

Social, Economic, and Labor Opportunities
Draft Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2021

Roll Call

Chad Korpi – present
Matt Johnson – present
Richard Becker – absent
Austin Fisher (for Richard Becker) – present
Evelyn Ravindran – absent
Adam Wygant – absent
Amanda Bright-McClanahan – present
Dana Dumont – present
Mark Snow – absent
Mike Sweat – present

Guests

Dave Behrend, O'Connell County, Wisconsin

The meeting began at 10:03 a.m. with roll call.

At the last meeting, we made assignments from the topic areas we reviewed. Amanda is working on her assignment, but I am not as far along as I had hoped to be.

Matt participated in three curriculums with Michigan Tech. They are very well positioned to create mining jobs. Discussed what skills are required.

Chad has a draft started, and he is working on it.

Matt and Evelyn are working on topic 5. The principles are engage relevant stockholders, understand local customs, culture and expectations work with stakeholders, explore opportunities to build local capabilities and tribal engagement. We talked with people in the last month regarding tribal engagement. How do we compete with companies for tribal community consultations? What steps do we follow when engaging with tribes?

Amanda asked what is our timeline for submitting a draft. March or April. At the full committee meeting, we should have a draft. In May and June, we can add more detail. Mike would like to see a draft closer to April.

Public Comment

Dave – Mining is a strong part of our heritage, and there has been a change in policies. In the Lake Superior region, mines existed through the 90s. Sulfide mining is coming in. There is no education by the government. Strong, clean, concise understanding needs to be given to the public. What is the reserve plan if Aquila fails? Michigan and Wisconsin are staying out of each other's way. I was going to buy property by Menominee, and I backed out, because there is acid mining discharge from the water. I am the only diver living out of six people that dived in Michigan waters. There is a mine being built on Menominee River. You need to look at the permanent exposure of people as a result of mining. I am here to educate myself, and I am interested in how the government thinks.

Matt mentioned that the future mining focus is on mine design, then water treatment, and impact.

Dave said that education/open communication must be out there.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2021. Please have outlines ready to share.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.