

MINUTES OF THE MINING OVERSIGHT / LOCAL IMPACT COMMITTEE
MEETING # 6-2009

DATE: November 5, 2009

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

PRESENT: Chairman Tom Rudolph; Committee Members Gary Baier;
Ex Officio David Schlatzley; Peter Wolk (*appointed);
Forest Director John Bilogan;
Forestry Office Secretary Cindy Eckardt;
Corporation Counsel Brian Desmond;
Planning Manager Steve Osterman.

EXCUSED: Larry Greschner; Patricia L. Peters

OTHERS PRESENT: Manny Oradei (DNR Liaison Forester); John Gartner (Geologist);
Bob Berns; Kriste Stasburg; Karl Fate.

[*Via telephone conference Oneida County Board Vice Chair John Hoffman appointed Peter Wolk, who was in attendance, to be a voting committee member for this meeting since Larry Greschner and Patricia L. Peters were excused absences.]

CALL MEETING TO ORDER—The meeting that had been properly posted in accordance with the procedures set forth by the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law was called to order by Chair Rudolph at 9:20 a.m.

APPROVE AGENDA OF PRESENT MEETING—It was moved by Baier, seconded by Wolk, to approve the November 5, 2009 agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2009 MEETING—It was moved by Baier, seconded by Wolk, to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS—Karl Fate commented that the County land belongs to the people, and public hearings should be held to keep the general public updated on the status of mining in Oneida County. Mr. Fate also expressed concern about mining waste materials.

UPDATE ON TAMERLANE VENTURES INC. INTEREST IN PURSUING MINING ON ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST—Bilogan stated that he had received correspondence from Tamerlane Ventures Inc. in which Tamerlane remains very interested in the Lynne deposit and will wait for the County to open the bidding process on the Lynne deposit.

Gary Baier questioned the County Code as it refers to exploration; feels there should be public meetings in the Towns of Lynne, Little Rice, and Nokomis; feels there should be a referendum on mining exploration; questioned the credibility of Tamerlane Ventures Inc from correspondence received from a Mr. Ahrens.

Chair Rudolph recognized Karl Fate for comment. Mr. Fate stated the need for public meetings due to the public's daily and work lives.

Chair Rudolph recognized Kriste Strasburg. Ms. Strasburg referred to the correspondence from Mr. Ahrens and felt this information should be made available to the public.

Chair Rudolph stated that the County is in the process of proceeding further for just exploration; not mining.

David Schlätzley asked for exploration to be defined. Exploration refers to the confirmation drills of 10% drill (or bore) holes.

Corporation Counsel Brian Desmond stated that the County would have the "right of first refusal" type concept pertaining to exploration.

David Schlätzley asked if there is a guarantee that ground water would not be affected?

Chair Rudolph referred to Corporation Counsel when, if, and what type of public meeting would be necessary.

UPDATE TERM OF FORMER MINERAL LEASE (REVIEW OF RESOLUTION # 21-90 WITH LEASE AGREEMENT ATTACHMENTS)—John Gartner, Geologist, stated that test pits would be required first, and that public meetings are held throughout the exploration process, and there is a competitive lease procedure. Bonding and reclamation processes were also described by Mr. Garnter.

Steve Osterman, Planning Manager for Oneida County, stated that there are many permits (CUP; exceptional CUP that go to County Board for approval) that have to be obtained before exploration occurs, along with applicant regulations and completed forms with provisions to the WDNR. There are also two trust funds set up. In the past the County had secured Paul Kent, Attorney from Eau Claire, for counsel on mining exploration issues.

Karl Fate stated that the Town of Lynne is not mined for zoning and encouraged on-line research of massive sulfide mine in the Town of Lynne.

David Schlätzley stated concern about the water quality guarantee.

Corporation Counsel Brian Desmond stated that the mining exploration issue is complex and recommends outside legal counsel. Chair Rudolph asked Mr. Desmond to research outside legal counsel that specializes in mining law and to report back to the committee at a future meeting.

Manny Oradei, WDNR Liaison Forester, stated that he would check with the WDNR legal counsel specializing in mining law.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Decide type of meeting forum. Utilize local geologists. Consider outside legal counsel specializing in mining law. Input from Towns via public meetings. Peter Wolk stated that these issues take time, but to proceed in the manner in which the Committee feels necessary.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS—Date of next meeting. **Thursday, December 3, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. for the next Mining Oversight Committee meeting. Committee Room # 2, Second Floor, Oneida County Court House, Rhinelander, WI.** Agenda Items: Corporation Counsel’s research input on outside legal counsel specializing in mining law. WDNR input on mining and water quality. UW—Extension (Tom Evans, Geologist) input on mining / exploration law. Ahrens correspondence input.

ADJOURN—With business completed, it was moved by Baier, seconded by Wolk, to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 a.m. Motion carried.

TOM RUDOLPH
COMMITTEE CHAIR

CINDY ECKARDT
RECORDING SECRETARY