

Meeting Minutes

Sierra Front - Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council

November 14, 2008

Las Vegas, Nevada

I. RAC Attendance and Welcome

7:30 a.m., Friday, November 14, 2008 – meeting was called to order by Chairman Gebhardt with the following members of the RAC present:

SIERRA FRONT – NORTHWESTERN GREAT BASIN RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

<i>COUNCIL MEMBER</i>	<i>RESOURCE/EXPERTISE</i>	<i>11/14</i>
John Gebhardt – Chair	State Agency	X
Patricia Herzog – Vice Chair	Elected Official	X
William Bennett	Transportation/ROWs	
Rochanne Downs	Native Americans	
Brian Doyal	Public-At-Large	
Tim Dufurrena	Nevada Cattlemen	X
Dennis Laybourn	Mining	X
Charles Matton	Wild Horses & Burros	X
William Molini	Wildlife	X
Ernest Paine	Livestock	X
Will Roger Peterson	Recreation	X
Steven Siegel	Energy/Minerals	X
Lee Turner	Environment	X
D. Craig Young	Archaeology	X
VACANT	Academic	

BLM Staff Present: Ron Wenker, Gene Seidnitz, Pat Gubbins & Mark Struble.

Public Present: None.

II. Summary of Motions Other Than to Approve Minutes

A motion to reelect John Gebhardt as the RAC Chair for FY2009 was made by Charles Matton, seconded by Ernie Paine, and approved unanimously. A motion was then made by Ernie Paine (seconded by Charles Matton) to reelect Patty Herzog as the RAC Vice-Chair for FY2009; this motion also was approved unanimously.

III. Summary of Action Assignments

The RAC requested that the Winnemucca District provide a sample of monitoring photos of the Burning Man cleanup at the April 29-30 RAC meeting in Winnemucca.

IV. Minutes from the Meeting in Gerlach, Nevada, July 2008

The minutes for the July meeting in Carson City were recommended to be approved by Steven Siegel, seconded by Ernie Paine, and was approved unanimously.

V. RAC Subgroup Reports

No subgroup reports were given at this meeting. The Wild Horse & Burro subgroup will be meeting in December with members of the two other Nevada RACs.

VI. FIELD MANAGERS REPORTS: Written reports from Carson City and Winnemucca were provided to the RAC members one week in advance, so Pat Gubbins and Gene Seidlitz reviewed the handouts and answered clarification questions.

Pat Gubbins reported that the Carson City District Manager position vacancy has closed and that the State Director is currently conducting interviews. Pat also provided an update on the pending Carson City Lands Bill (BLM is neutral on all such proposals) and the tabled Pine Nut Mountain RMP Amendment (Pat said that the document is already quite dated and needs to be re-scoped – it has been tabled until FY2010 or later). The RAC asked Pat if a field trip to the New Comstock Wind Energy Project (NOI is pending) could be set up.

Lee Turner asked Pat if Betsy McFarland would come and talk about base-line vegetation inventory processes as a tool for making better rangeland management decisions; Lee is going to follow-up with Betsy and the Nevada State Office.

Gene Seidlitz reported that the EIS for the Coeur Rochester Mine has been put on hold. Gene just started on November 10 as the Winnemucca District Manager and appreciated the chance to meet all of the RAC members so early in his new position.

VII. RAC Calendar for FY2009

The RAC agreed to meet on **April 29-30** in Winnemucca to discuss the Winnemucca RMP, review SNPLMA Round 10 projects and accept public comment on the proposals, obtain a briefing on BLM monitoring efforts at the annual Burning Man Festival and conduct other business that is scheduled.

The RAC also plans to meet on **July 22-23** in Carson City/Reno to discuss wind energy proposals, fuel reduction and biomass utilization projects, take a field trip to examine Truckee River restoration projects at the 102 Ranch and old Mustang Ranch properties, and examine progress of the V&T Railroad as it crosses BLM public lands in Lyon County.

VIII. Public Comment Period

No member of the public was present to comment before the RAC.

IX. Adjournment

The RAC adjourned at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened with the tri-RAC. The 2009 statewide Tri-RAC meeting will be held in Elko in early November.

The next Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC meeting will be April 29-30, 2009, in Winnemucca.