Southeast Conference Mining Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 10 AM

Minutes

Call to Order/Opening Remarks: Chair Jan Hill opened the meeting at 10:00 am via Zoom with more than 16 participants, including Dana Herndon, Darsie Culbeck, Randy Ruaro, Chere Klein, Robert Fithian, Frank Bergstrom, Jaelleen Kookesh, Jan Trigg, Kyle Moselle, Liz Cornejo, Mike Satre, Jim Clark, and SEC Staff Meilani Schijvens, Sarah Woodruff, and Robert Venables.

Committee Chair Jan Hill welcomed participants and expressed her disappointment that this year’s annual meeting would not be taking place in Haines due to COVID-19. She added Randy Ruaro speaking about New Economy Minerals as a new agenda item. The new agenda was approved by the committee.

Meilani Schijvens gave an overview of the business climate survey and the SWOT analysis prioritization. She presented a power point detailing these findings. She asked for input regarding the previously identified economic initiatives. There was much discussion surrounding the objectives and several were added. See updated Mining CEDS.

Randy Ruaro discussed the New Economy Minerals. He said it might be worth researching minerals used in EVs like nickel and cobalt. DNR is doing a survey on critical minerals. Liz Cornejo confirmed that barite is a critical mineral and there is a significant amount in Haines. She said that having the federal designation that a project is involved with providing critical minerals, that is helpful.

Executive Director, Robert Venables spoke about the Annual meeting, that it will be abbreviated due to the online format and asked the mining committee if there were any speakers they thought would benefit the conference. Jim Clark nominated Jan Trigg and Liz Cornejo, and Bill Jeffers as speakers. Frank Bergstrom also added Mike Satre as a potential speaker. Liz Cornejo seconded the nomination of Jan Trigg and Mike Satre. Frank Bergstrom also suggested Ian Claussen as the CEO of Herbert and agreed that inviting someone to represent the smaller operations would be smart. Robert Fithian agreed to be a speaker if needed. Frank Bergstrom said that he’s happy to help get the word out to some potential speakers.

Liz Cornejo said that Constentine had some big news. They were sued in 2017 by several groups. After 3 years in the federal court system, it was found that the mines were in their right to do exploration and found in favor of the mining. She said that Jim Clark was invaluable in the success of this case.
With no other new business or announcements, the Chair thanked all participants and announced the next meeting of the mining committee will be in November. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.