

COMMUNITY TRANSITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)

MINUTES

Thursday September 10, 2020

Meeting was held via Zoom and Conference Room and hosted by JLDC staff. Attendees were: Tom Harrington, Alison Richardson, Eric Seidensticker, Chris Lamoreaux, Bruce Binkowski, Jack Smith, Leonard Wortman, Nick Hensleigh, John Crist, Chuck Buus, Jerry Muethling, Diana McFarland, Paul Babb, Bryher Herak, Lee Good, Hannah Nieskens, Gerry Keough and Jim Buterbaugh.

1. Tom H. called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Introductions were made. August minutes were approved.
2. **GSM Operations** – Chuck B. presented.
 - a. **Safety Report** -No reportable injuries for August with 1266 days no lost time, 938 days no medical report and no first aid. They call it a Triple Zero and a very positive milestone.
 - b. **Current Operations and GSM Update** – Mill removal is progressing. Being prepped to move. Belt compressor has been ordered. Permits are on track with responses back to the State. They were impressed and should be last round of comments. On track to start in EIS in October.
3. **Employment Status** - 18 full time workers and 20 contractors on site.
4. **GSM Environmental Update** – Jerry M. presented
 - a. **Permit Updates** – Concentrator permit progressing.
 - b. **Reclamation Update** – 70 acres completed.
 - c. **Other Items** – Masks were given to Jefferson County and more available if there is a need. Had a reportable spill of 50 gal of mineral oil caught fire because of an overheated control box that blew. Thankful for the rain that day and all is back to normal.
5. **Jefferson Local Development Corporation Update** – Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is being worked on to provide long-term systematic help for the community. They have a contractor in place to help facilitate the process. There is a Steering Committee meeting next week and all are invited to participate. They will be virtual meetings. JLDC awarded the annual awards to Marks Lumber (Business of the Year), Whitehall Chamber (Community Impact) and Discovery Kidzone (Innovative Business of Year). Many projects are being worked on. Meat Processing – Consultants are gathering info on feasibility & infrastructure. Brownfields funding being investigated at South Campus. Legacy Center meeting was held in Whitehall and one location is being considered. New tenant at SBP, Whitehall Plumbing and Heating. Several new businesses looking into Whitehall. Wind development prototype is progressing.
6. **Whitehall Town Update** – Public Works is wrapping up the season getting ready for winter. Water treatment plant grant changed. The Town must be completely current on audits before the funds will be released.
7. **Whitehall Schools Update** – Enrollment is at 468. Up 22 from last year and 78 from 5 years ago. All students and staff are healthy. Pre-K program was started last week and going well. First home football and volleyball games were wins. Students online 20% and on-site 80%. Doing cohort classes with elementary students.
8. **Whitehall Chamber of Commerce Update** – Chamber has taken on doing the Community Birthday Calendar. They are also taking over the local phone book and working on getting ads. Should be complete by October. Fall Festival is October 24th. Very excited about the award they received from JLDC.
9. **Jefferson County Commission/Events** – Final budget is set and it was a difficult budget year. COVID relief funds were received and will help law enforcement. County predicts next year will be tougher than this year. Hot Springs bridge construction will start next week and take 6 weeks to complete. Whitetail Road still being worked on. Piedmont Road working on repairs. Approved resolution for county to join Big Sky Passenger Rail Auth. which will look at a southern route. Mayor Hensleigh has agreed to represent county on the Board of Directors. The State Creek fire is not contained, but under control. Bruce thanked the mine for the mask donation. Fall Festival and Halloween are being planned in October starting the 16th. Putting a mailer in with property taxes with info on COVID and upcoming events. County radio is working to get as many sporting events on as possible because of fan restrictions. Video will be up on the website very soon.
10. **Pipestone Creek Sedimentation/Jefferson Slough Project Update** – Smith construction ready to start on Pipestone
11. **Fish Wildlife Parks Update** – No report.

12. **Other Items** – New tenants, Center for Mental Health, at Borden’s seeing clients. Veterans Appreciation Dinner is tomorrow at Legion Park. Gun Show is Sep 18-20 at the Community Center. Remember to complete the Census. We are behind. Commissioners made decision to hold mail in ballot. Can drop off ballot in person day of the election at the Clerk and Recorder’s office in Boulder and ballot, turned in early at Clerk’s office or dropped off at the Whitehall Community Center on election day. Northwestern Energy is working to complete new Whitehall LED lights by the end of the year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m. Next meeting on October 8, 2020.