

**Mining Methods, Environment, and Reclamation Subcommittee
Draft Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2021**

Roll Call

Jim Kochevar – present
Hal Fitch – present
Evelyn Ravindran – present
Adam Wygant – absent
Steve Kesler – present
Peter Rose – present

Others

Doug Needham
Mike Sweat for Adam Wygant
Horst Schmidt
Kathleen Heideman, board member of Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition
Aaron, Michigan Building and Infrastructure magazine

The meeting began at 9:04 a.m.

A motion was made by Peter to approve the November 6, 2020, minutes. The motion was seconded by Hal Fitch. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

I am committed to beginning a draft report and distributed to subcommittee no later than the first of February. That will give members 2 weeks to review it. We will schedule February meeting to discuss, review, and revise. We will schedule monthly meetings thereafter until the draft is ready (April target date).

Other groups are dividing up work, does Jim want to do that? I think we'll get there; Anna Ediger will be assisting. I thought it would be easier to get one set of ideas down first instead of having everyone writing parts that might overlap or conflict. I'm just trying to get a starting point and not trying to monopolize this. Hal and Steve agree with this process.

Will this report just review material available or will it make specific recommendations? I am not sure at this time, but should anticipate recommendations. We have discussed ombudsman type group, or other advisory groups.

Discussion of how to share and trade documents, including forwarding SOM messages to another email account allowing opening of documents.

Are we addressing climate change? I am encouraging everyone to write their thoughts on climate change. I'll incorporate climate change contributions in each section where needed, and will work with Adam on the overarching statement about climate change in the intro, recommendations, and conclusions. They see climate change also fitting into research, social and economic groups as well. I think this area is a good fit; we will be looking at how future impacts needs and ability to mine. This is a twofold topic. How does climate change tie-in to mining operations now, and what can mining industry do to limit climate effects? I will take this discussion into account in my draft.

Does this group cover Brownfield development or does this topic go to another group? Fostering Brownfield development is a good thing. Brownfields were a topic identified for this committee to include.

We will discuss areas where mine companies have down this. Once we get a framework by someone with aggregate expertise this can go to committee of the whole, and can address tailings. Is there value to the use of the land in intervening times between end of mine life and reworking of tailings? There is an interim reclamation that anticipates future uses so that infrastructure doesn't preclude future site development. What are the uses possible for the land until mining becomes a possibility?

The Minnesota mine group has a section on this in their plans, and they are clear that there is a recreational phase possible in areas where mining may begin in the future, make sure that these opportunities are something that can be reduced or ended if mining does occur.

There is a good road map available based on this discussion, and Jim will take today's discussion into account as he begins drafting. Make sure that we can have draft a couple of weeks before next meeting. Jim will aim for February 5 for a draft; next meeting will be scheduled for Friday, February 19. Susan will schedule on everyone's calendars.

Public comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.