

MINING IMPACT COMMITTEE MINUTES
JUNE 26, 2014

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Clerk Mike Saari certified that the meeting was properly called and posted.

Roll call taken, Present: Erickson, Hanson, Pinardi, Kolesar, Peterson, Klein and Walesewicz. Absent: Koski, excused and Youngs. Youngs showed up at 4:08 PM. Also present: Supervisors Nasi, Thomas, Roberts, Matson and Ouimette. A quorum of county board was present at meeting.

Motion by Pinardi, seconded by Erickson to approve minutes of May 22, 2014 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Jason Laumann, NWRPC gave a review on funding possibilities for a regional impact analysis. Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, Coastal Management and Mining Impact Fund are all potential funding sources for study. Jason told committee that much more information will be forthcoming if county moves forward with project.

Motion by Pinardi, seconded by Walesewicz to support moving forward with impact analysis. All aye. Motion carried.

Bill Williams, Gogebic Taconite gave an overview on what has been happening at mining site. Many people are working at mining site everyday with tours of site also being done for groups. Williams told committee that over one million dollars has been spent locally since the first of the year. Letter was sent out to landowners within 2 miles of mining site asking questions about their current well information and Williams said that delineation has been going slow.

Kolesar told committee that a letter was sent out to Richard Chandler, Chair of Investment and Local Impact Board informing his board that the Iron County Local Impact Committee is preparing to negotiate a local agreement with Gogebic Taconite, a copy of letter was sent to Gogebic Taconite.

Discussion was held on reclamation process and discussion took place on having public comment put back on agenda in the future to get public input on what they the public sees the reclamation to be. Committee would like to get Dan Jordan, IRRRB reclamation authority to speak to committee on what has worked in Northern Minnesota. Jeff Wilson, Mercer suggested grasslands be planted that might be good elk habitat.

Motion by Walesewicz, seconded by Erickson to move into closed session per 19.85(1) e, Wisconsin Statutes to discuss strategy for upcoming local agreement with Gogebic Taconite. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION HELD:

Motion by Klein, seconded by Erickson to return to open session. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Next mining impact meeting will be held on July 23rd at 4pm and joint impact meeting will be held on July 9th at Town of Morse Hall at 6 PM. Department of Revenue will be at the Morse Town Hall to answer questions on mining issues on July 18th at 9:30 AM.

Motion by Klein, seconded by Peterson to adjourn at 6:35 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari
Iron County Clerk