

Minutes August 2, 2000 WCRC Meeting

Meeting held in the Creede Town Hall

Called to order by Chairman Zeke Ward at 1:04 PM

Those Attending: Name	Affiliation	Address
Glen Miller	Resident Resident	miller@amigo.net
Zeke Ward	SLV RC & D Forest	redmtn@fone.net
Jim Mietz	Service NRCS Resi	jmietz@co.nrcs.usda.gov
Les Dobson	dent CSU Co-op	ldobson/r2_riogrande@fs.fed.us
Steve Russell	Ext. CDPHE Reside	srussell@amigo.net
Jim Matush	nt Resident Reside	matush@amigo.net
Marvin Reynolds	nt Resident EPA Ar	conejos@coop.ext.colostate.edu
Kathllen Reilly	my	kathleen.reilly@state.co.us
Rod Wintz	Corp EPA Resident	Box 220 Creede, CO 81130
John Howard	Resident South	jhoward375@aol.com
JB Alexander	Fork Railroad	719-658-0633
John Parker	Preservation	Box 728 Creede, CO 81130
Mike Wireman	Group Homestake	303-312-6719
David Gregory	Mine Resident	505-342-3478
Peter Ismert		ismert.peter@epa.gov
Denise Uhleman-Armstr.		Box 266 Creede, CO 81130
Sandra Wright		cityof creede@amigo.net
Wayne Peck		South Fork
Ron Askew		P.O. Box 4091 Evergreen, CO
Mark Stromberg		mwsberg@kcnet.com
Chuck Barnes		719-658-0203

Introduction of members and Misc. business (Chairman Zeke Ward)

Glen Miller-CDPHE Mine Safety Course will be held August 9-11. Need 6 attendees in order to qualify for free class. All interested are welcome. WCRC will provide one night's lodging for the instructor.

XRF and Trailings pile characterization

David Gregory – Characterization of area with sophisticated reader called the XRF will be an opportunity for the continued education of tech committee. Army Corps will foot the bill for characterization. Suggested that they should collect the samples first and make maps of the area. Les will take digital photos of files. Are these segregated in any way with regard to the type of materials? Is there someone who knows enough about the milling, so they can help decide what is what?

Mike Wireman said he would then put together materials so that the end report would be organized.

Zeke Ward suggested Sam Gray, Gerald Schlough, or Mac Roeber. He also clarified that they would only be looking for the presence of elements not necessarily the quantity of those elements.

David Gregory says that the XRF is not necessarily dependable data in itself but a comparison level with which to start. Discussed permission of property owners to access test areas.

Glen Miller- Riverwatch lab is finished running samples for May big event . Barb Horn has data and will be compiling results and will fax to Glen upon completion of report.

Bob Kirkham and Bruce Stover are working in the Solomon. Phase 1 will be almost done today. The tunnel went back 3,000 ft. and is in good shape. He estimated that there is about 15 gallons a minute coming out of tunnel, consisting of about 10 gallons a minute fresh water and 5 gallons a minute of contaminated flow. This, of course is just an initial estimate.

Mike Wireman-Willow Creek has received a Clean Water Act grant for \$21,000 (signed sealed and delivered). Money may be available in a month. Need to access the Nelson to see if they can get in to work. This money will be used to determine accessibility. If promising, then chances are 90% that there would be more funds available to finish the work the following year. Step 2 would be a full-blown study of the Nelson Tunnel. Zeke mentioned that Ish Stewart was the last one to work in that tunnel and suggested the Stephen Wardell approach Mr. Stewart to obtain information on the condition of the tunnel.

Contract

Assistance

Glen Miller- is having trouble staying on top of all projects and would like for hire contract labor to take on certain aspects on an as needed basis. Les Dobson contributed \$6,000 and CDPHE may make a contribution to bring that to \$15,000.

Proposed Contractors would be Lindsay Fox for grant writing and Dawn Ward for miscellaneous projects and office support. The pay would be \$15.00 an hour. Zeke excused himself from discussion due to conflict of interest (Mrs.Ward is his wife).

Chuck Barnes moved to approve an expenditure of up to \$14,984 dollars toward contract help for this next year. Jim Mietz seconded and all were in favor.

Hecla (Dave Suhr replacement) – Railroad-etc:

Glen said Pete Magee will be doing some mapping and would donate up to \$3,000 in-kind. Glen told him they would be willing to pay some as well.

Sandra Wright- Major Hecla shake up and change in personnel. Dave Holland will be replacing Dave Suhr.

Zeke said that maybe they should consider the mill property since the PPA (prospective purchaser agreement) may not go through.

Glen said that he and BJ Myers walked the cement flume down the railroad? Don Shank has stirred up quite a mess and could possibly cause a problem in the water where WCRC is sampling. He has taken a chunk out of the Emperious mine tailings in what appears to be beyond his 50 ft. right of way.

Zeke said Shank and Union Pacific have not shown any willingness to work with WCRC. However, JB has a letter from Mr. Shank stating his willingness to work with WCRC.

Sandra has notified Hecla that Mr. Shank is digging in the tailings. Ron Askew says there is a 2 part violation by Shank and the State Land Board needs to be made aware.

Shank needs to be contacted. Zeke Ward will call him. It was proposed that letters to Mr. Shank, Hecla , and Union Pacific be drafted with copies to all concerned parties, addressing this issue. Zeke will generate these letters pending his meeting with Mr. Shank. Prior to being sent they will be approved by Commissioners, City of Creede and City attorney, Robin Crites.

Mike Wireman- Stream Tracing techniques... Bryant will be arriving on Aug. 25. Measurements will be done on that Friday and Saturday. Sunday (West Willow), Tuesday (East Willow) and Thursday (Below Trout Ponds) will be injections and Monday, Wednesday, and Friday they will do synoptics. It will be about an eight-day process. Bryant will not be bring his usual crew in order to save money, so volunteers will be needed. JB will round up those volunteers. The purpose of this study is to gain information on where there is significant ground water in streams plus accurate flow calculations for creeks. This will result in an official USGS report. Tuesday, August 29, there

will be a Recon with Bryant Kimball and they will re-think the groundwater tracing to be sure all bases have been covered.

Steve Russell- Drought is causing problems with last year's planting. This year's planting is also of concern.

There will be a conference in Steamboat Springs called the National Abandoned Mine Conference. It will be held on September 25, 26, 27. the registration fee is \$150.00. Suggested that Glen should attend. 319 Board presentation is scheduled for either September 18 or 19. Participation Agreement from Forest Service was presented. Chuck Barnes motioned that it be accepted, many seconded and all were in favor. Zeke then signed the contract. There will be no third sampling. The Stream Tracing will take the place of this. Meeting adjourned shortly after 3:30 PM Minutes submitted by: Approved and accepted: _____

Dawn Ward
(Coordinator Assistant)

Zeke Ward

(Chairman) Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 6th at 1:00 PM at the Creede Town Hall.