

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

**Thursday June 1, 2017**

Location: Garfield County Rifle Administration Building

## **CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTION**

Chair Scott Stewart called the meeting to order at: 6:00 P.M. Kirby Wynn conducted roll call and read the EAB mission statement.

## **EAB members in attendance:**

Kirby Wynn	Garfield County
TJ Tucker	Town of Silt
Tom Rugaard	Town of Parachute
Marc Morton	Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Leslie Robinson	Grand Valley Citizens Alliance
Brackett Pollard	Holy Cross Cattlemen's Association
Bob Arrington	Battlement Mesa/Battlement Creek
Scott Stewart	Roan Creek <b>(Chair)</b>
Tom VonDette	Taughenbaugh Mesa
Dwayne Knudson	Ursa Resources

## **Invited Guests: NA**

## **APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Bob Arrington and seconded by Tom VonDette to accept the minutes for April & May. The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Juan Pino with TOPS Well Service was introduced to explain a spill of hydrochloric acid that took place around Rulison along a county road south of I-70 and on a lease road apron. He explained how the spill happened, how big the spill was and how they cleaned it up by neutralizing the acid and removing impacted dirt in the one puddle that was not on the paved road. Also discussed reporting of the incident to state regulators and communication with Garfield County Road & Bridge Department and Oil & Gas Liaison. There was extensive Q&A regarding the incident and lessons learned.

## **COMMUNITY COUNTS AND STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY UPDATES**

Nita Smith, Executor Director of Community Counts gave a PowerPoint presentation. She explained the concerns from citizens in April and May. She explained that all concerns were addressed and corrected. She gave the rig count in Colorado, defining the counties and the number in each county. She encouraged everyone to visit their website. She gave contact information, the names of those on the Board of Directors and an update on future meetings.

## **More New Business**

Tom VonDette asked about how to get a pipeline re-routed relative to a proposed line near Beaver Creek on USFS land. Concerned about some springs along a proposed route. A discussion took place about the evaluations that take place for pipelines. Frustration was expressed about these companies not coming to the EAB to let them know about projects going on. Kirby Wynn explained that this is not

what the EAB is for, but offered his help to Tom to access the online Environmental Assessment information and comment process outside the meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

EAB improvement opportunities discussion. Discussed having 5 meetings per year be education focused and 5 meetings to be more business focused.

There was a question about what they would accomplish during a business based meeting. It was explained that as a board they could share information with the public during in a more detailed manner during a business focused meeting.

Leslie Robinson made the comment that they have a full house when they have educational meetings and very few attendees at meetings without an educational presentation. Scott Stewart suggested cutting down on the time spent for either type of meeting. Bob Arrington stated that the attendance may have fallen due to the fall in gas production and activity. Kirby Wynn proposed the option of creating more space for having better and more robust speakers and topics for the educational meetings and for getting members to do their part in preparing and presenting information for the business meetings. There was discussion that if the business meeting is not robust those people will not return until there is an educational speaker presented. Leslie Robinson offered help in finding speakers and subjects for the educational meetings.

There was discussion that the problems and the solutions should all be passed on to the communities from the EAB members. Scott Stewart expressed that they need to do a better job showing the board's relevance. He wants to see a higher level of trust and communication between the operators and the communities.

There was discussion that there would be no purpose for the EAB if they did not have the business portion in their meetings – it would just become an educational program.

Member of the public offered that her neighbors would not come tonight because it is a business meeting. More discussion took place about trust between the operators and the communities. There was a discussion about who should be informed and how they should be informed. It was suggested that each member should be looking for notices of projects that they can then convey to their community. This discussion was tabled for now with no motions or votes taken.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Michael Tucker – spoke about the educational portion of these meetings. There was a session that was totally front range information and not about this area. He suggested that topics need to relate to the western slope. Mr. Tucker also brought up other topics that he would like to see the EAB and the public discuss.

### **EAB MEMBER UPDATES**

**Town of Silt – TJ Tucker:** Reached out to Town Administrator to make sure clear lines of communication exist between the town and operators; asked for updated pipeline location information; sent out information to public to alert them to these EAB meetings.

**Holy Cross Cattlemen's Association – Bracket Pollard:** Roads look good; there is not much going on north of Silt; Operators keeping speeds down and gates closed; no cattle hit on Hwy 13.

**Town of Parachute – Tom Rugaard:** one complaint of noise; keeping streets clean and no traffic problems.

**Taughenbaugh Mesa – Tom VonDette:** Had an operator ask him about an odor complaint; a few trucks driving fast.

**Ursa Resources - Dwayne Knudson sitting in for Don Simpson:** Ursa sponsored the Kiwanis golf tournament; June 14<sup>th</sup> they will have a community meeting and also an Adopt a Highway trash pickup on I-70; for activities they are drilling now at the BMC B pad; they also have a rig in Rio Blanco County; completions team is on the B&V pad in Battlement Mesa.

**Roan Creek – Scott Stewart:** Have reached out to 11 other private land owners and the only activity they have now is completion of 2 wells by Black Hills; most of the truck traffic is on X1/2 Road; they have requested to keep the dust down; traffic has been fairly light; BLM December Lease Sale - deadline for comments is June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Garfield County – Kirby Wynn:** Garfield County will be commenting on the BLM December Lease Sale; there have been 2 noise complaints and 1 light complaint, which have been taken care of in a timely manner by the operator; data for the pipelines will be due soon for the COGC flowlines NTO and Kirby will be focused on finding out what was learned and if it was useful. Kirby will make sure that the EAB gets the information from the state – hopefully presented at an EAB meeting.

**Grand Valley Citizens Alliance – Leslie Robinson:** The Grand Valley Citizens Alliance, along with the Battlement Concerned Citizens, hosted a social last month to kick off a new documentary film, called “Battlement Mesa”, which is a historical review of drilling in Battlement Mesa and a view of the impacts on the citizens in Battlement Mesa. Available via the GVCA website. Reminder that it is very dry in the hills and for all operators to be careful.

**Battlement Mesa/Battlement Creek – Bob Arrington:** the phone has been busy regarding the heavy dust. Inspectors were out checking noise levels on the B&V pad. If they get the noise cured on this they need to remember what they did because they will also need it on B pad. Ursa is working on swapping the motors out to be quieter. There are more complaints about the odors on I-70 west of Parachute and 2 nights of people smelling smoke in and around their homes.

**COGCC – Marc Morton:** The work is continuing to gather flowline data that the State required from all the operators. They are having a commission hearing in Meeker on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Two new commissioners have been appointed. Encouraged everyone to sign up to receive e-mail information.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> is the next EAB meeting.

Scott Stewart adjourned the June 1, 2017, EAB meeting at 8:25 p.m.