

Pinedale Anticline Working Group
Draft Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 3, 2011
10:00 a.m.
Rendezvous Conference Room
BLM Pinedale Field Office

Action Statements

Develop a Mission Statement. What are our roles and responsibilities?

10:10 Call to Order and Introductions

Shane DeForest and present PAWG members introduced themselves. Thomas Kearns joined the meeting via phone conference at 2:00 p.m.

10:25 PAWG Review of Charter and Bylaws

The PAWG provides advice on mitigation and monitoring of public resources in the Pinedale Anticline supplemental environmental impact statement area. The PAWG does not provide advice on the allocation and expenditure of federal funds or on personnel actions. According to the Charter, it is solely an advisory body whose *responsibilities* are as follows:

- a. Develop recommendations for the BLM related to monitoring and mitigation of oil and gas development as described in the supplemental EIS at the direction of the designated federal official. The PAWG may review and analyze information, recommend issues for evaluation, and advise on the issues that are presented.
- b. The PAWG has a duty to review the implementation of construction and rehabilitation operations through an annual field inspection and to provide advice to insure the mitigation measures are reasonable and effective.
- c. The PAWG advises the BLM on working with the stakeholders to develop and enhance resource management programs and objectives.
- d. The PAWG makes recommendations on future PAWG resource priorities.

Under this Charter, the PAWG reports directly to the Secretary of the Interior through the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO is the BLM Field Manager. The DFO is a full time federal employee, calls the PAWG and subcommittee meetings, prepares and approves meeting agendas, attends PAWG and subcommittee meetings or through a designee, and adjourns any meetings when necessary. The frequency of the meetings is approximately four times a year. If we need additional meetings we need to go through the federal register process to announce it under FACA.

We have a total of three categories on the board: Category I - Michael Kramer, adjacent landowner; Paul Hagenstein, grazing permittee; and Cally McKee, energy and mineral development. Category II - Joy Bannon, dispersed recreation; Stephanie Kessler, environmental organizations; and Thomas Kearns and Gary Rees, both public-at-large. Category III - Bart Myers, Sublette County; Eugene Ninnie, town of Pinedale; and John Anderson, academician.

Ethics and responsibilities of members are that no PAWG or subcommittee member shall participate in any specific matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest.

Subcommittees may be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the PAWG for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the BLM. The PAWG Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittees will meet as necessary.

Changes to the bylaws are as follows:

'Subgroup' was changed to 'Subcommittee'

Section II.a.(i) Members of PAWG are no longer required to be residents of Wyoming.

Section II.a.(vi) ~~The DFO or designee shall send out announcements for openings on sub-committees, and recommend appointees to PAWG for sub-committees. The PAWG makes final approval or sub-committee members.~~ The PAWG will annually solicit from the public the names of individuals interested in specific resources who wish to be added to a standing roster of potential subcommittee members. As specific issues arise requiring the development of a subcommittee, the assigned PAWG board member shall contact and secure an appropriate sub-committee from the roster of interested candidates.

Section II.a.(vii) ~~The PAWG, with concurrence of the DFO, shall review the mission and performance of each sub-committee annually and determine any necessary modifications to enhance effectiveness or termination of the sub-committee, if appropriate.~~ PAWG subcommittees shall be convened by the PAWG Board, as specific issues arise. Sub-committees are task specific and will dissolve upon completion of the requested task.

Section II.b. ~~Technical Review Teams (TRTs): TRTs may be formed at the option of the BLM on an as-needed basis to gather and analyze data and develop recommendations to aid the PAWG.~~ The PAWG may request that a TRT be formed. Members shall be selected by the BLM based on their knowledge of resource management or familiarity with the specific issues for which the TRT is formed and be Federal employees or federally paid consultants. The TRT will report directly to the BLM and terminate upon completion of the assigned tasks.

Stephanie Kessler moved to remove Section II.c. from the bylaws. Cally McKee seconded. All in favor.

Topics, Dates, and Times for Upcoming Meetings

2011

May 5	12:00 pm	Socioeconomics, Winter Air and Toxics
May 6	10:00 am	Wildlife, Water?
August 2	10:00 am	Field tour
August 3	9:00 am	Wildlife, Reclamation
November 8	9:00 am	Water

2012

February		Water
May (2 days)		Air
August (2 days)		Wildlife/Reclamation
November		

12:00 Break for Lunch

12:20 Election of the Chair

Bart Meyers was chosen as PAWG Chairperson.

12:30 Deb Harris with the DEQ and Merry Gamper joined via conference phone.

12:30 Approval of minutes

Bart Myers voted to approve the 11/04/10 meeting minutes; however, it was noted in the SCCD Update portion of the minutes that the word Benadine should read 'Benzene'.

12:35 Water Subcommittee Recommendations

- a. The subcommittee could not review the Geomatrix water report as all the data was not available at this time. (The Geomatrix report is the interim ground water pollution prevention sampling and monitoring plan. The report serves two purposes, one is to identify the connectivity of the shallow and deep ground water aquifers, and the second is to develop baseline information on low level petroleum hydrocarbon sampling and analysis.)
- b. Use the Conservation pamphlet as a template that was put out in 2008 regarding both ground and surface water monitoring in the County, not only in the Anticline.
- c. Describe the parameters that are not identified in this pamphlet to find out the PH/Alkaline etc. What parameters are sampled and why? Why is PH important to surface water?
- d. List all parties involved from the State Engineers Office or whoever else might be collecting information including the Conservation District on the Anticline.
- e. List the DEQ, Chapter One Surface Water Quality Standards, listing drinking water standards (is my well water safe to drink?), the pamphlet shows different depths of wells and we wanted to add an injection well to the list, and a list of plugged or abandoned wells. Also, who will be conducting the ground and surface water sampling on the Anticline in 2011, who will pay for the printing of this brochure, when will the sampling analysis plan for both ground and surface water be in effect for 2011, and who will approve all these items?

12:45 Response to Subcommittee

Shane DeForest: The task of the subcommittee has been met and it is the responsibility of the BLM to answer their questions. We have not made a decision yet in regards to conducting the sampling in 2011. As far as the printing of brochures, the PAWG has a budget of their own or we could look to cover them from the BLM or JIO/PAPO Project office.

Stephanie Kessler: I've done some research and we discussed several printing houses and the possibility of funding the brochure with the US Geological Survey. They mentioned WLCI has funded a lot of different kinds of research and that we might want to submit a proposal. Also, VRP is a voluntary program from the department of environmental quality.

Merry Gamper: In regards to the concern about water, there are three tasks that are required. The first being the character aspects of the groundwater on the Pinedale Anticline, the depths of the aquifer, the flow processes, and how they communicate with each other. The second task is to evaluate the standard operating practices and how they relate with the industrial operation. We also evaluate water wells and try to determine whether or not there are any mitigation measures out there we can implement to better protect the groundwater and if we have practices that we can strengthen. The third task is to determine whether or not these mitigations are effective.

1:20 Sublette County Conservation District (SCCD) Ground Water Report

Delsa Allen stated SCCD is currently sampling 300 wells for PH, temperature, conductivity, and water levels, when possible. They are also performing a lab analysis to test for Alkalinity, Calcium, Chloride, Fluoride, Magnesium, Potassium, Sodium, Sulfate, Conductivity, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Gasoline Range Organics (GRO) and Diesel Range Organics (DRO). Also tested, on an as needed basis, are Benzene, Ethyl benzene, mtp-xylenes, o-xylene, and Toluene. Between 2004 and 2010, data was collected from wells that were domestic or from domestic stock; there were zero wells that exceeded the chloride standards and all wells were above EPA drinking standards for sulfate. The total count for fluoride was 12 and 20 for total dissolved solids (TDS).

1:50 Response from Subcommittee

The Conservation District has been monitoring wells in Sublette County since the year 2000. In conjunction with the SCCD Surface Water Monitoring Program, a number of sites along the New Fork River are monitored as part of the PAPO monitoring program. Funds for monitoring these sites are paid for by oil and gas operators. There are nine sites on the New

Fork River that the SCCD monitors for the Anticline. Chemical samples are collected five times a year, some in the spring of the year, some before or after high water, in the early fall and late fall. Aquatic insects are scrubbed off the rocks once per year at all the sites. Chemical samples are a general suite of parameters including alkalinity, calcium, sodium, nitrogen and phosphates. Also, each sample collected in the Pinedale Anticline Surface Water program is analyzed for BTEX, DRO, and GRO. For the analysis of the aquatic insects, we send samples to an aquatic ecologist.

2:10 Designated Field Officer Report

Lararge Platform Project is in the alternative development phase. The ID team has a task of completing identification of the major pieces of the alternatives by March 1, then we will move on with the contractor towards developing the impact analysis.

Normally Pressurized Lands Project We are working on a plan of development but still waiting on the publication of Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS. Once that is out we will initiate a public scoping process for that project.

PXP Draft EIS is available and comments are due by March 11.

Paradise Substation went live in early December. The distribution for that system is tied into Boulder and should improve electrical service to the area.

Riley Ridge project has completed both pipelines from their plant and has installed power poles to the plant. They still need to install all the power lines to energize the substation. Right now they are in a shutdown for the winter.

There were four parcels leased in this past October's lease sale within the Pinedale Field Office. We are currently reviewing nine of the existing parcels for conformance with the Bureau's new Wild Lands policy. We have not issued these parcels because there were protests.

Rocky Mountain Power approached the BLM in regards to providing some distribution lines for electrification for a portion of the Anticline. The distribution lines will tie in the substation of Paradise to the substation at the south end of the Jonah Field and will allow the operators to electrify their condensate gathering facilities, compressor stations and water disposal facilities on the south end of the Anticline.

We are currently reviewing the operators' Annual Development Plans for February 2011 to February 2012.

The Resource Advisory Council nomination package has been compiled and was sent to Washington. We are awaiting a decision by the Secretary to see if he will accept the package as it has been submitted.

Wells spud since the November PAWG meeting were 54, 42 were Ultra, 12 were SWEPI. The 2010 Mitigation Fund deposits made by the operators on the Anticline were 2.5 million and will be available for projects or investments for the upcoming PAPO Board meeting, which is scheduled for late April.

Overview of monitoring 2009-2010 mule deer report was completed and is posted on the website. Capturing and collaring for 2010-2011 is underway and will be completed on January 24. The Annual report for 2010-2011 is due in June of this year. For Pronghorn the 2009-2010 collars have been retrieved and the data is being analyzed. In January we did aerial and ground surveys. We captured and collared animals for 2011 and will be monitoring monthly thereafter until March. For Sage Grouse the 2010 report is undergoing final review and will be posted on the website this month. The Winter Concentration survey was completed on January 22. A re-collaring of birds will not be done nor the nest monitoring this year. We will be doing snow and traffic monitoring and a winter roost report in March. There will be a Spring Nesting report in mid April. Prairie dog monitoring was completed in 2010 and the report is supposed to be on the website. PAPO staff is updating 2011 contracts for raptor, pygmy rabbits, and prairie dogs. Recent or upcoming new additions to the website will be air reports, water reports, snow depth, and traffic reports and conservation plans for the funded easements are to be online by February 15. In the PAPO office, we are losing our Range/NEPA Specialist and we are interviewing a Data Manager this week.

Calendar: We are into are seasonal road closures. The PAPO board meeting slated for April 25 and 26 will be in Cheyenne. The Wildlife planning meeting will be held in the Rendezvous Room on February 23 and the Annual Planning Meeting will be held on the next day on February 24. The National Riparian Service Team will be here July 18.

2:20 WY DEQ Air Quality Inspector

Brandi O'Brien is new to the Department of Environmental Quality. She will be working at the weather stations, doing ozone studies and inspecting wells. She is funded for five years.

2:30 Wyoming Air Quality Division via teleconference.

Those presenting were Kelly Bott, Cara Kessler, Jenny Sederly, and Darla Potter. Cara first went over the air monitoring trailers that are in various locations in the area. Each trailer monitors Nitrous Oxide, Ozone levels, Meteorology, and has a camera. Another project they are working on is the Upper Green Ozone Winter Study. They are focusing on the vertical distribution of precursors. In past years, they looked at how ozone moves and travels around the basin and where is it being formed. They are looking at pollutants from tanks and drill rigs and when ozone levels increase they send out special teams for monitoring. Jenny Sederly spoke about the Ozone Contingency Plan and stated in order to address elevated ozone levels in the winter, Operators have been requested to develop contingency plans for short term emission reductions of Nitrous Oxides. Upon notification of an ozone advisory operators will begin operating reduction measures following their individual contingency plan. Starting with this 2011 winter season the OCPs have been standardized. Standardized checklists are not meant to be restrictive and the department encourages inclusion of any new activity. Standardization allows for implementation in two parts. The checklist is for an annual OCP to anticipate measures to be completed. The Events Summary indicates measures actually completed. The OCP winter season began this year on January 3 and will end April 1. The Contingency Plan can be viewed on the Pinedale BLM Website and on the DEQ Air Quality website. Cara gave a summary on the Air Toxic Status Update. She stated the Sublette County Commissioners, Department of Health, and DEQ jointly funded for a study. The sampling was conducted at 14 sites from February to March 2010. The health risk assessment is in the review stage.

Perry Walker commented on the Air Quality presentation. He stated that we know what the problem is and that he questioned the DEQ monitoring. He stated he wanted to see the data aimed at some concrete Mitigation activities and put some corrective actions into place. He stated the monitoring was too late to be useful and thought it should have been in place before 2005. 'Instead of staring at the problem, we need to get to work on it.' In 2005, Perry tried to implement the testing of a device that has to do with dehydration technology. It was tested in the Jonah in January 2006 and he felt it showed great promise. The project was discontinued when DEQ began monitoring. Perry stated Encana is using this device in Colorado with great success and that they started testing it again in the Jonah last month. Perry said he would like to see the makers of this device invited to the next PAWG meeting to give a presentation to show what this technology can accomplish.

4:00 Michael Kramer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cally McKee seconded. All in favor.

MEETING ATTENDANCE FORM

PURPOSE: PANW

TIME: FROM 10:00 AM TO _____

DATE: Feb. 3 2011

NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
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