

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

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Minutes (FINAL)

GarCo Health & Human Services Building 195 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street Rifle, Colorado

**CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Alan Lambert called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

EAB members introduced themselves. Below you will find the names of the EAB members in attendance:

Smith, Jesse	Garfield County
Briedis, Indra	Garfield County Oil & Gas—EAB Secretary
Lambert, Alan	City of Rifle
Satterfield, Juanita	Town of Parachute
Bell, Orlyn	Citizen Rep. (Divide Creek/Dry Hollow Creek)
Mosby, Mike	Citizen Rep. (Taughenbaugh Mesa/Morrisana Mesa/Rulison)
Richardson, Noel	Citizen Rep. (Una Bridge/Wallace Creek/Spring Creek)
Savage, Roy	Citizen Rep. (Parachute/Battlement Mesa)
Bedell, Kathryn	Citizen Rep. (Roan Creek)
Brynildson, Scott	Citizen Rep. (Mamm Creek/Hunter Mesa)
Mumma, Don	Battlement Mesa Oil & Gas Committee
Adams, Shirley	Grand Valley Citizens' Alliance
Dobkins, Terry	Antero Resources
Freeman, Chris	Berry Petroleum
Donato, Scot	Bill Barrett Corporation
Rush, Matt	Chevron
Long, Sher	EnCana
Bankert, Wayne	Laramie Energy
Clifton, Leland	Maralex Resources
Ryland, Curtis	Marathon Oil
Dennison, Doug	OXY
Parker, Craig	Petrogulf
Johnston, Tyson	Petroleum Development Corp.
Mykitta, Rick	Shell
Alvillar, Susan	Williams Production

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Two minor modifications were made to the draft of the minutes from last month's meeting (re: EAB Air Quality/Odor Mitigation Committee & also re: EnCana's notes under "EAB Member Updates"). These newly modified minutes of the previous meeting, held Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 were accepted & approved by vote of the board. A copy of the revised minutes will be shared with EAB members via email.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Educational Resources Committee:  
Terry Dobkins reports that the committee is still working on the educational pamphlet. A draft was shared with Jesse Smith & the committee is currently editing the pamphlet. Also, the committee hopes to set up an educational program regarding air quality in the future.
- Air Quality/Odor Mitigation Committee:  
The committee did not meet this month. Williams Production has recently identified a qualified representative to join the EAB Committee. His name is Rick Matar and is head of Williams' air quality group. Rick has been involved in many community air quality plans in various states across the country. EnCana has also identified an appropriate representative to join the EAB Committee. They hope to join the Committee's next meeting.

A few months ago, this committee was formed by the EAB with minimal instruction as to their precise mission. At last month's meeting, the committee gave a proposal for their mission statement. Alan Lambert read the statement aloud. Discussions on this topic continued at today's meeting. It was mentioned that addressing odor issues (in addition to air quality issues) was initially mentioned as one of the main goals of this Committee.

The EAB Committee is aware of a current technical air quality workgroup, organized by Jim Rada, GarCo Environmental Health Manager. Jim Rada shared background information on this topic: Jim was hired in August of 2005. He was working on developing a comprehensive management program for GarCo, which is a very complex issue. Once Doug Dennison left his position as GarCo Oil & Gas Liaison in November of 2005, Jim took over the GarCo ambient air quality study & health risk assessment. In January 2006, Jim created an air quality technical workgroup (composed of private consultants, state reps, and technical reps from CMC, MSC & Saccomanno Research Group). The workgroup initially was formed to look at the data from the county's ongoing study, to determine if trends were developing and also to evaluate the monitoring program to see if it is adequate. They also are developing an emissions inventory for GarCo to determine the sources of various types of emissions in GarCo. They are collaborating with Saccomanno Research Group in hopes of coordinating all this information from the study and their research, and to move towards community based air quality program to help identify problems/solutions. They are also involved in the US Forest Service's ozone monitoring program & other minor projects. They are eager to address air quality issues in GarCo. This is a long term, community-based process. The studies should be completed by the end of 2007. The plan then is to incorporate community education with hopes of developing partnerships to identify key issues & develop solutions.

Discussions followed regarding how this technical workgroup relates to the Air Quality/Odor Mitigation Committee of the EAB. Many questions arose, such as: What is the intent of the EAB Committee? Are we duplicating efforts? Should the two groups work in tandem? How would they work together? How would EAB be involved with this issue?

Jesse Smith suggested that these two groups are compatible & could reinforce each other. Jim Rada & his technical workgroup are operating at a "macro" level, which is taking a much broader look at the total air quality of the county (such as: Where is pollution coming from & how do we monitor it?). The EAB committee is looking at "macro" issues, such as citizen complaints re: odor and BMP's in the field (such as dust on roads & diesel fumes from trucks). These issues are important & need to be addressed. We just need to determine how to best address the issues.

It was determined that this topic will be tabled until next month. A decision on the direction of the EAB Committee will not yet be made. In the next few weeks, the EAB Committee plans to meet with Jim Rada & his technical workgroup to discuss their possible collaboration and to clarify individual roles of the two groups.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Jim Rada, GarCo Environmental Health Manager, is making a request of support from the EAB. He is applying for a grant through EPA (same one from last year) for the CARE program. The CARE program is a community driven program, and Jim is working towards forming collaborative partnerships & work towards setting community risk reduction priorities. He is sending in the application tomorrow and is asking for EAB's formal support. Jim drafted a letter of support on behalf of the EAB, which Alan Lambert read aloud. The EAB is named as a partner in the grant. A motion was made for the EAB chairman to sign the letter of recommendation. The motion was seconded, all members voted unanimously and the motion was approved. Jim thanked the board.
- Kathy Friesen shared that EnCana's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Energy Expo is coming up in Rife on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be 80+ exhibitors and will be open to the public from noon to 6pm. EnCana is working to get a geophysical dumper truck & a sound abatement company to display a sound tunnel. A video series will be played, in a similar format to last year, which was very well received. Williams Production will show a video on their H&P rigs and there will also be other new videos as well. Brochures were passed out.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -- None

**NEW BUSINESS** -- None

**EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

Matt Rush of Chevron Energy Solutions, a division of Chevron who focuses on energy efficiency & renewable energy, gave an educational presentation titled “Current Trends in CO Regarding Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy”. To view this entire power point presentation, please go to: <http://www.garfield-county.com/home/index.asp?page=792> Discussions followed the presentation regarding hydropower, using wood waste as a bio-fuel, and possible rebates for building “earth homes”.

**EAB MEMBER UPDATES**

**MUNICIPALITIES:**

**City of Rifle**--Bonding has been secured for a new waste water treatment plant, which will be located on the old West Umpra Site. The plan is to make the new plant entirely run off of solar power. The City is working with Excel energy to make this happen. There is a lot of acreage on the site & the City is looking at developing bio-fuel/bio-diesel on-site. Also, the City is in the process of designing a public safety facility on 18<sup>th</sup> street (to include municipal court & municipal police department). The County will also locate the sheriffs’ department and the county court on the same street. The City, in general, is seeing a lot of construction. There has been double the amount of applications for building projects compared to last year. The City’s population may surpass that of Glenwood Springs in the near future.

**Town of Parachute**--The Town is seeing a lot of building permits. They recently approved one 11-lot subdivision, which will be ready for sale. New houses are seen in every vacant spot of land. There are also many capitol projects.

**CITIZENS:**

**Roan Creek**—Sean Norris of Chevron held a series of stakeholder meetings regarding Clear Creek. He met with residents to get input on their concerns. Chevron also hired a consulting group to look at reducing impact to the community. Many left the meetings with a positive attitude.

**Divide Creek/Dry Hollow**—There appears to be fewer rigs in the area. Odors are still present, particularly as you move away from areas w/combustors on wells. Mud season passed with few dust issues on the roads this year.

**Mamm Creek/Hunter Mesa**—There were 14 semi tractor trailers on Mamm Creek earlier tonight. There is a lot of traffic and the roads are very busy.

**Taugenbaugh Mesa/Morissana Mesa/Rulison**—The area is very busy and traffic is at all time highs. The only complaints currently are regarding roads. Williams is making an effort to patch roads now until the frost is gone then will re-build roads.

**Parachute/Battlement Mesa**—Roy Savage shared that a Williams H&P rig is drilling 16 wells near his house. Also, county roads are in very poor condition.

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS:** None

**LOCAL ORGANIZAITONS:**

**Battlement Mesa Oil & Gas Committee**—The main issue in Battlement Mesa is dust. They have been in communication with EnCana & hope that the issue will be resolved soon.

**Grand Valley Citizens’ Alliance**—Duke Cox, president of the organization, has moved to Denver and is focusing on bills regarding natural gas. Also, a new middle school is being built in Battlement Mesa and the architect is working with the Rocky Mountain Institute.

**OPERATORS:**

**Antero Resources**—Has 3 rigs running (2 in Dry Hollow area & 1 along CO River). Expect a 4<sup>th</sup> rig next month & will maintain at the total of 4 rigs. Experiencing road work on CR311 & CR331 in Silt, south of the CO River.

**Berry Petroleum**-Stable activity over last few months. Has 4 rigs in operation and is experiencing progress on infrastructure & pipelines. Nearly has completed water distribution system which allows for moving of water by pipeline not trucks.

**Bill Barrett Corp.**- Has 2-3 rigs running and is bringing in another rig. Is running water pipelines to recycle produced water, which has decreased truck traffic. There have been some recent minor spills.

**Chevron**-Is in the beginning stages of the Clear Creek social & health impact assessment.

**EnCana**-For the 2007 year, plan for a 17-rig program w/approximately 270 wells (this is a slight increase from last year). Has 2 teams, both south & north of the CO River. Re: the NORTH—9 rigs running & may increase to 12, plan for 155 wells mostly on NPR property and 3 new efficient Patterson rigs may be added by end of year. Re: SOUTH—8 rigs running & a total of 115 wells planned.

**Laramie Energy**-5 rigs running in Mesa County currently, none in GarCo.

**Maralex Resources**-No new activity.

**Marathon Oil**—Is still in the process of getting settled into the area.

**OXY**-Has 3 rigs north of DeBeque. Has a total of 55-60 wells planned for the year & no new infrastructure projects.

**Petrogulf**—Has 1 rig on CR 317.

**PDC**—Has 3 rigs currently with no plan to increase. All drilling is taking place north of Parachute. By end of this month will be moving rigs on top of mesa on Garden Gulch Road. Is upgrading transportation facilities & is in the permitting process. Once completed, will be done with upgrades for now. Plan is for 56 wells this year. Has increased drilling efficiency. Will begin directional drilling for first time on top of mesa.

**Shell**—Started freeze wells test recently. Has 2 rigs doing characterization wells.

**Williams Production**—Has 500 wells planned for the year. Currently has 26 rigs operating. May be getting a new Neighbors rig w/increased flexibility. The tunnel broke thru in North portal on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Will be able to use road & tunnel soon, which has cut down 3.5 hour trip to .5 hours to reach Allen point. Also, entered into agreement with Grand Valley Historical Society to donate 2-story cabin (need to bring up to code) & move to Battlement Mesa near newly renovated school house. Hope to move this summer & dedicate next summer on Williams' 100<sup>th</sup> b-day. Also, doing a large seeding project with assistance from Rifle Football Team's assistance. Has a processing plant in permitting stage with hopes to be operational in 2009. Is planning a 250 mile extension on a pipeline from Wyoming to Kansas.

#### OIL & GAS LIAISON:

- The number of complaints has decreased. In the last month, GarCo only received 3 calls regarding odors & one regarding a fire on BBC property. The fire was handled quickly & is being investigated. GarCo now receiving many calls regarding mineral rights on ancestor's property, which are referred to the GarCo Assessor's office.
- Yesterday, Jesse Smith attended a BLM meeting in Denver regarding the Oil Shale PEIS. This is an ongoing study, and it will already have been in progress for one year as of next month. Here is the timeline for the study – The preliminary draft of the PEIS study is due May 15<sup>th</sup>, which is going out to all cooperating partners (GarCo is a cooperating partner, along with 30 other entities). There is a 2-week turnaround time and the draft is estimated to be 2,000+ pages long. BBC Research in Denver will assist GarCo during this review period. Once comments are given, it goes to BLM review, then to a preliminary public draft by mid-July with a 90-day public comment period. The preliminary final draft is due January 2008 (with a 2-week review period for cooperating partners). The preliminary public draft will be released March 2008 with a 30-day public comment/protest period (only for those who made comments in the original 90-day comment period). The governor will have 60 days to review & decide his position on the PEIS study. Then, the final PEIS report will be released by July 2008. The BLM is looking at commercial leasing in early 2009. The 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the commercial leasing has been completed. Jesse Smith has been in contact with many local organizations. We need a regional cumulative impact study to address mitigation costs—we need to give this to the governor in the near future. Asked for proposal for regional impact study for local communities including Rangeley, Meeker, Rifle and Parachute. GarCo is in need of letters of support from 5 counties, 4 municipalities & the EAB regarding the need for a full regional cumulative impact study. If GarCo can collect this, they can also get full funding for the study (from a non-biased source). A motion was made for the EAB to support the need for this study. The motion was seconded, all voted and unanimously approved. Jesse Smith will draft a letter to share with local municipalities for this effort. The study will be comprehensive and will measure all environmental and social impacts. BBC in Denver will be the prime researcher on this study.
- There are also 2 other BLM studies going on simultaneously. BLM offices in Glenwood Springs and Kremling are re-doing and updating their current 20-year plans.
- GarCo has hired 2 people to join the Oil and Gas Department: 1) Katy Middleton was recently hired and began Monday as the new full-time administrative assistant. She is from the Chicago area, has a bachelor's degree in geology & is writing her thesis to for a master's in public administration. 2) Judy Jordon of Pennsylvania was

offered the position as the Oil & Gas Liaison. She has a bachelor's degree in biology & water resources, and has regulatory experience. Her employment will begin on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

- Jesse Smith shared maps of GarCo Road & Bridge Department's 5-year plan.
- Jesse Smith has received pipeline maps from many operators, but not all. Also, he has only received monthly reports from 5 operators. He is requesting that all operators contact him at [jsmith@garfield-county.com](mailto:jsmith@garfield-county.com) to provide the needed information.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A legislative report on bills passed in CO Assembly that will impact local communities
- Invite a representative from a rural co-op energy company, such as Holy Cross Energy
- Discussion on gravel pits & the increasing cost of gravel. (It was mentioned that Bill Bailey, operator of a local gravel pit, is concerned about getting more permits. With the cost increasing & the available gravel near CO river, it is difficult not to mine the river.) Discussion on alternatives to using gravel for pad sites (gravel as a pad-building medium). Chuck McLean mentioned that he recently heard about a new chemical plastic (in the form of very tiny balls) that replaces aggregate in concrete & increases strength & makes 50% lighter.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS/ISSUES**

- There is an upcoming annexation to the City of Rifle, which will soon be in front of the Rifle Planning Commission, regarding acreage reserved for gas development. There might possibly be a future pad site in the middle of Rifle, which is leased to Apollo.
- The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Rifle Rendezvous is planned for May 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. EnCana will be sponsoring the event. If any other operators are interested in being a financial contributor, please contact Judy Hewitt at the Action Shop in Rifle.
- The EAB discussed their summer meeting schedule. Meeting attendance and participation was very poor last summer during the months of July and August. It was decided that the July 2007 EAB meeting will be cancelled.
- The meeting location for future EAB meetings was discussed. It has been mentioned that the current set-up in the Health & Human Services Building is not ideal, with some EAB members sitting with their backs to the audience. The EAB can move to a larger space at the Fairgrounds Events Center, and can use the microphone system built into the room, for better acoustics. Since the room is unavailable until August, the EAB will continue to meet at the current location for the upcoming meetings in May and June.
- Indra Briedis, EAB Secretary, stated that this will be her last month in attendance at EAB meetings. GarCo recently decided that EAB Secretarial duties will be handled by the new full-time administrative assistant. Indra thanked the EAB for their support over the last 2 years.

### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Lambert adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm

*Submitted by:*

*Indra Briedis, EAB Secretary*

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