

GARFIELD COUNTY ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD (EAB) MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 7, 2014

Location: Rifle Library, Rifle, Colorado

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTION

Chair Howard Orona called the meeting to order at: 6:02 P.M. He announced the dinner was catered by Mama's Restaurant in Parachute. Orona asked the members present to introduce themselves.

EAB members in attendance:

Juanita Williams	Town of Parachute
Bob Arrington	Battlement Mesa/Battlement Creek
Howard Orona	Parachute/Parachute Creek
Scott Stewart	Roan Creek
Tom VonDette	Taughenbaugh Mesa
Don Mumma	Battlement Mesa O & G Committee
Kirby Wynn	Garfield County
Leslie Robinson	Grand Valley Citizens Alliance
Art Riddile	Town of New Castle
Jeff Kirkland	WPX
Brent Buss	Rifle/North Rifle
Jeff Simonson	Divide Creek
AJ Hobbs	Town of Carbondale
Carl Turnipseed	Caerus Oil & Gas
Natalie Naeve	Caerus Oil & Gas
Cary Baird	Chevron
Eric Sanford	SG Interests
Michael Meskin	Grass Mesa
Michael Gross	Peach Valley/Silt/Silt Mesa
Mike Brygger	Oxy
Robin Haney	CMC

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

The board reviewed the minutes from the June 5, 2014 meeting. Kirby Wynn made a motion to accept the minutes and Tom VonDette seconded the motion; the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Scott Stewart gave an update for the sub-committee tasked with improving EAB communication and outreach. He said the committee held a conference call a few weeks ago and created a draft questionnaire to determine the need for a planning/work session to be held sometime this fall. He said the sub-committee is focused on continuous improvement and how do we have better communication and outreach. They met shortly before this meeting to discuss and further vet out some of those questions. He said the committee will be sending out a questionnaire to the entire board for responses that will help us better plan this upcoming session He said the survey would be sent out the week of August 19 to all EAB members and asked everyone to fill it out and return it promptly. Orona thanked Stewart and asked the members to look for the survey and said it is all about making the EAB as useful as possible, meeting our goals for the board and for the citizens. If you have questions please contact

Scott Stewart or any other members of the sub-committee, Tom VonDette, Leslie Robinson, Cary Baird, Howard Orona, or Juanita Williams.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business presented.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

The educational presentation this month was **“Fracking, Federalism and Federal Environmental Regulation: Is the Oil & Gas Industry Exempt from Major Laws?”** Presented by Rebecca Watson, with the law firm of Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C, Denver, Colorado and Former Assistant Secretary, Lands and Minerals, U.S. Department of the Interior. The presentation is posted on the Garfield County website www.garfield-county.com/oil-gas/energy-advisory-board.aspx.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Orona asked for public comments, asking that each person limit their comments to 3 minutes each.

Jerri Ann Renner, Rifle,

Said she lives on 332 Road and wanted to thank Kirby for calling her back. She said she had planned to talk to Kirby last Monday but decided to attend the meeting tonight instead. She said she is pro drilling and she knows it is an issue with two sides. She lives on 332 Road which is very narrow. A half a block of the street is designated city and the other half a block is designated as County. She said the residents on the street are caught between the two governments, She has noticed through the years that there were DOLA grant funds that are to be used for impacts of oil and gas. She wants to know how the DOLA grant works and is dispersed. She said her family is directly impacted by the oil and gas and if we are going to live on this street, until they are done drilling, we would like the sidewalks widened. The city keeps turning us down, six years in a row. Every time we go to them and beg them to help us with our road they say no. Yet she sees things like the new parking structure go up and the money spent on the Ute Theatre renovation, but she doesn't see the money from oil and gas being spent where people are being impacted. She said she needs help with this road issue and the City of Rifle is not responding.

Richard Vottero, Carbondale

Said he wanted to bring the audience's attention to the edition of the High Country News, from August 4, 2014. This article claims that we might be a lot more like west Texas than we think we are. One of the ways we are most the same, he said was we have both been in prolonged draughts. West Texas has a lot of oil and gas development and so does this area. He said the article is on page 7 and titled “Water Miser.” He would like everyone to look this up on the internet and read it. He reminds us he comes to EAB to speak on behalf of the air, water and the land in our area. He believes the environment is always more valuable than the market economy.

COMMUNITY COUNTS (CC) UPDATE, Jeff Kirkland, WPX

Response Line: 866-442-9034 - The response line system is designed to connect residents with the source of their issues and concerns for timely response and resolution. Once Community Counts facilitates that connection, we are no longer involved. The operator and resident address and resolve the issue, and in the future the resident contacts the operator directly. To close the loop with calls that come to Community Counts, the operator gets back with us to let us know the issue has been resolved.

May Concerns

1. Reminder of children being out of school and riding bikes or playing in road
2. Trash Issue

3. Something leaking out of truck
4. Weeds

May Informational E-mails –

1. Notices sent to Operators and Contractors on I-70 work
2. Information on Wild Horse days, Aug. 16-17, in DeBeque
3. Caerus Frac Move
4. Piceance Energy Completion Operations
5. Several rig move notices were sent out

Rig Count – Total 11 rigs Garfield County and 1 Rio Blanco County

1. WPX Energy – 8 Garfield County; 1 - Rio Blanco County
2. URSA Operating Company – 1 Garfield County
3. BLACK HILLS Exploration & Production – 1 Garfield County
4. OXY (Occidental Oil and Gas) – 1 Garfield County

Membership in CCC – We currently have 98 members. Good Neighbor Training: We now have three Contractors who qualify for Good Neighbor Certification: URSA Operating Company, Knowles Trucking and Rain for Rent.

Community Counts Board Meetings are held every other month on the 2nd Wednesday, 3:30 – 5:00 pm at the Town of Parachute. Our next Board meeting will be Sept. 10, 2014. Contact information is: Nita Smith, Coordinator, (970.712.7317 or 303-916-4009) or Susan Alvillar, Board President, susan.alvillar@wpxenergy.com (970.263.5315).

EAB MEMBER UPDATES

Garfield County – Kirby Wynn (Provided as a Power Point presentation.)

Wynn introduced himself as the Garfield County Oil & Gas Liaison. Thanked the speaker Rebecca Watson for an informative educational program. Regarding land management processes, right now, the BLM is just starting up on a process regarding the 65 existing leases in the White River National Forest. There are folks in the community that have already provided comments and Garfield County has cooperating agency status. He said the County will be working with the BLM and communicating information about those leases and what we think might make sense. The same thing is also going on for the Roan Plateau. Those leases have a supplemental EIS in the process and the BLM has just finished up their scoping process. You can expect to hear more about these two resource management processes from Wynn in the future and when there are opportunities for the public to participate.

There is an email sign up list available if any new attendees would like to be added to the mailing list for EAB and other notifications, or you can contact gdubois@garfield-county.com or call 970-625-5915.

Newspaper ads were placed in the Glenwood Post Independent and the Citizen Telegram announcing the August EAB meeting and inviting the public to attend. The ads let people know about the program and give them the opportunity to participate. He thanked Rebecca Watson for an excellent program. He said speaking for himself after attending EAB meetings for a couple of years; he thinks today's educational program and the Q & A were as robust and meaningful as we have had at EAB meetings. We want as many people to come as possible. Again the presentation will be available on the Garfield County Oil & Gas web site.

Garfield County has 11 active drilling rigs operating, 1 from Black Hills, 1 from Ursa, 1 Oxy, 1 Caerus and 7 from WPX. He said the rig map is from the Community Counts website. If you are on their website you can click on the map pins and information will show the relevant rig information. Wynn reviewed the

monthly rig count comparison chart depicting drilling activity over the last few years. He said last year there were 11 rigs operating in Garfield County and 11 in 2012.

Resident calls to the office for June and July 2014 are: 3 odor; 3 permitting question, 2 traffic, 1 noise and 44 information requests. Wynn encouraged citizens who are having issues or questions regarding oil and gas to contact him to get the matter resolved quickly.

Wynn reported on portions of Garfield County well starts that are on Federal lands.

Federal Minerals: 2014, 50 (22%); 2013, 187 (48%); 2012, 189 (38%); 2011, 401 (46%). Federal Surface: 2014, 36 (16%); 2013, 87 (22%); 2012, 64 (13%); 2011, 158 (18%). Active wells by surface ownership: private, 8909; BLM, 1256; USFS, 3; State lands, 22; and DOE Naval Oil Shale Res., 538. Source BLM and COGCC.

The County has had 208 gas well drilling starts in 2014 compared to 389 last year. COGCC approved drilling permits in Garfield County are 666 as of August 4, 2014. Garfield County has 10,780 active wells compared to 21,486 in Weld County.

If folks have questions about oil and gas topics or would like to report an issue please contact Kirby Wynn, Garfield County Oil & Gas Liaison, 970/625-5905 or 970/987-2557 or email at kwynn@garfield-county.com. EAB meetings are held the first Thursday of the month. Wynn said the next EAB meeting would be September 4, at the Rifle Library.

Leslie Robinson said in previous years she had heard the well build out would be around 10,000 wells in Garco. Since we are there now, she asked Wynn if he had any idea on what the future number of wells would be. Wynn said he did not know. Tom VonDette asked if Wynn knew how many of the wells are in Garco are horizontal wells? Wynn said that is a moving number and changes monthly with the rig count. He is estimating 30-40 are horizontal. He said he would do some research on horizontal activity and get back to the group

Municipalities and Colorado Mountain College:

Parachute – Juanita Williams

She said the Town had a successful event, Grand valley Days in July. She said they have lots of drilling Parachute going on.

Carbondale – AJ Hobbs

He said they have two projects currently going on in Carbondale to help create a sustainable town. The main intersection is being reconstructed to become a roundabout, which has been scientifically proved to reduce emissions by keeping cars going. And, the other is solar panels being installed on the Carbondale library. He thinks it is important to note that both of those projects have received funding from Federal mineral lease grants; some of the money that is going to sustainability is coming from oil and gas. The Town has appointed Katrina Byers to be the new LGD for Carbondale to the COGCC. She will help the town learn more about oil and gas.

Town of New Castle – Art Riddile

Riddile said the town is starting construction on a new pedestrian bridge that will go across I-70 at the 105 exit. He said it will provide a much safer route for pedestrians and cyclists to cross that area. Also, with the help of the County, they will be starting another project, a bike and pedestrian path on the south side of the Colorado River, which will go from the 105 bridge to Apple tree Park.

Colorado Mountain College – Robin Haney

Ms. Haney said the college is sponsoring a free program called “Community Conversations.” She said the first one will be on August 23, from 1 – 4:30 pm at the CMC Campus in Rifle. The keynote speaker

is Patty Limerick and the topic is “Oil and Gas: The Adventures of a Historian in Tense Terrain.” Limerick is Director and Chair of the Board of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado. A panel discussion will follow and refreshments will be served.

Organizations:

GVCA – Leslie Robinson

She said GVCA held a public forum on oil and gas impacts on human health in June at the Parachute Library. The group had 80 people attend the program. They have tentatively set another forum for September 23 at the Rifle library. The Grand Valley Forum will feature a program on water in oil and gas lands. She received a citizen complaint regarding odor at the current Ursa drilling site and she asked Kirby if he would pass along to Ursa.

Battlement Mesa O & G Committee - Don Mumma

No new updates and no citizen concerns reported.

Grass Mesa – Michael Meskin

No new updates and no citizen concerns reported.

Citizen Representatives:

Divide Creek – Jeff Simonson

No new updates and no citizen concerns reported.

Taugenbaugh Mesa – Tom VonDette

Said they still have truck traffic going to fast in the area and said he wants to discuss some water issues with WPX.

Roan Creek – Scott Stewart

No new update for Roan Creek. Stewart said he wanted to announce on September 7, the International Congress for Wildlife & Livestock on private and communal lands is going to take place at the YMCA in Estes Park, Colorado. It is being hosted by CSU and it is an honor for Colorado to host the event.

Parachute/Parachute Creek – Howard Orona

One complaint regarding a dust issue and was quickly taken care of with WPX

Rifle/North Rifle – Brent Buss

No new updates and no citizen concerns reported.

Battlement Mesa – Bob Arrington

Arrington said the Battlement Concerned Citizens went before the BOCC on the pipeline and seismic activity. No restrictions were put on those items. They did have support from the BMSA on this issue and carried it forward. They had a recent odor complaint in the Spring Creek and Monument Ridge areas. Arrington recommended Wynn contact Robert Ramos about being a citizen representative for that area.

Operators:

WPX – Jeff Kirtland

WPX Energy has 7 rigs operating in Garfield County and two rigs will be moving soon. In June the company held an open house in Parachute to provide information to the community on rig operations and activity in the area of CR 215, WPX plans to put in a rig that will be visible from the town of Parachute. WPX received an outstanding operator award for fueling their Aztec rig with natural field gas. Using natural field gas saves the company money and provides cleaner air.

Caerus Oil & Gas – Natalie Naeve

Said this was her first meeting and that she learned some great information and looks forward to returning next month. She said Caerus will start frack operations on their rig in August.

Chevron – Cary Baird

Not much to report no drilling going on with Chevron. Chevron is hosting a tour for the COGCC of their Piceance facility, on August 15.

SG Interests – Eric Sanford

SG continues to monitor the BLM and the 65 leases they are reviewing on the Thompson Divide. The company has no other activity in Garfield County.

Oxy - Mike Brygger

Said he will be representing the company now at the EAB meetings. The company is excited about having one rig operating, above DeBeque. It is an exploratory and a horizontal well and if things go well they hope to drill more next year.

Garfield County Environmental Health Manager, Josh Williams,

Williams is the new Environmental Health Manager for Garfield County. He introduced himself to the group and said the department is now fully staffed and urged people to contact him jwilliams@garfield-county.com if they have questions related to public health.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Orona adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

MOTIONS PASSED AT THIS MEETING

A motion was passed approving the June 5, 2014 meeting minutes.

NEW ACTION ITEMS:

EAB Sub-committee is developing a member survey and will get it out to membership before the end of the month. They will report back at the next meeting. Members of the sub-committee are: Scott Stewart, Howard Orona, Tom VonDette, Leslie Robinson, Cary Baird, Juanita Williams and Kirby Wynn.

Kirby Wynn and EAB are going to work on resolving the road issues with Jerri Ann Renner, Rifle. Wynn to discuss and research horizontal wells with Tom VonDette.

Prepared by Gretchenn DuBois, Garfield County Oil and Gas Administrative Assistant.

Approved by the EAB on September 4, 2014.