

MEETING NOTES

Pickhandle Lakes Steering Committee Meeting

Haines Junction – Da Ku Cultural Centre

August 13, 2012

Members | David Johnny Sr. White River First Nation · **Sam White** Kluane First Nation · **Ella LeGresley** Yukon government · **Nathan Millar** Yukon government

Support Staff | Kym Rempel Kluane First Nation

1. Meeting Start

The meeting started at 10:30 am. The members agreed on an agenda that included a review of the previous meetings' minutes, updates, a discussion of the draft recommendations, and next steps.

2. Discussion of Minutes from Previous Meetings

- No issues raised.
- **Action:** Tess to follow up with minutes from WRFN meeting and KFN GA.

3. Updates

- Dan Keyi RRC
 - Sam sits on the RRC and has been keeping them up to date. He will inquire at their next meeting if they would like more information from the Steering Committee. There is some uncertainty about whether the RRC considers Pickhandle Lake within the geographic area that they are responsible for. **Action item:** Sam to follow up with RRC and report back to Steering Committee.
- WRFN Meeting

- Tess, Ella, and Nathan met with the WRFN Chief and Council to give them an update on what the HPA is, what the Steering Committee does, the process used to date, the public outreach done, the plan approval process, and the draft recommendations. Chief and Council were happy to receive the information and get caught up to speed on the process. A comment was made that there were elders and or other community members that had not contributed to the process to date and it would be valuable to include their perspective. It was suggested a traditional land use study would be helpful.
- The Steering Committee discussed the meeting and the comments received. The members were satisfied with the opportunities for public comment provided to date. Several options were discussed and the members settled on a path forward which involved sending a letter to KFN and WRFN with the draft recommendations for comment. The letter would invite comment from the Chief and Council or any other member so that if Chief and Council knew of individuals that would have important information to provide they could facilitate this (through their own meeting or other means). The Steering Committee was firm in its belief that adequate opportunity for public input and comment had been provided to date, even if sometimes few individuals acted on those opportunities. **Action:** Nathan to draft and send a letter to WRFN and KFN on behalf of the Steering Committee asking for their input and comment on the draft recommendations. **Action:** Nathan to revise the recommendations (see below) for inclusion in this letter.

4. Review and revision of draft recommendations

- The draft recommendations were circulated to all in attendance. Sam had to leave early but provided his support that the recommendations were on track.
- The remaining attendees went through the recommendations and made the following comments:

- Remove “as funding opportunities become available” from the end of the 2nd moose recommendation. This language will be in a disclaimer at the front end of the plan and there is no need to repeat it here.
- There was a discussion about the second First Nation Traditional Use and Culture recommendation – about whether it was specific enough. There was also a feeling that leaving it broad spoke well to the intent of the recommendation and the plan itself. No changes were made.
- For the first Land disposition and land use recommendation, the second sentence about exceptions posed some concern. There was a discussion about what this referred to and David Johnny explained that there was one frame house that is in the HPA that is used seasonally. The SC had some reservations about specifically including references to exceptions given that there are other processes to deal with these issues. **Action:** Ella will check with colleagues about issues around this type of land use and what processes exist.
- The third bullet under Access and Roads needs to be revised. It is specifically about Off Road Vehicles and needs to speak more specifically to this within the bounds of the Steering Committee’s mandate and powers. **Action:** Tess to revise this recommendation.
- The second recommendation for Other Linear Features will be changed to reference the management plan rather than the Final Agreement.
- The Steering Committee members support the other recommendations.

5. Next Steps

- Correspondence with WRFN and KFN (Nathan)
- Draft the body of the management plan (Tess) for review at next meeting.

- Next Steering Committee meeting in early October – perhaps a meeting in Whitehorse over two days (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday are the days that work for David). Possible dates: Oct 13, 14, 15

6. Miscellaneous

- Kym is going back to school and so this is her last meeting (thanks Kym and good luck!). Her permanent replacement for this process is not yet determined. In the meantime, Colin Wright will be the point of contact at KFN.

7. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.