

## **Moab Tailings Project Steering Committee Meeting**

**July 26, 2016, 3:00pm**

*APPROVED MINUTES*

***PUBLIC MEETING***

*County Council Chambers*

*125 East Main*

*Moab, Utah 84532*

The following individuals were present:

### Committee Members:

Mary McGann, Chair and County Council Member

Rani Derasary, Moab City Council

Joette Langanese, At Large

Zachariah Levine, Grand County Community Development

Katie Stevens, BLM – Moab Field Office

Mark Sovine, Grand Water and Sewer Service Agency

Lee Shenton, County UMTRA Liaison (non-voting staff for MTPSC)

### Moab UMTRA:

Don Metzler (DOE, Federal Project Director), Joe Ritchey (S&K Logistics Services, TAC Program Manager),

### Citizens:

Lara Gale (Moab Sun News)

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Mary McGann.
2. Review of Minutes of April 26, 2016 Meeting – Joette moved (Mark second) to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Project Status and Funding – Don reviewed the layoffs, noting that headcount decreased from 135 to 107, leaving 81 employees in the Remedial Action crew. He estimated that the project would need up to \$45 million per year for ten years to do all the necessary work and return to four trains per week, which would allow removal of about 900,000 tons tailings per year. He suggested that with \$40 million per year the project could ship two trains per week and move the mill debris by truck, with projected tailings shipments totaling 480,000 tons per year. He noted that curtailments would be required for several months each year if funding continues at the FY16 level of about \$38 million because of the need to expand the disposal cell, replace aging heavy equipment, maintain infrastructure and do all the other necessary work except placing final cover on the disposal cell. Don suggested that final cover would cost about \$40 million and might be placed at the end of the project, money well spent to assure the integrity of the cell. Mark asked about replacing train shipments with truck shipments and Don estimated that 200,000 tons could be moved by truck for about \$5 million, mostly in off-season to avoid heavy tourist traffic. The Committee discussed various scenarios with Don that included a mix of train and truck shipments.

Mary described her recent appeals to reinstate lost funding for Moab UMTRA. The Committee discussed possibilities for obtaining some funding from the State of Utah and perhaps establishing a state-federal partnership as was done with the other UMTRA projects in the nation.

Don noted that the Moab site is unique and valuable, including valuable water rights. Don reported that the Portage contract had been extended for five years as a “Logical Follow-On” but they would need to re-bid at the conclusion of the extended contract.

4. Stakeholder Updates – Kelly noted that four UMTRA employees laid off this morning have come to Workforce Services for help so far.
5. Air Monitoring and Activities – Lee reviewed the most recent air monitoring results, indicating no significant change in trends for gamma and radon levels at the most sensitive offsite locations, which continue well below their respective guidelines. He pointed out a continuing and expected gradual decline in radioparticulate levels, which are also well below the guideline. Lee pointed out the gradual increase in radon levels at the west end of the disposal cell, consistent with accumulating more tailings, and that the levels are still well below guidelines.
6. Future Agenda Items – Lee suggested an update from the ad hoc subcommittee on alternate funding sources, 2017 meeting schedule and air monitoring results.
7. Meeting was adjourned by consensus at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lee Shenton, Grand County UMTRA Liaison