

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **Iron County Citizens Advisory Committee**

**DATE OF MEETING:** May 17, 2011

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Will Andresen, Tom Church, Jack Giovanoni, Joe Karius, Richard Kauppila, Kelly Klein, Vic Ouimette, Patti Paige, Paul Sturgul, Peter Sturgul, C. J. Sukanen, Robert Traczyk, Nick Zuvich. Michael Fauerbach and Paul Mullard arrived during the meeting.

There were approximately 40 people in the audience, seated in the County Board Room at the Iron County Courthouse.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Paul Sturgul called meeting to order and welcomed committee members and members of the audience. He introduced new members Kelly Klein and Peter Sturgul.

The chairman explained the committee is an advisory group appointed by the County Board and its meetings are open to the public. He then proposed that the committee adopt Robert's Rules of Order as guide to meetings. Moved by Ouimette and seconded by Church to adopt Robert's Rules of Order. Motion adopted unanimously after brief discussion.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Chairman Sturgul moved that Vic Oimette be elected vice chairman, and Joe Karius be elected secretary. Seconded by Church. Passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Sturgul told the committee it was important for the group to establish a mission or goals. After considerable discussion, Karius moved tha the "*committee serve as an interface between the public and company and county officials, and also work to help in the establishment of a local impact board.*" Motion seconded by Andresen and carried unanimously.

There was discussion noting that the State Mining Board has been inactive. This board has funds available for adverse impacts caused by mining operations. Ouimette moved that the committee request the county board to reactivate the state board, thus enabling the request for possible impact funds.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Chairman Sturgul gave a report on April 27 forum in Ironwood, sponsored by the committee. He noted it was well attended and that state geologists and GTAC representatives provided much information.

GTAC's Bill Williams answered questions from committee members and audience members at the May 17 meeting. He said it could take four to five years before mining operations actually began. Among other activities, the company has applied for a storm water discharge permit and has received a draft report on separation and recovery procedure.

There was lengthy discussion of current state mining laws and proposed legislation to change certain parts of those laws. Williams said the key change would be to separate regulations for sulfide mining from ferrous/magnetic mining process.

Paige emphasized this committee was not a political group and was set up to serve the public.

Adjournment at 5:43 p.m. Next meeting set for 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 21 in the board room at the Iron County Courthouse.