

Gold King Mine Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

San Juan College Student Center – SUNs Room (1019)

August 22, 2016

CAC Members Present: George Baloo, Aaron Chavez, Rich Dembowski, Paul Montoia, Rick Nez, Norman Norvelle, Bill Palko Schraa and Susan Palko Schraa, Jim Spence, and Evan Tyrrell. All 10 members were present and there was a quorum.

NMED Staff: Allison Scott Majure and Stephanie Stringer.

Presentation Speaker: Stephanie Stringer, Chief NMED Drinking Water Bureau.

Handouts: Available at <https://www.env.nm.gov/riverwatersafety/PublicParticipation.htm>

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairman Richard Dembowski. Introductions were made by GKM CAC members, NMED Staff, and the Presentation Speaker,

Old Business: None

New Business:

Motion was made by Aaron Chavez and seconded by Evan Tyrrell to accept the July 25th minutes. Motion carried.

Chairman Rick Dembowski led a discussion about upcoming meetings. The next meeting will be at the Nenahnezad Chapter house. However, due to tight finances, we may want to go to every other month. Also, the holiday season is also approaching and the state legislature will be in session during the January meeting. We decided to postpone the discussion until the next meeting in September.

Congressman Ben Lujan conducted a Roundtable meeting on the Gold King Mine in Farmington on August 19th. GKM CAC members Aaron Chavez and Paul Montoia attended. Aaron participated in the Roundtable as an invited guests and represented the GKM CAC. Aaron talked about the purpose and function of the GKM CAC. Local state, county, and municipal leaders were present. State Representatives were present, but there was no State Senators. President Begay and Speaker Bates represented the Navajo Nation. Please check the NMED website for more information.

A new publication was available on the information table titled, "Year in Review: Gold King Mine Spill, Animas River Basin – Southwest Colorado, Long-term Monitoring", August 1, 2016 by the Colorado Water Quality Control Division, Department of Public Health & Environment. Please refer to the website for more information.

Presentation: Gold King Mine Spill – Drinking Water Update by Stephanie Stringer

The Drinking Water Bureau has responsibility for public drinking water from the source water supply entry point into the water treatment plants, storage tanks, and distribution system. There are two types of source water, surface (rivers & lakes) and groundwater (water wells). The Surface Water Bureau has

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responsibility for surface water and the Groundwater Bureau for water wells. The Drinking Water Bureau has the following responsibilities:

- Regulatory Oversight of all Public Water Systems (PWS)
- Water Quality Monitoring (entry point samples)
- Assistance (technical, managerial, financial)
- Enforcement.

All materials can be found at <https://www.env.nm.gov/riverwatersafety/PublicParticipation.htm> .

CAC Members' questions/answers/comments to the Presentation: Jim Spence and Norman Norvelle questioned the Exposure & Risk Dashboard. Even though the Dashboard is for Watersheds, public drinking water suppliers are included. Due to the precautions taken by the City of Farmington and their large reservoir, it was felt that the Risk Level should be "Safe" (green) and not "Use Caution" (yellow) for the City of Farmington drinking water supply.

Public Comments: General Discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. A motion was made by Bill Palko Schraa and seconded by Evan Tyrrell to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: September 26, 2016 from 5:30 to 7:20 pm at the Nenahnezad Chapter House in Fruitland, New Mexico.

Norman Norvelle, GKM-CAC Secretary