



306 E. Main Street, Room 201
East Helena, MT 59635
Phone: 406-457-8583
Fax: 406-457-8573

East Helena Lead Education and Assistance Program
Advisory Minutes
October 14, 2015
City Hall
East Helena, MT 59635

Present:

Betsy Burns, USEPA

Kathy Ericksen, EPA Community Development and Outreach

Daryl Reed, MTDEQ

Kathy Moore, Lewis and Clark Public Health

Debb Tillo, LEAP

Jan Williams, LEAP

James Schell, East Helena Mayor

Judy Leland, East Helena City Council Representative

Robert Moler, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

James Swierc, Lewis and Clark County Hydro Geologist

Kathy M. called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Kathy M. asked for public comments – James Schell commented that Mr. Nordrud moved the Institutional Control files from Robert Peccia & Associates to the East Helena website. He stated that David Hill is the web developer for the East Helena site and to contact him if there are any mistakes or items that need to be changed.

Kathy M asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. There were none and Daryl moved to approve the minutes as read and Jan seconded the motion.

Program Reports:

Daryl stated that he appreciated the tour of the plant site given by Betsy. He was amazed at the amount of work that has been done on the plant site.

Betsy's updates for the advisory committee are as follows:

RCRA

The EPA and Custodial Trust have hosted numerous tours of the plant site for interested parties and various stakeholders this past month. Betsy will be giving a tour of the plant site this next Monday, at 5:30 p.m., for the East Helena School Board.

Work is continuing for excavation and placement of material from the South Bench borrow area for construction of the ET Cover storage layer. Plans are to complete construction of ET cover layer for the south side of the facility and seed the topsoil by the end of October.

In order to eliminate the large haul trucks on the City of East Helena roads, the Trust is setting up a screening plant on the east bench to make bio-barrier and capillary break material (instead of mining and hauling from the Helena Sand and Gravel pit off Valley Drive).

North Western Energy has completed removal of transformers at the substation, installed all new transmission poles and has begun stringing new wire which is scheduled for completion at the end of this month.

Plans are to de-mobilize Envirocon from the site the first part of November. Helena Sand and Gravel will be continuing on through the winter, as long as the weather permits. They will have a crusher on site and will rough in the grade controls for Prickly Pear Creek.

The Custodial Trust entered into agreements with 3 residents on Gail Street under which they will abandon their private wells and connect to the City of East Helena.

The Custodial Trust is making arrangements with the Burnham Ranch to drill two new residential wells (near their existing wells) to prevent potential use of water with selenium concentrations that exceed the safe drinking water standard.

The Custodial Trust preliminary budget for 2016 will be sent out the first week of November for review.

CERCLA

PWT has selected Olympus Technical Services as the contractor to clean up one residential property and at least 4 road aprons this fall and the remaining 19 road aprons and portions of 6 flood channels in the spring of 2016. There are still several properties that qualify for clean-up, but at this time, the owners have refused to have it done. EPA's plan is to have all the properties

that qualify in the East Helena area cleaned up. For those remaining properties that have not been cleaned up, the opportunity will still be available for current or future homeowners who want it done. As cleanup continues through Superfund, the EPA has a fund set aside for continued remediation.

PWT prepared an informational fact sheet to notify East Helena residents of the upcoming construction – the fact sheet was published on the Prickly Pear Junction website. Mobilization is scheduled for October 26, 2015.

PWT has completed 26 of 30 properties for the Long Term Monitoring program.

Under an Administrative Order on Consent, soil sampling was completed on soils removed from American Chemet property. Two of those fifteen soil piles were removed from the repository and the remaining soil will be leveled out by the end of this week and reseeded.

MRL (Montana Rail Link) plans to evaluate rail service into American Chemet. EPA will be characterizing the Railroad ROW identified in the ROD in 2016. There is the potential to abandon several lines in the East Helena Rail Yard. The Custodial Trust, EPA, MRL, and American Chemet are coordinating activities.

EPA will be conducting their 4th (5) year review. The 5 year review ensures that the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment. If any issues are identified during the Five-Year Review, EPA will work with to address those issues. Skeo Solutions will be performing the 5 year review and will interview relevant stakeholders and key community individuals to gather the necessary information.

For September- October 2015 the LEAP received (113) 811 calls, and issued (3) certifications and (7) soil displacement permits. Jan will be sending out the LEAP fall newsletter at the end Oct.

Judy stated the East Helena Halloween Stroll will be held on Saturday Oct. 31st from 5-7 p.m. and the Christmas Stroll will held December 3rd from 5:30 -8:30 p. m.

Kathy gave a brief presentation on the CGWA (Controlled Ground Water Area) to the East Helena City Council on October 6th.

Kathy also gave us the following dates for the future progress of the CGWA :

October 16, 2015 – DNRC – submit proposed rules to the Governor. He has 2 weeks to comment

November 3, 2015 – DNRC – file CGWA rules with Secretary of the State

November 10, 2015 – Notice of the CGWA rules published in the newspaper

December 10, 2015 (date will be 30 days after publication in the newspaper) – public hearing somewhere in East Helena

December 10, 2015 – End of comment period

DNRC will read and summarize the written and oral comments

Technical Assistance Group will review CGWA rules between December 10th – February/March 2016.

CGWA rules will become effective sometime in February or March 2016

Next meeting will be Nov 4, 2015 at the METG office at 9:00 a.m. and a tour of the plant site will follow the advisory meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.