

# COMMUNITY TRANSITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC) MINUTES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Zoom Meeting hosted by JLDC Staff. Attendees: Tim Mulligan, Lee Good, Bruce Binkowski, Nick Hensleigh, Chuck Buus, Leonard Wortman, Jim Buterbaugh, Tim Blake, Paul Babb, Bill Dawson, Liz Pullman, Bobbi Neuman, John Kreis, Alison Richardson, Tom Harrington, Eric Seidensticker, Chris Lamoreaux Guests: Jeff Briggs and Chris Hines

1. Tom H. called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Introductions were made. February minutes were approved.
2. **GSM Operations** – Chuck B. presented.
  - a. **Safety Report** -Still following COVID protocol. No reportable or environmental issues. March 23 marks 4 straight years of no lost time.
  - b. **Operations Update** – Continuing work on projects. Still cleaning up the mill. No cases of COVID. Still following strict protocol. Working on concentrator permits. Looking at ways to minimize freshwater usage. Demolition continuing preparing for posts and pouring concrete to repair floor. Framework in for floatation cells. Bid is out for electrical contractor. Smith Brothers received the mine contract. Working to keep all contract business in Montana. Still working on transportation solutions. Reclamation will continue working on budget.
  - c. **Employment Status** - 16 full time workers and 40 contractors.
3. **GSM Environmental Update** – Chuck Buus reported
  - a. **Permit Updates** – Scoping meeting and comments for the Environmental Impact Statement is ongoing. Scoping meeting completed and mostly positive feedback.
  - b. **Reclamation Update** – Planning on additional acres this summer.
4. **Jefferson Local Development Corporation Update** – Very close to submitting GSM job creation application. Meat processing final comments were submitted to contractor and will be meeting with them to look at the numbers. Awarded a grant for a Masterplan for the Town of Whitehall. Putting out an RFP for a contractor. Star Theater grant is still pending. DOJ Highway Patrol is coming to the MDC in Boulder. Our MDC project is on hold until DOJ decides which buildings they want and emphasis on veteran support may shift to the South Campus. Outreach for the North End and looking at possible replication of a CTAC type group. Conference room electronic meeting center at Borden's is almost complete and test meeting last night was successful. Will be available for groups when finished. Great addition to the community. Marketing classes in Boulder have been set up at Volunteer Hall. Whitehall PTSA is hosting the Missoula Children's Theater and will be presented for viewing on channel 49.2 and streamed live. Western Legacy center reviewing financials and business plans.
5. **Whitehall Town Update** – Design of water treatment plant is in the works. Plan is for it to go out to bid in mid-July. Northwestern is almost complete with the new streetlights.
6. **Whitehall Schools Update** – School board will be hosting a vaccine clinic at the school and will be sponsored by the Whitehall Pharmacy.
7. **Whitehall Chamber of Commerce Update** – Easter egg hunt is planned for April 3 for younger children and there will be some type of scavenger hunt for older children with prizes. Black Tie & Blue Jeans event will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Copper K Barn. Details will be forthcoming on where to purchase tickets. Frontier Days is moving forward and will feature more children activities this year. The theme will be “Re-discover Whitehall”.
8. **Jefferson County Commission/Events** – Event organizers are all excited and moving forward with planned events. Received a grant for Whitehall Halloween event. Jefferson County radio aired almost all sporting events. Projects at the fairgrounds are still underway. Zoom capabilities at Volunteer Hall will be up and running by end of March. Jefferson Co. website is live. Information and questions should be sent to Bruce. Pamphlets are being created promoting trails and activities in Jefferson County.
9. **Pipestone Creek Sedimentation/Jefferson Slough Project Update** – Reinstalling flow meters.
10. **Fish Wildlife Parks Update** – Had significant participation in the chronic wasting disease. Received 318 samples, the vast majority from Twin Bridges area. Out of those 318 samples, 52 were found positive and 51 in the 322-hunting district. Elk survey is stable. Mountain Lion harvest around Whitehall seems stable. There will be a Zoom meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> will public and private landowners talking about an access plan. Special hunting applications due April 1.
11. **Other Items** – Northwestern says if any of the new lights are shining directly into homes, please contact them and they will put up a shield.

Adjourn 8:59 am. Next meeting will be April 8, 2021.