning.

24
25 MR. YOKEL:this report, the schedule has changed.

26
27 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

28
29 MR. YOKEL: So I'd like to.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I talked about that this
32 morning first thing.

33
34 MR. YOKEL: Well, I don't -- I guess Gordon didn't get
35 that maybe, because he just asked again.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

38
39 MR. UPICKSOUN: My question was it will be in November,
40 now it's December?

41
42 MR. YOKEL: The first week of December, the draft.....

43
44 MR. UPICKSOUN: The first week of December. And the
45 comment ends still -- still ends on February 10?

46
47 MR. YOKEL: Correct. That's new ending date.

48
49 MR. UPICKSOUN: Pardon?

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1 MR. YOKEL: That's the new ending date.

2 MR. UPICKSOUN: That's the new ending date, February
3 10. Okay. We'll be waiting for that draft EIS in December.

4
5 MR. KOONUK: So, Mr. Chairman, where are we?

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So we're trying to set up it looks
8 like two meeting schedule dates, and I would -- the chair would
9 recommend that maybe during the week of February 2 would be a
10 good first option.

11
12 MR. KOONUK: Second that motion.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 4 and 5. We're trying to make it in
15 the middle of the Tuesday and Wednesday,.....

16
17 MR. ITTA: (Indiscernible -- simultaneous speech),
18 yeah.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:or Wednesday, Thursday would be
21 good. So what Tuesday -- and like we have it today, and
22 Wednesday seems to work out real well.

23
24 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman? We can't have it on
25 Fridays, 'cause there's no flights back.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. So Tuesday and
28 Wednesday,.....

29
30 MR. KOONUK: Point Hope and (Indiscernible --
31 simultaneous speech).

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:like February 3 and 4, does
34 that.....

35
36 MR. UPICKSOUN: That sounds good,.....

37
38 MR. ITTA: The only.....

39
40 MR. UPICKSOUN:come in on a Monday, and leave on
41 a Thursday. That sounds good, Ray?

42
43 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, sounds good.

44
45 MR. ITTA: Yeah, you guys. We're open here in Barrow.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

48
49 MR. ITTA: Any day is fine.

0169

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: What were you going to say about?
2 Okay. February. Any objection to February 3 and 4 as our
3 first option?

4
5 MR. KOONUK: No.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Turn to the second page
8 there, and try and use the second window. And we've heard from
9 Ray that probably March 20 is kind of stretching it, getting
10 representatives into Barrow in preparation of spring whaling,
11 so that takes us from February 16 to March 14, right around
12 there somewhere.

13
14 MR. UPICKSOUN: The earlier part of that window, I'm
15 looking for it.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's under tab I.

18
19 MR. UPICKSOUN: The earlier part of that window, try to
20 stay away as much as we could from March.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, late March. Try and stay away
23 from late March.

24
25 MR. UPICKSOUN: Uh-hum.

26
27 MR. ITTA: How about the first part of March?

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The first part of March sounds good.
30 Any objection to March 3 and 4?

31
32 MR. UPICKSOUN: We love those dates,.....

33
34 MR. KOONUK: Good.

35
36 MR. UPICKSOUN:3 and 4 sounds good again.

37
38 MR. ITTA: Be a good back-up there. Yeah.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. March 2nd and 4th of 1998.
41 Second option.

42
43 MR. UPICKSOUN: Third and 4th.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Third and 4th.

46
47 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

0170

1 MR. ITTA: Travel to travel.

2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No objection from the council?

3
4 MR. TAGAROOK: No, sounds better.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Travel Monday, head home the 5th.
7 All right. Any other comments? Last comments before we
8 adjourn?

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

13
14 MR. UPICKSOUN: Move that we adjourn.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: A motion to adjourn by Gordon.

17
18 MR. KOONUK: Second.

19
20 MR. ITTA: Second.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Ray. All in favor say
23 aye?

24
25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

28
29 (No opposing votes.)

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Thank you all for
32 hanging in there with us and amazingly we got done doing
33 business in one day really. I think it might work out that
34 way.

35
36 (Off record - 4:30 p.m.)

37
38 *****
39 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)
40 *****

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

) ss.

STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Rebecca Nelms, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Reporter for R & R Court Reporters, Inc., do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 170 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting taken electronically by Meredith L. Downing on the 16 and 17th days of September, 1997, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the North Slope Borough Assembly Room, Barrow, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by Meredith L. Downing to the best of her knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 22nd day of September, 1997.

Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 10/10/98