

Moab Tailings Project Steering Committee Meeting

January 23, 2018, 3:00pm

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC MEETING

Grand County Courthouse

125 East Center

Moab, Utah 84532

The following individuals were present:

Committee Members:

Mary McGann, Committee Chair and Grand County Council Chair

Rani Derasary, Moab City Council

Karen Garthwait, National Park Service

Bill Jackson, Grand County Road Department

Hannah Russell, delegated At-Large Stakeholder

Zacharia Levine, Grand County Community Development

Tony Mancuso, Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands

Katie Stevens, BLM – Moab Field Office

Dana van Horn, Grand Water and Sewer Service Agency

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

Moab UMTRA:

Russell McCallister (DOE, Federal Cleanup Director), Elizabeth Moran (Pro2Serve, TAC Field Manager), Wendee Ryan (Pro2Serve, Public Affairs Manager)

Citizens:

Michael Liss (citizen, spokesman for *Arches for the People Initiative*), Jason Johnson (Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands), Rudy Herndon (Moab Sun News)

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair Mary McGann. Per Resolution 2992 sufficient committee members were present to constitute a quorum.
2. Review of Minutes of October 24, 2017 Meeting – Katy moved, Zacharia second to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed, 5 in favor, 3 abstained (did not attend the October 24th meeting), none opposed.
3. Project Status – FCD Russell McCallister [0:06] reviewed his experience at Rocky Flats, WIPP (Carlsbad) and most recently at the remediation of the gaseous diffusion plant at Portsmouth, Ohio. He announced the following additional DOE hires for Moab UMTRA: Chris Pennal as Budget Analyst and Contracting Officer Representative will be based in Grand Junction, Patrick Swann (formerly Facilities Representative at Hanford) as Site Engineer, and a Deputy FCD yet to be hired. Russell reported that Ellen Matlin, John Sattler and Ed Skintik would assist him part-time until he starts full-time effective February 19th. He reported that the Project has moved 140,000 tons of tailings so far in FY18 and has worked 500 days without a lost-time injury or accident. Russell reviewed continuing efforts to replace aging equipment. He stated support for the community contingent visit to DC and noted that this project could quickly and efficiently use additional funding but reminded the Committee that Moab UMTRA was still under constraints of a Continuing Resolution.

4. [0:21.5] Arches for the People Initiative – Michael Liss described a proposal to develop the eastern 35-acres of the Moab UMTRA mill site to improve via public-private partnerships the efficiency and visitor experience for travel through Arches National Park, as an alternative to NPS plans for a reservation system for Arches [0:25]. Mr. Liss suggested that with this proposal Arches could become the first fully-sustainable, solar-powered, zero-emissions national park while avoiding the need for a reservation system. The Stakeholders discussed some high-level pros and cons and Moab UMTRA representatives mentioned some physical and procedural constraints. The State Lands representatives reminded everyone [0:53] that the portions of the property at the river edge is state sovereign land under their jurisdiction. It was generally agreed that such proposals should be pursued but expecting several years to implement, and Mr. Liss should discuss his proposals directly with FCD McCallister.
5. DC Visit Plans – [0:57] Mary and Rani shared their tentative plans to visit DC before the end of February to meet with relevant legislators, DOE and possibly DOI to appeal for additional funding for Moab UMTRA. Mary noted that additional funding would provide cost savings overall while benefitting the local and state economy. Bill suggested that the idea of state participation in the cost of Moab UMTRA should be revisited.
6. Stakeholder Updates – No specific Stakeholder updates were offered.
7. Air Monitoring and Activities – [1:10] Lee presented a slightly modified version of his Annual Review presented to County Council on January 17th, including project highlights, funding and air monitoring results for 16Q4 through 17Q3, the latest data available. The trend to higher radon and gamma continued at both sites but levels were still well below the maximum allowable.
8. 2018 Meeting Dates – The fourth Tuesday of July lands on Pioneer Day, a state holiday when the courthouse will be closed so the third quarter meeting will be on July 31st instead. [1:21]
9. Future Agenda Items – Mary suggested contacting the state to re-consider state-level participation in the cost of the Moab UMTRA. Lee suggested an update on project progress from the Moab UMTRA team and he intends to provide a review of air monitoring results.
10. Meeting was adjourned by consensus at 4:25 PM.[1:26]

Respectfully submitted,



Lee Shenton, Grand County UMTRA Liaison