

Community Transition Advisory Committee (CTAC)
Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2011

CTAC meeting was held on 7/14/11 at the Extension Office conference room in Whitehall.

Attendees were Tom Harrington, Leonard Wortman, Gerry Keogh, Ann Geiger, Kim Kingston, Roy McBride, Dave Donnelly, Mark Thompson, Tim Dimock, Ed Handl, and Tammy Fischer.

Guests: Greg Corr, Garret Knowles, Mine Regional Intern, Gary Sunset, Sam Graham, and Holli Parrow.

1. Tom called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. followed by introductions.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Gerry made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 6/09/11; Leonard seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as published.

3. GSM Operations:

a. Current Operations Update

Tim reported that the mine currently has 221 employees, 16 being summer students and one intern. The mine is experiencing a delay in Mineral Hill mining due to problems managing the high wall stability and it is under control. They are two and a half months back from original mine plan and headed in the right direction to get back into the Mineral Hill area by mid October with the East area Ores sustaining the milling operations until then. Having to talk to new employees about how to handle the instabilities since an anonymous call was made to MSHA. No citations were issued. Doing a great job of handling the milling problems due to clay. Had to modify feeders and keep an excavator running full-time to spoon feed the Ore to the grinding circuit. The mine is back to achieving target production. Tim added that GSM is in the middle of their annual planning process. They just hosted the Regional Mine Manager's Meeting last month. The meeting started at Fairmont and continued on to the mine for a day.

He also reported that the mine is almost at four years with no time loss incidences. He did say that the mine does have some medical aide issues to work on.

b. Exploration

There are 88 contractors working at GSM, 23 are working on explorations. They currently have four rigs on site, one is temporary. Drilling on all three of the targets and for the most part drilling in the North area is done. Finishing the geology model this month so the mining engineering design of the North area pit can be developed. The mine has contracted to help finish and meet the standard requirements by year end. The results of the core drilling will go into the Feasibility Study when finished.

c. Third Party Ore processing

The mine is purchasing Ore from three companies, Coronado, RX Underground Mining and Radersburg. Signed contract with the Black Friday Mine to purchase Ore and have helped to achieve goal targets. Signed a contract with Garnet out of Drummond. With gold prices hitting all time highs there is a lot of interest in third party milling Ore and business has been good.

d. Concentrator Project

Nothing new to report. The Concentrator Project is their next focus.

e. Wind Development

Nothing new to report.

4. GSM Environmental Update

Mark reported that they have had no environmental incidences since the last meeting. They are working on the Cyanide Code and in September they have another certification audit for the Environmental Management System. Barrick's North American Region is getting certified as a region not just a single property. The external Cyanide Code audit was completed last month. There were about 30 audit topics. They received all green marks except for three yellows. They have 70 days to make changes to be compliant. Overall the audit was good.

Anyone interested from CTAC to participate just let Mark know; the audit lasts a week with the first and last meeting having a lot of information.

Still moving along on the South Reclamation project; they have two cats working, it's a big project hoping to have some soil on there by year end.

Mark said that Judge Tucker ruled in favor of Barrick and DEQ that backfilling would not be protective to a clean and healthy environment. This a continuation of a legal process started back in 1991.

Ed asked about the big belly dump trucks that are seen are hauling Ore to the mine, but it was confirmed that they are hauling potatoes not mine trucks.

5. Sunlight Business Park Overview

a. Construction Status

Tom reported that construction is 95% complete. There will be a final walk through with the contractor within two weeks. On the 27th of July EDA is sending their contact from Denver to do their walk through. They are looking at closing out the project end of July or first part of August. Positive note for the engineers and contractors there were only two change orders. That is impressive for a \$1.4 million project. The instillation of the gas line and Qwest phone and fiber optic lines will be finished up this week as well.

b. Subdivision Update

Moving forward as a result of the construction phase as soon as they finish the punch list, they will have the final Platt schedule with the county commission. A couple of parties are looking at the park as potential tenants. Much discussion took place regarding the potential tenants and the space needed for operations.

c. Business Assistance Center/Interpretive Center. Pending

d. Science, Technology and Innovation Committee

Still working on the Business Assistance/Interpretive Center and it ties into the Science and Technology. The first thing they'd like to see the Interpretive Center, which has evolved into a natural resource center. Want to see center have hands on learning rather than the traditional reading a plaque and tie it into the super computer in Butte. They are working with EDA on a couple other projects to get funding.

6. Piedmont Pond Habitat Development

Tom reported that Piedmont Pond Habitat has been on the books for 3-4 years. Project has resurrected itself in the last few months and Tom is corresponding with Gary to do something with the habitat development project down there.

7. Boulder Valley Water Study

Tom reported that the Boulder Valley Water Study has started. It will be a two year process studying the underground aquifers from North Boulder to the Cardwell area. This involves a team of hydrologists going out doing sample wells and checking irrigation ditch leakage and aquifer recharge. The funding for this process comes from the legislature.

8. Frontier Days 2011 – 29-31 July

Ann Geiger reported that Teresa Oyama is the new assistant at the Chamber. Teresa is a very proactive person, keeping regular office hours and contacting local business' to stay connected.

Ann said the Chamber is gearing up for Frontier Days the 29th and 30th of July. They are doing the rodeo again and plans are going well. A schedule of events was handed out with contact information for the different events. Volunteers are needed to help with the full weekend of events planned. Tim said they have a group of Regional Community Relations People out of Elko that have asked to participate in this weekend and would like to put up a booth.

Tom said he has the food for the Chamber BBQ all coordinated with Chad from the IGA, Kami Noyes providing the hamburger and Henry from Montana's Best Meat providing the brats. It should be a good Frontier Day's again this year with the NRA Rodeo being held on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Sam Graham commented how well the Bucking Horse Futurity did and that Whitehall should hang on to that event, maybe even making it into a two day event to bring in more business.

9. Other Items of Discussion

Mark said that next week the Jefferson River Watershed Council is having a committee meeting on Highlands haul route. Mark will be out of town but Darrell Scharf will go to the meeting.

Mark asked if there was any problem with them doing a grazing lease on Phase II. Lease agreement would be contingent park needs then the lease would be terminated. Tom said the way the lease is set up is that they have a memorandum of understanding that Phase II, III and IV are based on the success of Phase I. A five year lease would not be a problem for development.

Mark reminded everyone that Golden Sunlight Mine is hosting their company picnic August 20th at the Cardwell Pavilion. Sam said starts at 2 p.m. and food will be served between 4-6 p.m.

Tom reported that the Whitehall Waste Water Task Force process ended about two weeks ago.

Even though people were not happy with the outcome of the process it was agreed that the best course of action was to go ahead and move forward with this process. One thing the Task Force looked at was the rate structure and basing the cost on actual use. The town was really up against two factors, one being compliant with DEQ and loosing grant funding.

Mark added that to the downstream water users concern that the water was to be used for irrigation. When the stream flow gets low that is the absolute worst time to try and discharge under a discharge permit. All options were looked at to reduce rates and keep the water in the stream, but it didn't appear to be possible. Tom said bid packages will be going out and when a firm is picked construction will get started on the lagoons.

10. Next Meeting Date/Time

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 18th, 2011**, 8:00 a.m. at the Extension Office Conference Room. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.