

MINING IMPACT COMMITTEE
JULY 29, 2013

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Leslie Kolesar at 4:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, Present: Kolesar, Pinardi, Klein, Koski, Youngs Peterson and Walesewicz. Absent: None. Also present: Board members Thomas, Innes, Roberts, Erickson Nasi and Mullard. A total of 9 county board members were present at meeting which represents a quorum of full board.

Motion by Klein, seconded by Walesewicz to approve minutes of June 24, 2013 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion was held with 2 Department of Revenue employees on possible revenue streams for local municipalities if mining project becomes a reality. Discussion also took place on the state mining impact board which has a total of 11 members with the governor appointing 9 members and 2 from state government, WEDC and DOR. DOR told committee that discretionary grants would be available in October 2014 at the earliest.

Update from Bill Williams, Gogebic Taconite on what has happened at mining site in the past month. Eight drill sites have been completed with 5 more after the ground freezes. Bulk sampling will be forthcoming and blasting may or may not be necessary. Williams told committee that 1,600 tons will be removed with up to 10,000 tons eligible to be taken.

Discussion took place on budget amounts for 2013 and requests for 2014. Budget item will be on next agenda to further discuss 2014 amounts.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ilene Potter, Montreal asked if people who worked on mining site and sit on mining impact boards have a conflict of interest.

Bruce Noble, Madison questioned if the meeting was properly called and posted.

Tom DeCarlo, Ironwood thanked G-Tac for sponsoring children in recent parade .

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairperson Kolesar told committee that the letter handed out to them will be sent to George Meyer, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation declining an invitation to speak to his group that will tour the mine site.

Next meeting has been set for August 21st to discuss how the mine may affect area schools with Hurley and Mercer superintendents attending.

Chris Jaekel, mining attorney for the county will meet with mining impact committee on August 27th before county board meeting.

Mining Impact Committee will then meet on September 19th and a DNR hydrologist will put on a presentation for committee and public.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Klein to adjourn at 5:17 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari
Iron County Clerk