

PUBLIC LANDS ROUNDTABLE MINUTES

Meeting Location: BLM Ridgecrest Office

Minutes of: December 7, 2023

Called to order at: 6:02pm by Chair Mark Dunn

Pledge of allegiance was led by Mark Dunn.

A MOTION was made by Sam Merk, 2nd by Charlie Hattendorf to approve the October 26, 2023 minutes. They were approved as sent.

PLRT MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mark Dunn, John Auburn, Kayla Brown, Mary Grimsley, Charlie Hattendorf, Raymond Kelso, Will Liebscher, Mark Mason, Sam Merk, Steven Rainey, Hector Vialobos, Libby Vincent and Craig Beck, BLM.

Guests: Karen Armstrong, Bev Hill, Anthony Margarit, Susan Mason

BLM UPDATES: by Craig Beck, Ridgecrest Supervisorial Outdoor Recreation Planner Tom Bickauskas is on his way to the DAC meeting in Palm Desert tonight.

WILD HORSE & BURRO GATHER: Over the Thanksgiving week we had a wild horse & burro gather off of the Navy base dealing with the Centennial Herd area. It was a successful gather, with 92 burros, 52 horses, and 4 mules.

EXPLORATORY DRILLING PROJECT: Lithium & battery mineral mining already approved exploratory drilling out in the Panamint Valley area around Ballarat out by the lake.

ROAD REPAIRS: Inyo County has been out repairing roads, including Wingate Road and Goler and will be eventually working on Surprise Canyon. DVNP is working its way up Pleasant Canyon and the upper roads. BLM has been out in the Spangler's and Radamacher's.

MIDDLE MILE PROJECT: Initiative to get broad-band to underserved areas.

IWV GWA PIPELINE: We're continuing to work on the IWV Groundwater Authorities pipeline project right now, focusing on the Geotech so they can go out and actually start doing some studies.

RED MOUNTAIN CIRCLE: Our circular project, which is basically Hazmat remediation, is continuing in the Red Mountain Area. The one that's coming up is going to be dealing with Red Mountain Wash, basically from Red Mountain all the way towards Cuddeback Lake. That area and two other ones down the road, at Healer Mill and then a Parkerville, I guess are traditional sites

STAFFING: We've lost a biologist and we've lost 2 geologists, so those will be some of the future announcements. So if anybody knows anyone that is interested in careers and stuff, keep their eyes on USA Jobs. Those are two positions which geologist was it Randy Porter retired Lorena moved to Palm Springs area wow transferred to the Palm Springs

GUEST SPEAKER:

Anthony Margarit gave us a brief overview of what they're actually proposing to do: starting with the location and a little bit of history about the area. So the Mojave projects located in West Central Inyo County, the southern Inyo Mountains approximately 3.4 miles east Keeler and 15½ miles southeast Lone Pine. The exploration sites access from Saline Valley Road north of Highway 190; it's a BLM managed off road is used to access the project from the White Mountains. This area of public lands was permitted and drilled by Compass Minerals in late 1980s, where the lands involved were part of the Cerro Gordo Wilderness study area. In 1988 the BLM approved plan of operations from Newmont Mining Corporation and an exploration drill program was completed in the southern part of the project area. The BLM subsequently approved a plan of operations for VHP in 1997 for targets in the northern region of the current project. In all, seven miles of drilling access routes to 85 sites were developed on claims. That program was completed and access routes were recontoured and sealed in 2000. I'm going to read a bit of this just because I don't want to mess up any of the details This is taken directly from the plan of operations: *"So the next phase of drilling that we're looking at right now will largely use the footprint of reclean growth and overland sites that relies on prior exploration activities. The purpose of this are both to limit the environmental impact of this phase of exploration and to maintaining consistency with the environmental analysis and conclusions already determined in the previously approved environmental assessment."*

Access Road lengths and disturbance widths are very similar in acreage differences or predominantly attributed to different estimating methods. Mojave Precious Metals, our company, used recent high definition aerial photography to measure disturbance.” Previous users just measured off maps, so this is the area that we're permitting. I'll just bounce back here ... so this outlined area (looking at video program) is the entire claim block that K2 MPM controls. This red area is the area that we're currently permitting for our Phase 2 drill program ... we drilled there in 2020

That phase, one drill program, was completed in October or November of 2020 and drilling at four, instead of seven, approved sites was accomplished. Over 8,300 feet were drilled and the results increased the knowledge of the geologic structure and mineral resources at select locations.

The amendment to the approved plan of operations as proposed for our phase two effort that we're looking at right now would update and verify historic data and expand upon the known areas of gold or **liberation??**. This plan for access is consistent with previous Silver Standard project for access along a prior developed route with combination of overland travel and reconstruction of the roads developed by *new month??* and BHP K2 had access and drill up to 30 locations with an estimated 120 holes averaging 984 feet below ground surface with the exception of additional drilling the overall footprint of surface disturbance in this plan is large, but consistent with Silver Standard proposal and has already received full NEPA review under the Environmental Assessment 2017 exploration activities proposed in this plan of operation amendments. Our plan of operation amendments are focused on determining if they're sufficient economic mineralized resources to continue exploration work. The activities in this phase two drill program are focused on obtaining necessary evaluation data while limiting new service to servants and avoiding or minimizing resource conflicts identified in the Baseline studies and prior EA project limited transportation activities, so no mining or processing materials is proposed.

So, one thing I'd like to emphasize is, that's our initial plan for what we're looking at. I'll go into some more details in a minute, but one thing I'd really like to explain is who we are, what our goals are for this, and what we do. So K2 Mount Mojave Precious Metals; we are not a mining company, we're a junior exploration company, I'm a geologist and we are not global mining company. Some sources are claiming we have two full-time employees. We're a small company, we raise money, and we're publicly traded company. I raise money in public capital markets. That's what we finance our work. You know, we have no intentions of mining. Our goal, our business model is to explore, define a resource, grow it to a certain size, and if the potential is there, maybe, a major/minor company will acquire us and develop online. That is Who We Are!

I think right now, with everything that's going on in the world, when you stand back and look at things, if all countries in the world want to have a domestic supply of resources, if the electrification of the world is going to go the way that everyone's proposing too, by 2030 or 2050, there's a lot of work to be done and those resources have to come from somewhere. Nobody wants it to happen in their own backyard, but unfortunately, it's got to happen in someone's. Facts are, the mining industry is a victim of its own history. You look at what went on 100 years ago and it was true. There are environmental disasters all over the world, but we cannot operate like that, we simply cannot operate like that anymore. We are mandated and governed at the highest levels out there and it's simply not possible, if you look at recent sites that have been reclaimed in last 10 years, last decade, you'd be very hard-pressed to tell there was a mine. The use of water, the use of how we refine and extract minerals is continuously changing.

Where are the resources going to come from if we don't want to deal with China and Russia and we want to have domestic supply and minerals? They have to come from America. Fortunately, Canada and the US and Mexico are blessed with a tremendous amount of Natural Resources and we can develop these resources except for titanium.

NEW BUSINESS:

PENDING MEMBERSHIP: We finally have Bev Hill's letter as an alternate. We did have a meeting with the executive committee talking about alternates and how many there should be and we've been looking at the bylaws. We've been discussing the bylaws and we did make some changes that, along the lines of the number of alternates, we thought that two would be the maximum number of each stakeholder.

VICE CHAIR'S DUTIES: The Vice Chair has to be in charge of the email list; I would've been working on that as well and trying to and we lost the matching of a person's name to their email address, at least know who the emails are going out to, so I've been working on that and I have sent out a list to the executive members about who's currently on our email list so this is not only the members, but also the people who just want to know about what it is that we're up to. i.e., the agenda.

BYLAWS: So we have the way that the public lands round table works, we have topics of interest and we have lots of people who want to talk, about let's just pick one, like the General Public and in the past we have more than one person who represents General Public or Access, and everybody has their own kind of thing about how you want to do access and what their favorite mode of transportation might be, but it's all unfortunately, grouped under a word called Access and we only have one stakeholder for Access and to up to two alternates for Access, so when it comes to voting there's only one Access vote, even though all three of those people might be here, so I mean we're still trying to figure this out, so it's the fair and the right way to go, because there's different ways of going to develop Access. You know there's a question and then there's different types of equestrians and way that hooved animals can be utilized on public land or enjoy I say I'm public land some things are cut and dried because you represent an organization like Audubon some things like topics of Interest aren't so how that works out I'm not really sure but just to understand that we have a limit on how many people can vote at one time on a particular topic on the voting though that's kind of where the group comes in right, Mary gets her group together and says, okay this is the topic that we're working on, what do you want and she comes back and gives the vote for her group so that's kind of what it's supposed to be that's the intent yeah and I think I think we're just long as we're all kind of aware of how this thing works I think it's Dynamic and that's where it should be our interests change and the land you know we see the land being changing as well okay so I don't really have anything more than that I think that's I'm so good enough

PETTY CASH: We've done the website; now about paying for it ... anybody can make a donation to Petty Cash. Charlie is making donations who else? Charlie, are you taking cash donations to maintain the website?

OLD BUSINESS:

TRONA PINNACLES: Recent activities at the Trona Pinnacles, we've heard that law enforcement action was taken. So what does that mean, law enforcement and find out who knows the details. Somebody was, I guess, driving on the Pinnacles, and then off-road vehicle like straight up. I mean had they ridden actually on the Pinnacles or across the dirt between them?

PANAMINT CANYONS ROAD CONDITIONS: Mary reported the Gear Grinders have traveled most of the Panamint Canyons to the Park boundary. Just outside of Trona there's a road that goes up east into the hills and eventually goes down Fish Canyon and went around the south end of the lake in the southern end of Panamint Valley. We went up Goler Canyon and that day the waterfall was impassible, however, it has been worked and filled in and you can get through it now to the park boundary. I don't know who did it; I don't know if the park service or I had heard that in Inyo County was supposed to be the one that maintains that section until it goes into the park. We haven't verified it yet. So then we went up Coyote Canyon that day and that's been several weeks ago. We could only get so far when we were stopped by huge rocks blocking the trail. I mean you're talking big boulders that have tumbled down and so this is all one day that we've done this. Mary was asked *"How do you think those rocks fell into the canyon? The rain you say?"* Yes! *"It wasn't related to the earthquake?"* No! We got enough rain this time that there were pictures of people canoeing in bad water. We have been up there for PVD the last 3 years and not that long ago, after the earthquake. That same day we went up Upper Jackpot Canyon. Jackpot was not a problem we got all the way to the mine and back no problem, like nothing happened so I think the rain was spotty maybe and really dumped on some places and kind of left others not so much. Then of course, I already told you we went up Stone Canyon and up to the Defense Mine, which were rivers, and then up to Lookout and where it was like nothing had touched it. It was really weird; the water had really roared down the canyon from the Defense canyon, joining Stone Canyon and it was just a rock field that we just went through you know you can tell where the road was because of the width of the bushes and we have GPS.

Since our first trip into the Panamints, the Gear Grinders have been working on Coyote Canyon. This is going to be our third weekend this Sunday (December 10) working on Coyote Canyon, moving huge rocks that tumbled down onto the road.

FUTURE FIELD TRIPS: Sam suggested that possibly in January we should continue going out and looking at different areas. I think we should consider going up to Conglomerate Mesa, maybe with the guy that was just here. Walking in. There's no guarantee that there's not going to be snow in January.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: We asked Craig to pass on that we would like law enforcement updates. We don't need names or any of that, but it would have been nice to have the correct information about exactly what happened at the Pinnacles and stuff here. Also, one more request: an update on the K2 Gold EIS for Conglomerate Mesa. We had a lot of talk tonight that was very interesting but where does the BLM stand on that right now? Craig replied that, *"We're currently reviewing the public comments and working to develop the range of Alternatives so that we can start the EIS review. The BLM has also signed an MOU with Inyo County for the reclamation aspect of this, so that's done. The MOU was just signed last week"*

+ Do we want somebody from the Python Project as a guest speaker?

+ One thing for our next meeting is Charlie would like to jump ship and get somebody else to be the Vice-Chair. I would still be here but I want to be in the peanut gallery

+ For our next meeting we could discuss whether we want to, as a group, adopt a certain section of highway for publicity and what not. Trash is getting to be everywhere and where it's getting really absurd because they're going especially in our area our dumps free and they're going many miles out of town to dump stuff

+ In the next couple months, somebody from Death Valley to come and talk to us about what's going on there with all the roads, because I saw that picture of Mike Reynolds standing there on Wildrose Canyon at that one washout with a 12 foot of drop-off.

NEXT PLR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

+ Next PLRT meeting will be 1/25/24.

Adjourned at: 7:48pm

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Grimsley

Mark Dunn can be reached at: 760-876-0999

Charlie Hattendorf can be reached at: hidesert@gmail.com

Sam can be reached by phone @: 760-793-0050.

Mary Grimsley by email at: maranjer@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE MEETING:

ATTENDING: Mark Dunn, Sam Merk, Mary Grimsley, Charley Hattendorf

TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

+ Liam would like to do a Desert Tortoise presentation

+ Invite Kern County Sheriff to address shooting at Shooters Canyon

+ Invite environmental person from the base to talk about the Big Horn Sheep population on base

+ Adjustment of By-Laws

+ Make amendment to wilderness plan to adjust the boundary for the Osborne Cabin

+ Petty Cash policy:

- Voucher to withdraw money
- 2 signatures – Secretary & Treasurer

+ Documents should be double-sided – lead by example