

SETG MEETING MINUTES

March 08th, 2006. Pinedale Library. 9am

Members Present: Diana Hoff (Acting Chair), Roy Allen, Tom Burns, Geoff Sell, Laurie Latta, Marilyn Filkins.

Members Absent: Carmel Kail (Chair), Mary Byrnes, Cyd Goodrich, Randy Johnson, Steve Noffke, Annette Pepin, Steve Reynolds, Mark Stewart, Dana Ward, Jana Weber

These Minutes Taken By: Jeffrey Jacquet, with additions/revisions by Roy Allen and Diana Hoff.

Minutes of February SETG meeting were discussed. Tom Burns made a motion to approve minutes. **Minutes were approved.**

Next Meeting date was discussed. A number of members have indicated that the second Wednesday of each month is not a good meeting date. The 3rd Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday of each month was floated for a possible new meeting date. Coordination with the SAAC meeting was an issue. The **issue was tabled** until more input from other SETG and SAAC members was available. The issue would be broached at the SAAC meeting on Wednesday Night.

The **FNRPA Grant Renewal** application (handout) was discussed by Tom. Tom is **in the process of reapplying** for a second year of funding from the Wyoming Governor's office for the SAAC. A follow-up report on year one is needed. Re-application was supposed to be done by January 1st, but communication was not received on this point. May 1st is the new deadline for the grant renewal.

A similar process will have to be undertaken regarding county monies, likely in April or May.

Concern was expressed by several members regarding moving the analyst's responsibilities toward mitigation strategies and away from data collection. The members present liked the renewal grant application as is, and mitigation strategies should be approached with trepidation in regard to the grant renewal process. All seemed to agree that mitigation and "doing" needs to be further discussed and developed. **The grant renewal application was met with approval by all present and will be sent to the SAAC for further discussion and approval.**

Several meetings of the **Crime Subcommittee** had taken place in the past weeks. Marilyn presented their recommendations (handouts).

1. More judicial involvement with felons is recommended, such as mandatory substance abuse evaluations and treatment, anger management, GED classes.
2. Recreational and educational opportunities at the mancamps were recommended.

3. The BLM will mandate a zero tolerance drug policy as a condition of approval on the APD process.
4. The BLM should require all operators and contractors working for the operators to establish/maintain a substance abuse program that requires both pre-employment and random testing. Objective: Assure that when someone does test positive that they either (1) have to go to treatment and get the help they need prior to being allow back (2) Get flagged to employers as being a drug user that has tested positive. Hold Job for them if they get treatment.
5. Run law enforcement contact sheet with employment application. Track Offenders through a Data Base. Keep offenders out of the system.
6. Get companies involved in Zero Tolerance
7. Form Operator's Association to discuss problems, testing, employees.
8. Track crimes by employers and make it public (print in Newspapers) – put names and companies in the paper. This topic was discussed for some time. A point was made that public perception would be unfairly directed to the gas field because the gas field would be have much more enforcement (and thus arrests) then the non-gas field industry. It was also argued that it could be positive publicity in the order of “we are going to clean up our house, regardless of the non-field drug use, and we hope the rest of the county will follow us.”
9. Offer prevention services. Facilitate Narcotics Anonymous / Alcoholics Anonymous
10. Companies offer bonus for clean UA's, voluntary testing, quitting smoking, etc.
11. Allow drug dogs and law enforcement searches on site through employment policies and contracts and signs posting the policy.
12. Either have local treatment center or partner with Sweetwater County for a treatment center but at a minimum, have an aftercare facility in the community.
13. Mandate that Operators use 3 towers instead of 2 towers when not in camps – use buses for transport.
14. Towns in Sublette County and Sweetwater County and Lincoln counties begin working together.

Motion made my Marilyn to adopt the following recommendation for inclusion in the SETG Final Report. Motion seconded by Roy Allen and carried with all in favor.

Recommendation #1: That the BLM mandate a zero tolerance drug policy as a condition of approval on the APD process. All operators and contractors must establish and maintain a substance abuse program that includes required pre-employment and continued random drug testing.

Motion was made to adopt the following recommendation for inclusion in the SETG Final Report. Motion carried with all in favor.

Recommendation #2: The Sheriff's office should track crimes by employers.

Discussion ensued as to the practicality and appropriateness of making such a recommendation to the BLM. **Closure was not reached regarding the other above-listed recommendations of the Crime Subcommittee.**

Laurie discussed **Vocational Education Subcommittee** meeting. A productive meeting took place in the previous month. More documentation on the need will be needed and Laurie will discuss with the SAAC the idea of enlisting Jeffrey in producing documentation. A vocational program is in the works, regardless of SETG/PAWG/BLM involvement.

Geoff made a motion to bring the vocational education to the SAAC Wednesday evening. Motion seconded by Roy. Motion carried with all in favor.

Laurie discussed **economic development**. Laurie indicated that she will now have additional time to spend on economic development activities.

Housing was discussed. The **housing conference** is taking place in Pinedale next week and will include a number of builder, landowners, industry, press, and local officials. Brochure distributed by Laurie. (handout)

Seasonal fluctuations were discussed in regards to its effect on housing, crime, employment and community sustainability. It was discussed at length that a recommendation of year-round drilling would go far to effectively address the problem socioeconomic areas identified by the SETG. The SETG recognizes that year round drilling may have adverse effects on wildlife, air-quality, etc, however they need to concentrate their efforts on the socioeconomic issues associated with this activity.

Motion was made to adopt the following recommendation for inclusion in the SETG Final Report. Motion carried with all in favor.

Recommendation #3: It is recommended that the BLM consider concentrated year round access for drilling and completion operations in the PAPA in order to offset the following socioeconomic issues that have been identified by SETG due to oil & gas development:

- lack of workforce housing
- crime and drug use
- increased domestic violence
- industry and non-industry workforce shortages
- community sustainability/connectedness

In return for granting of year round access, the BLM should require socioeconomic offsite mitigation including the following:

- Industry purchase of land for housing in support of reduction of “man camps” and promotion of sustainable community-appropriate housing
- Industry financing of community infrastructure related to industry growth
- Industry would pay fair market value for loss of other uses including grazing, hunting, and recreational activities on the PAPA
- BLM should also recognize the non-market value losses that might occur as a result of intensive development when computing offsite mitigation costs

Meeting Adjourned.