

Community Transition Advisory Committee (CTAC)
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2010

CTAC meeting was held on 9/9/10 in the Extension Office conference room in Whitehall.

Attendees were Tim Dimock, Ann Geiger, Mary Janacaro Hensleigh, Roy McBride, Leonard Wortman, Tom Harrington, Tara Mastel and Nancy Wheeler. *Guests:* Greg Corr, Gary Sundseth, Dave Donnelly, Debbie Johnson-Horne and Jared Brown.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Tom called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m. Introductions were made.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Tim made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 8/19/10; Roy seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as published.

3. Golden Sunlight Mine (GSM) Operations

a. Current Operations Update

Tim reported 173 employees and 78 contractors at the mine site. The summer students and interns have returned to school. Tim said they did a great job and will plan to continue the program next summer.

b. Pit Lay Back Progress / East Area Permit Status / Mill Status

Tim said the mine continues working in three different areas and are on track to deliver ore from the Mineral Hill pit the middle of next year. The mill remains scheduled to start up in January with the east area deposits providing the mine receives the permit. The East Area permit has not yet gone out for public notice as was expected and GSM will follow up with the DEQ. The mill refurbishment is going well but is more than initially expected. In order to finish by the end of the year, some funds will be reallocated and additional contractors hired. Tim D. reported various construction projects are ongoing and are near completion on the tailings dam lift construction.

c. Backfill Judgment Hearing

The Backfill Summary Judgment Hearing was held last week in Virginia City. The judge denied both the plaintiff's and the defendant's request for summary judgment and potentially requested further briefs as the judge has changed the prior judge's focus.

d. Wind development

More requested information has been sent to the wind developer with no response. Their lease expires in April and, if no progress has been made, the mine will talk with other wind developers.

e. McLaren Tailings Project

The McLaren tailings from Cooke City have received some recent press. Wyoming has some concerns and, as a result, the state of Montana will push back hauling the tails to the mine into July as there will be less potential for road damage.

4. GSM Environmental Update

Tim introduced Debbie Johnson-Horne, Environmental Engineer, who is spearheading the Environmental Management System (EMS) at the Golden Sunlight Mine (GSM). Debbie gave a power point presentation on Barrick's Environmental Policy and EMS Overview. Barrick has changed their focus and decided to revise their Environmental Policy to align with Barrick's five core values. Debbie distributed and explained handouts on Barrick's Environmental Policy, ISO 14001 Applicable Elements, Environmental Management System: 16 Elements and a document signed by Tim Dimock, GSM General Manager, on GSM's Leadership and Commitment. Debbie said the mine's EMS is according to ISO international standards for all industries, not just mining. ISO certification means the company goes above and beyond

what normal industry requires when it comes to environmental management. GSM's objective is to be fully EMS implemented by the end of this year and then obtain ISO certification next year. Barrick, including all North America business units, will become ISO 14001 certified in 2011.

5. Sunlight Business Park Overview

a. Construction Bid Process

Tara said the four bids received for the infrastructure were opened Monday, August 23rd, at 5:00 p.m. at the Extension office. The engineers have certified the bids and EDA is now reviewing the bids and will need to give their approval before the bid can be awarded. JLDC will have a groundbreaking ceremony for the business park.

6. Groundwater Assessment Study – Boulder Valley

Tom gave an update on the Boulder River Groundwater Study discussed in previous meetings. The Interim Committee, appointed by the Legislature to give them guidance, is doing round two iterations right now. Boulder is second or third in position and has a good chance for getting on the list this next cycle. However, with the funding situation at the state level, not sure what the Legislature will do to provide resources to continue groundwater studies. Jefferson County has obligated \$37,500 toward the study. The Boulder Valley groundwater study will cost approximately \$400,000 and have re-applied for the USDA/NRCS grant that would fund \$75,000 for three years. Still working with the Bureau of Mines and Interim Committee to find additional funding and resources to put toward the Boulder Valley groundwater study and have met with Headwaters who is also trying to find funding resources.

7. Other Items of Discussion

a. Leonard gave an update on MSTI and reported Jefferson County won their lawsuit against the DEQ yesterday. The Judge ordered DEQ to modify the current EIS to accept the county's input on the issues Jefferson County has concerns with. Leonard said the DEQ needs to satisfy Jefferson County with either an explanation of why they can't do what Jefferson County requests and give a thorough explanation that Jefferson County can accept or accept some of the things Jefferson County requests. Leonard said it's a huge benefit for the entire state of Montana. DEQ has the opportunity to appeal.

b. Tara said the JLDC annual meeting will be held this evening. Over seventy people are expected and there will be great food and door prizes. The Whitehall Chamber of Commerce is planning a Business Expo again this year on October 16th. The Business Expo's intention is to showcase businesses such as home-based businesses, businesses that have a new product or businesses just looking for an inexpensive way of exposure. All businesses are encouraged to attend.

c. Ann Geiger said the Chamber is working on developing a Business After Hours program where once a month there is a social networking event in the evening outside the regular monthly meeting. The Chamber plans to start this program within the next couple months.

8. Next Meeting Date/Time

Next meeting is **Thursday, October 7th, 2010** at the Extension Office Conference Room in Whitehall at **8:00 a.m.** Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Wheeler