

**GARFIELD COUNTY ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD (EAB) MEETING**

Thursday, November 4, 2010

Minutes (Final)

Location: BOCC in Glenwood Springs, Colorado

**CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Jeff Simonson called the meeting to order at: 6:03 pm.

EAB members introduced themselves. EAB members in attendance:

Jeff Simonson (JS)  
Judy Jordan (JJ)  
Leslie Robinson (LS)  
Joyce Wizer (JW)  
Cary Baird (CB)  
Daniel Padilla (DP)  
Kelly Lyon (KL)  
Michael Meskin (MM)  
Artie Rothman (AHR)  
Brent Buss (BB)  
Eric Brynildson (ER)  
Bob Arrington (BA)

**EAB Chair** – Divide Creek  
Garfield County  
Grand Valley Citizens Alliance (GVCA)  
Grand Valley Citizens Alliance (GVCA)  
Chevron  
Oxy USA Inc.  
Town of Silt  
Grass Mesa Homeowners Association  
Town of Carbondale  
Rifle/North Rifle  
Mamm Creek/Hunter Mesa  
Battlement Mesa/Battlement Creek

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Board reviewed the minutes from October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. JS entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. BA moved to accept the minutes after minor administrative corrections. KL seconded. The board then voted unanimously to approve.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

“EAB Public Comment Follow-up Report” - Marion Wells comment on 9/2/2010. JS followed up with CDPHE and is still waiting for the report from them regarding this incident. If JS does not hear something in the near future he will call Jeremy Torres at the CSHD.

**NEW BUSINESS**

JS brought up on the election of EAB officers for 2011 elections. CB would like to nominate to keep the same Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. LR seconded this motion. The vote was not unanimous. JS wanted to clarify the rules. JJ, JS checked by-laws for the proper procedures to nominate and vote in the committee. The proper procedure would be to appoint a nomination committee and then have an election in January of 2011. CB amended her motion to forgo the nomination committee and then in December to nominate the existing officers to be appointed another term starting January 1, 2011. LR seconded the amended motion. The members voted unanimously to approve the motion. Therefore, the members will nominate the current officers at the December meeting.

## **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

Jock Jacober on "Thompson Divide Coalition". [www.savethompsondivide.com](http://www.savethompsondivide.com)

After presentation DP and CB expressed interest in migration patterns of wildlife in the National Forest and the Piceance Basin . CB would like DOW to give a presentation to the EAB in the future. Jock said that Scott Fitzsimmons with the White River Forest would be a good contact for a presentation.

Please visit the EAB website at <http://www.garfield-county.com> and click in the Oil & Gas page. Go to the EAB minutes and presentation table and double-click on link.

## **EAB MEMBER UPDATES**

### **Town of Silt – Kelly Lyons (KL)**

A few wells are operating north of Silt. KL is wondering if gas was found. JS asked if the residents understand spacing and exactly what Antero is requesting COGCC to change. JJ responded that there is a meeting on November 9, 2010 at 8:00am with the BOCC regarding the 10 acre spacing. KL stated that he thought lease owners are sometimes more educated about oil and gas operations than surface owners. JJ is hoping the meeting will open up communication between industry and community that is concerned about its health, water and landscape.

### **Town of Carbondale – Artie Rothman (AHR)**

AR is in support of the Thompson Divide Coalition. JS said that future property owners/private holders might want to exercise their right to lease their property. AR said he thought the area's rough terrain may inhibit development such that there might not be that much impact on private owners.

### **Town of New Castle – Art Riddle (AR)**

No report.

### **Divide Creek – Jeff Simonson, (EAB Chair)**

No Report.

### **Battlement Mesa – Bob Arrington**

BA recently went on a tour of Antero facilities. JJ asked about the tour that COGCC took of the Battlement Mesa area. LS and the BCC were surprised that the tour was given by Antero because they expected that it would be given by COGCC. JJ said that COGCC seemed to be disorganized about scheduling the tour-Carol Harmon had called JJ two days before the tour, asking her to give a presentation. JJ was out of town and was not able to attend. LR said that the citizens were disappointed because they felt that there wasn't anyone to hold Antero accountable. BA stated, according to BCC members there, that Antero couldn't/wouldn't answer or respond to questions the BCC were asking. BCC is still waiting for questions to be answered. BCC witnessed a huge dust cloud, off the new EnCana pad, that left the area covered in dust. Since then EnCana has come through with water trucks to mitigate the dust situation. BA also said that there have been refresher courses for the "bucket brigade."

**Grass Mesa Homeowners Association – Mike Meskin**

No report.

**Grand Valley Citizens Alliance (GVCA) – Joyce Wizer (JW) and Leslie Robinson (LR)**

No report.

**Rifle/North Rifle- Brent Buss (BB)**

No Report.

Comment: BB is concerned about the articles in the paper regarding fracking and the effects on ground water. He is worried that the issue is continually “up in the air.” He stated that we need to help the oil and gas industry develop responsibly. BB realizes that the fracking fluid is a trade secret but the residents would feel safer if they were given some idea of what the fluid contains. BB wants to believe industry and that they would not hurt the communities that they are working in. JJ stated that there are differing opinions and complications in trying to figure out the effects of oil and gas development.. CB stated that she thought that the EPA was going to do a study on fracking, including considering comments from industry and the community. JJ said that the Garfield County is attempting to help answer some of these questions. We installed air monitoring equipment in Battement Mesa in response to odor complaints from residents. The data are hard to interpret because the County doesn't have access to information about what the operator is doing at any given time that may be causing effects. The County has done hydrogeologic investigations in the area south of Silt and the results have not been conclusive. They are currently installing monitoring wells that will hopefully help answer some of these questions in the future.

**Oxy USA Inc. - Daniel Padilla (DP)**

DP said they were planning on three drill rigs running north of DeBeque, There are two drill rigs operating in the Cascade Creek area through the end of the year.

**Chevron – Cary Baird (CB)**

CB said that well completions and infrastructure are continuing at a measured pace and will be finished around December 1 Chevron experienced a fatality in west Texas in early October. A root cause analysis and investigation have been completed, and our business unit president will report in person to the Chairman of Chevron.

2011 work includes reviewing cement bond logs on all wells to be completed next year. This is an important step in ensuring well integrity.

Recent contributions include a large grant to be made by the end of the year to the John McConnell Math & Science Center of Western Colorado in the amount of \$125,000 to conduct a year-long Youth Policy Summit. Education continues to be a major focus of Chevron as evidenced by contributions to the EPIC program, DeBeque Schools, Rangely Schools, Mesa State College, Colorado Mountain College, Colorado Northwestern Community College, and environmental education, as well as districts and colleges in northwestern New Mexico.

**Garfield County Oil & Gas – Judy Jordan (JJ)**

No update beyond what was stated above in response to BB. Denice Brown reported that Channel 10 in Rifle could not travel to offsite locations to video the EAB meetings. She asked if

the members still wanted to schedule meetings at locations other than the HHS building in Rifle. The consensus was that the EAB would still like to continue rotating meetings to different locations.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **ADJOURN**

- JS adjourned the meeting at 8:08 pm.

### **MOTIONS PASSED AT THIS MEETING**

- Motion to have the same Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for 2011

*Prepared by Denice Brown, Garfield County Oil and Gas Administrative Assistant*

*Approved by the Energy Advisory Board on*

*Date*

*Cary Baird, Secretary of the Board*