

Cassia County Gateway Transmission Line Task Force

Special Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2009

Call to Order:

The special meeting of the Cassia County Gateway Transmission Line Task Force was called to order by Brent Stoker at 1:12 P.M., Monday, July 20, 2009. The meeting was held in the Burley City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting was recorded in digital format and is available on the county website www.cassiacounty.org. Time stamps are included in these abbreviated minutes for reference purposes.

Present:

(See Attached List)

A. Information/Updates/General Discussion

[1:12:43 PM](#) Brent Stoker called this special meeting to order. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2009 special meeting, with voting on the matter unanimous in the affirmative. [1:13:55 PM](#) Stoker then briefed the group on topics for discussion at the upcoming regular meeting, including Tetra Tech recognizing permitted and existing CAFO's, and the upcoming meetings being held in Arbon Valley, Oneida County, the NTTG meeting on Wednesday, Jerome, Gooding and American Falls, with Stoker noting that members of the task force will be attending these meetings, dividing up when necessary, to make as many of them as possible. [1:19:38 PM](#) Al Barrus briefed the group on the upcoming Board of County Commissioners meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 23rd at Conner's Café in Burley, regarding a consensus for a transmission corridor through Southern Idaho. Stoker commented on the need to try and keep all interested parties informed of this process. [1:27:55 PM](#) Austin Stoker conducted a review of the alternate routes beginning at Granite Pass. [1:33:19 PM](#) Heber Carpenter noted a proposed wind project, WASATCH Wind, on Simper property. [1:33:48 PM](#) Doug Pickett noted some anemometer projects on Simplot ground and American Stone. [1:34:40 PM](#) Ted Higley provided comment regarding wind farms and possible geothermal projects as advantages to hook into the transmission line. [1:35:58 PM](#) Scott Nannenga, USFS, provided comment regarding road width of Beaver Dam Pass Road (24 foot road with corridor). [1:37:03 PM](#) Joe Tugaw JR. asked a question regarding the possibility of spanning wire over a Roadless area, as long as you don't go in a Roadless area such as having the towers placed outside the Roadless area. Nannenga replied that it could be possible. Nannenga also noted that until an actual plan is available for review, it is just speculation as to what possibilities may exist involving Roadless areas. [1:38:57 PM](#) Stoker briefed the group on the process with BLM if the counties can establish a corridor. Stoker then asked Nannenga questions regarding existing roads in the Black Pine area, if the transmission lines could go on designated existing roads. Nannenga replied that you can't build new roads or reconstruct for other improvements. Nannenga again commented that without having an actual proposal, it is difficult to speculate, as there are other issues, other than just roads, in dealing with these areas. [1:44:24 PM](#) Ted Higley comment regarding the proposed alternative line going

through Junction Valley, stating concerns of a multi-line power line going through his property of mostly irrigated meadows, and near Granite Pass. [1:48:10 PM](#) Austin Stoker continued review of alternate routes. [1:48:57 PM](#) Doug Pickett commented regarding the view shed concerns, noting they were a trade off of from the green line with the one that crosses just north of the Bullers' Ranch. [1:50:26 PM](#) Von Gibby asked what constraints were there if it crosses south of Bullers' Ranch and not over.

B. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the special meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:53 P.M.

Minutes submitted by: Susan M. Keck, Deputy Clerk, Cassia County

Approved by: Gateway Task Force