

Commissioners

From: Cindy Grimm <Cgrimm@co.mineral.mt.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 3:29 PM
To: trice@co.beaverhead.mt.us; mmcginley@co.beaverhead.mt.us;
ghaugland@beaverheadcounty.org; commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us;
commissioners@co.carbon.mt.us; cccomms@midrivers.com;
commission@co.cascade.mt.us; chouteau@itstriangle.com;
ceo@anacondadeerlodge.mt.gov; commissioners@co.fergus.mt.us;
enelson@flathead.mt.gov; commission@gallatin.mt.gov;
commissioners@glaciercountymt.org; berryml@midrivers.com;
commissioners@co.granite.mt.us; commissioners@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov;
akelly@co.judith-basin.mt.us; lakecommissioners@lakemt.gov; sgeise@lccountymt.gov;
mmurray@lccountymt.gov; ahunthausen@lccounty.gov; billb@libby.org;
madco@madison.mt.gov; benhurwitzmt@gmail.com;
htownsend@meaghercounty.mt.gov; rbrewer@meaghercounty.mt.gov;
bcc@co.missoula.mt.us; commissioners@parkcounty.org; pococo@threerivers.net;
camende@prco.mt.gov; dgrey@powellcountymt.gov; Commissioners;
rcc@rosebudcountymt.com; lberish@sanderscounty.mt.gov; chiefexec@bsb.mt.gov;
commissioners@stillwater.mt.gov; sgcommish@itstriangle.com;
jimhodgskiss@threerivers.net; jdellwo@threerivers.net; ronostberg@threerivers.net;
wccom@mtintouch.net
Subject: Mineral County SJ-15 EQC Support Request
Attachments: EQC Support Request.doc
Importance: High

*Mineral County Commission
PO Box 550
Superior, MT 59872
Phone: 406.822.3577
Fax: 406.822.3552
Email: cgrimm@co.mineral.mt.us*

"Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle."

Montana Forested Counties:

Dear Commissioners,

A few months ago several of us went to Kalispell to hear Kirk MacKenzie, from Defend Rural America, present information of taking back control at both the County and the State levels from the federally managed lands within our respective counties. As a follow-up we learned of other significant individuals in this same process. One of which is Doyel Shamley of Veritas Research Consulting.

Mineral County has been involved with initiating action with Mr. Shamley. We had been waiting to hear from the other counties, and hoping to coordinate on how we were all proceeding, so that we could make a unified-front approach. It seems little progress has occurred in that objective. As a result Mineral County has decided to move ahead on its own, to make sure that timely efforts are not lost to us all.

We are in the commitment and Contract for Services hiring stages right now. Specifically, we still need to know that we will have your support for these efforts. Timing is critical. On Wednesday March 19, a Mineral County delegation is going to Helena to present our issues to the subcommittee of Environmental Quality chaired by Senator Jennifer Fielder. Part of the hearings will include presentations by Mr. Doyel Shamley and his very successful efforts in Arizona. It is now spreading to Utah and Idaho, as well as Montana. We are in the forefront for Montana. We are in close contact with Senator Fielder on this issue. The quarterly EQC meetings will continue, but this one coming up is critical for our unified success.

The end result is that this is setting the groundwork for legislation for the 2015 legislative session resulting from Senator Fielder's Interim Subcommittee's work. This current meeting will set the framework for next quarter's review. Then in September the final package will be prepared for the Legislature from the Interim Subcommittee. Montana will be making history. We need to know that we have your support and cooperation for a unified front.

Mineral County will be requesting desired cooperation with the State via SJ-15 Working Group, which includes:

- Lawful use of legislative jurisdiction for the state or a political subdivision of the state to protect public health, safety, and welfare to reduce liability, risks, and treats associated with federally managed lands and restore beneficial use of public lands in Mineral County.
- Allow willing counties to work with SJ-15 Working Group to achieve these goals

- Investigate socio-economic and environmental advantages of compelling congress to transfer federally managed public lands to the state.
- Identify state based goals for proper protection, access, management, preservation of existing rights and uses; and identify agency responsibilities and formula for revenue distribution associated with state management of the public lands and resources.

In conclusion, please respond with your letters of support for Mineral County, and for the EQC subcommittee process by noon, Wednesday, March 19th. Thank you for your prompt response to our request. We regret the short notice.

You may send your responses to:

- Mineral County at mccommissioners@co.mineral.mt.us
- Josef Kuchera at josefk@tricontimber.com
- Senator Jennifer Fielder at sen.jfielder@legmt.gov and/or getitright@montana.com

Thank you,

Mineral County Commissioners
&
Mineral County Resource Advisory Group