

GARFIELD COUNTY ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD (EAB) MEETING

Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Minutes (FINAL)

Location: Garfield County Fairgrounds Arena Conference Room in Rifle, Colorado

**CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Jon Black called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Jon stated that Betsy Suerth was unable to attend the meeting and he would be conducting the meeting as Vice Chair. Jon also stated that the EAB meeting had to move locations at the last minute due to H1N1 vaccines being given at the GarCo Health & Human Services Building.

EAB members introduced themselves. EAB members in attendance:

Black, Jon	<b>EAB Vice Chair</b> – Antero Resources
Braaten, Mike	<b>EAB Secretary</b> – City of Rifle
Jordan, Judy	Garfield County
Rothman, Artie	Town of Carbondale
Mumma, Don	Battlement Mesa Oil & Gas Committee
Robinson, Leslie	Grand Valley Citizens Alliance (GVCA)
Meskin, Michael	Grass Mesa Homeowners Association
Brynildson, Scott	Mamm Creek/Hunter Mesa
Savage, Joann	Taughenbaugh Mesa
Donato, Scott	Bill Barrett Corporation
Baird, Cary	Chevron
Froistad, Kurt	Conoco Phillips
Long, Sher	EnCana
Padilla, Daniel	OXY
Alvillar, Susan	Williams

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Jon Black entertained a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. Leslie Robinson moved to accept the minutes as presented and Don Mumma seconded. The board then voted unanimously to approve.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Marion Wells said during paving on CR 301 the trucks used CR 309 (a non haul route) instead of the designated haul route and many were speeding. At 8622 CR 301 a driveway apron has been damaged by trucks turning around in the driveway for the past two years, which serves four residents and they would like to have it fixed. Marion recently noticed that CR 251 (Hasse Lane) had been newly paved and the road is not a high traffic area and only has 8 to 10 residents that live off the road. Marion said the road ends at property owned by Marvin Stephens with GarCo Road & Bridge and she asked why that road was paved ahead of others in more need such as CR 215, 346 and many more that serve more residents. Marion said at the last EAB meeting a website named energyindepth.com was mentioned for frac facts and that disturbed her because she feels the website is only full of answers from the energy industry and not necessarily the facts.
- Annick Pruitt with the Rifle Chamber announced that on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8am at the Rifle CMC Campus, Denise McCourt from the American Petroleum Institute will be speaking on America's energy future. The seminar is open to the public.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Judy Jordan explained that the monthly complaint report the Oil & Gas department reports on at EAB is just like any other update that is reported on for the department. The report is to give people a feel for the business that the Department is engaged in in the same way that the operators provide updates on their drilling programs. The complaints that come in to the O&G department are handled internally.
- Wendy Swan reported that 10 letters of interest had been received for the vacant citizen representative areas and they are in the process of setting up interview times with the candidates and the interview committee. The areas that letters were submitted for are Battlement Mesa/Battlement Creek, Parachute/Parachute Creek, Rifle/North Rifle and Rulison/Holmes Mesa/Morrisania Mesa. No letters were submitted for Dry Hollow or Una Bridge/Wallace Creek/Spring Creek which leaves them vacant and open for interested candidates.

## NEW BUSINESS

- For the December 3<sup>rd</sup> EAB meeting, board members need to come prepared with nominations for the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary positions to start in January 2010.

## EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

**David Andrews, the COGCC West Region Engineering Supervisor, gave a presentation on fracing regulations under the COGCC.**

- Please visit the EAB website at <http://www.garfield-county.com/Index.aspx?page=768> and click in the table for the 11/5/09 EAB meeting to view the power point presentation titled “COGCC Frac Rules”.

## EAB MEMBER UPDATES

**City of Rifle** – Mike Braaten reported that they were recently notified by Representative Salazar and Senator Udall that Rifle has received a federal appropriation for water transmission improvements. The library district is building a new facility along with a civic plaza and multi level parking structure. On November 19<sup>th</sup> Rifle is having a shopping and dining incentive program. Rifle has been selected as a candidate for the CO main street program. The new wastewater treatment facility (a multi-year project) will be completed by the end of November.

**Battlement Mesa Oil & Gas Committee** – Don Mumma reported that Antero has presented the committee with their 8<sup>th</sup> and final presentation on drilling inside the PUD and the committee now plans to analyze everything that was presented and come back to Antero with their thoughts and any suggested changes.

**Grand Valley Citizens Alliance** – Leslie Robinson reported that the movie “Split Estate” is being shown in the valley. They have asked the GarCo BOCC to support the Frac Act. Some of the public had asked why there were not many people at the October EAB and Leslie said it was good to see more people at the November meeting.

**Grass Mesa Homeowners Association** – Michael Meskin reported that his water well was recently tested by EnCana and USGS. He said EnCana ran the water for 15 minutes before testing and USGS ran the water for 2 hours before testing. He thought the extreme difference in time was strange and it will be interesting to see the differences in the lab results. Judy Jordan explained that the reason for evacuating the well prior to sampling is to ensure that the water being collected is from the formation rather than from the well casing, which typically is chemically altered. Standard protocol is to remove 3 well volumes after measuring the water level in the well and calculating the volume of water standing in the well. However, the sampler sometimes has to alter their protocol if the well has a slow recovery time, so that they don't deprive the owner of water for a long period of time. This is one of the reasons that monitoring wells are preferable to domestic wells for water quality analyses.

**Taughenbaugh Mesa** – Joann Savage reported that water trucks have been speeding more.

**Antero Resources** – Jon Black reported that currently they have no drilling going on. They have 1 workover rig south of the CO River between Rifle and Silt. They have completed their meetings with Battlement Mesa. They plan to use 1 rig for 2010.

**Bill Barret Corporation** – Scot Donato reported they have 3 rigs south of Silt and 1 completion crew. Their 2010 forecast is to use 3 rigs and drill 110 wells.

**Chevron** – Cary Baird reported that their new CPF is up and running. They have not had any environmental or safety problems since last EAB. Company executives toured the facility recently. They are still patrolling their land for unauthorized hunting.

**Conoco Phillips** – Kurt Froistad reported zero rigs running in Garfield County.

**EnCana** – Sher Long reported that they have 1 rig in North Parachute Ranch and will go to 2 rigs on December 1<sup>st</sup>. They have 2 rigs in the South Piceance and the one on Rose Ranch in Mamm Creek will be moving to north central Grass Mesa shortly. They have 1 rig moving from Wallace Creek to CR 303 area. All of their water trucks run GPS now and please use the community counts phone number at **866-442-9034** for any problems. They have a new expanded version of a DVD called “Mitigating the Impacts” on the website [www.communitycountscolorado.com](http://www.communitycountscolorado.com). EnCana, Williams, Bill Barrett and Noble are all working together to bring a natural gas filling station along the I-70 corridor, most likely in Parachute first, and then Rifle and Grand Junction.

**OXY** – Daniel Padilla reported that they have two completion rigs operating north of DeBeque in the Cascade Creek area.

**Williams Production** – Susan Alvillar reported 8 rigs running with 7 in Garfield County. Susan said Jake Mall was responsible for getting the rest of CR 301 paved. The Battlement Mesa Oil & Gas Committee has invited Rick Matar with Williams to speak about air quality at one of their regular meetings on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 5pm. During Antero’s process to drill inside the Battlement Mesa PUD it came to light that Williams has 2 pads inside the PUD that never received the SUP required by the county. One pad has been there for 19 years and the other for 9 years. The oversight was not caught by the County, Williams or Battlement Mesa Partners. Williams went before the GarCo BOCC to explain the situation and they agreed to allow them to continue their business while they apply for the SUP’s required. They recently sent out 1,300 certified letters to residents inside the PUD explaining the situation and informing them of the upcoming hearings. The first hearing is in front of the Planning & Zoning committee on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and the next one is in front of the GarCo BOCC on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Garfield County Oil & Gas** – Judy Jordan reported that she recently spoke with GarCo Sheriff Vallario and the model traffic code is expected to be adopted this month. The Operators are aware that COGCC has required pit liners to be disposed of and the GarCo landfill cannot handle them. GarCo is talking about creating a new facility to accept the liners. Judy would like to bring together a meeting with the GarCo Operators to discuss options. Meeting can possibly take place on December 3<sup>rd</sup> prior to the EAB meeting. Scot Donato responded that operators’ first question will be how much it will cost to dispose of liners at a Garco facility. Judy indicated that a feasibility study that outlines costs is underway.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

- Leslie Robinson said citizens would like to know more about wastewater that is disposed of in injection wells since more are coming into the area.
- Judy Jordan informed the board that she has lined up Jennifer Miskimins, Associate Professor of the Petroleum Engineering Department at the Colorado School of Mines, to do a presentation on fracing at the December 3<sup>rd</sup> EAB meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Marion Wells would still like follow up on the following issues: Where was the specific location of the black frack spill; where are spills happening; the boring under CR 309 failed and there are issues getting it repaired; no efforts have been made for pipeline reclamation in her area; there are mud and rock problems on CR 309 by the firehouse; speed and traffic problems are increasing not decreasing; trucks are still pulling over on her property; where did the

100 plus barrels of spill in Rifle come from; county agencies went on a tour with Williams to show their side of the stormwater issues but did not tour her property. Judy Jordan said that she offered to tour Marion's property as well but her offer was declined by Marion, she then facilitated a group of EAB members to tour her property and that has not worked out yet either. Scott Brynildson said he would call Jeff Simonson to tour Marion's property on the afternoon of November 10<sup>th</sup> and Marion agreed to that date and time. Marion told Leslie Robinson that she would like to see the EAB host a presentation by Theo Colburn.

- Sandy Sataris, a citizen of Rifle said if fracking is so innocent then why is the Frac Act going on and why are MSDSs so secretive. Judy Jordan said to visit the GarCo O&G website where many MSDSs are posted for public viewing.

## **ADJOURN**

Jon Black adjourned at 7:50pm.

## **MOTIONS PASSED AT THIS MEETING**

- Jon Black entertained a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. Leslie Robinson moved to accept the minutes as presented and Don Mumma seconded. The board then voted unanimously to approve.

*Prepared by Wendy Swan, Garfield County Oil and Gas Administrative Assistant*

*Approved by the Energy Advisory Board on*

*Date*

*Mike Braaten, Secretary of the Board*