

## Minutes of the 11/06/04 Combined Board Meeting

WSMC Meeting, 11-06-04, Ellensburg

Stu called the meeting to order at 9:41 AM

Kathy gave the Treasurer's report.

### **Wagonmaster's:**

Ed will host a Wagonmaster meeting on the second Saturday of Jan (1/8/05). Currently Vi and Ed will work out the location of the meeting. If you are planning on attending the meeting I would suggest that you contact either Vi or Ed just before the meeting to get the location.

### **Old business:**

Stu reported on the Walker Valley lease. There has no activity on the lease since what was reported at the West Side board meeting in October. He also said the site is a mess and DNR will be cleaning it up in the near future.

### **New business:**

Vi Jones gave a report on the DNR rules meeting. Vi, Stu, Kathy and George attend the meeting to support rockhounding as an activity on DNR lands. Vi stated that the DNR had not listed rockhounding as a recreational activity and it was brought to their attention. Vi also reported on a state petition on roadless areas. For more information you can go to their web site- [www.landrights.org](http://www.landrights.org). They are accepting e-mail responses at - [statepetitionroadless@fs.fed.us](mailto:statepetitionroadless@fs.fed.us). There are two other bills in congress, HR 2416 and S 546 on paleontological collecting.

Stu reminded everyone that DUES are due for 2005. Glenn should put the notice in the next Council Report. The regular meeting for 2005 at the Palace Café in Ellensburg will be 3/26, 8/6, and 11/5.

A discussion of officers for 2005 was held with the following results.

President - Ed Thomas

VP - Mike Messenger

2nd VP - Diane Rose

Secretary --

Treasurer - Kathy Earnst

Immediate Past President - Stu Earnst

Trustees - East Side

Ed Brandstoettner - Will continue for another term

Replace for Diane Rose will be Steve Townsend (from Ellensburg)

Replace for Al Newkirk will be appointed later

Trustees - West Side

Glenn Morita and Ed Levesque will be renewed for another term

Stan Brooks position will be appointed later.

Ed Thomas, Acting Secretary

**Stu has requested that the following information regarding the Walker Valley lease be published in the Council Reporter:**

### **DNR/WALKER VALLEY LEASE CHANGES**

I will first type what the lease said when we got it and then what DNR agreed to after receiving the letter from our Attorney Brock Stiles, Sedro-Woolley. The comments on Sections 7 and 11 are in Attorney Stiles' words. Would the Board of Directors read these changes and comments and let Stu know your thoughts and if you would approve signature or does this lease need more work. Email us at [earnstkk@cnw.com](mailto:earnstkk@cnw.com)

Section 5.02 OTHER RESTRICTIONS ON USE.

C. Lessee shall prevent accumulation of equipment parts or "bone yards" on the Premises.

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Section 8.02 HAZARDOUS, TOXIC, OR HARMFUL SUBSTANCES.

a. Deleterious Material. Lessee shall not make, or suffer to be made, any filling in of the Premises or any deposit of rock, earth, ballast, refuse, garbage, waste matter, chemical, biological or other wastes, hydrocarbons, any other pollutants, or other matter within or upon the Premises, except as approved in writing by the State, or unless permitted by Subsection 2.01 (Permitted Use). If the Lessee fails to remove all

nonapproved fill material, refuse, garbage, wastes or any other of the above materials from the Premises, the Lessee agrees that the State may, but is not obligated to, remove such materials and charge the Lessee for the cost of removal and disposal.

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#### Section 11.3 ROAD REPAIR

Lessee shall repair or cause to be repaired at its sole cost and expense that damage to said road(s) occasioned by it which is in excess of that which it would cause through normal and prudent usage of said road(s). Within fifteen (15) days of the damage, Lessee shall meet with State and provide a plan of operation for the repairs.

#### Section 11.4 ROAD MAINTENANCE

Road maintenance is defined as work normally necessary to preserve and keep the roads in their present condition or as hereafter improved. At a minimum, roads shall be maintained to meet forest practice standards set forth in WAC 222.24.050 as now written or hereafter amended. Unless contrary to the terms of an express easement authorizing access, the cost of performance of road maintenance and resurfacing shall be allocated on the basis of respective uses of said road. During periods when a road, or portions thereof, is used solely by Lessee, Lessee shall solely maintain that portion of said road to the standards set forth above, provided State reserves the right to make reasonable allocations concerning priority of use and maintenance of said roads by it and others. Where there is joint use of a road, or portion thereof, Lessee shall perform or cause to be performed, or contribute or cause to be contributed, that share of maintenance and resurfacing occasioned by such use as hereinafter provided.

During periods when more than one party is using the same road or any portion thereof, the parties hereto shall met and establish necessary maintenance provisions. Such provisions shall include, but shall not be limited to:

(a) The appointment of a maintainer, which may be one of the parties hereto or any third party, who will perform or cause to be performed at a reasonable and agreed upon rate the maintenance and resurfacing of the road or the portion thereof being used; and

(a) A method of payment by which each party using said road or a portion thereof, shall pay its pro rata share of the cost incurred by said maintainer in maintaining or resurfacing said road or portion thereof.

Kathi, DNR, had indicated that she felt that it was her interpretation and DNR's past history in regards to these sections, including Section 11.03 in regards to road repair and road maintenance, is that Section 11.03 includes the term that the lessee responsibility is for repairs and damage occasioned or caused by the Mineral Council members. Section 11.4 allocates cost of road maintenance on the basis of the respective uses of the road and so, therefore, Mineral Council would only be responsible for a percentage of how much their members use the road compared to other people up there. There was no need for additional language based on Kathi's representation as to how DNR handles this provision.

#### SECTION 7.02 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Kathi, DNR, says that what is listed in the lease is the minimum amount that the state requires in regards to their leases and uses of property although the amounts listed in here require basically a liability auto policy with limits up to \$100,000 per person, which is over the \$25,000 that is required by law to drive on the road. She indicated that this is what their minimum requirement is for state land and, therefore, they cannot change that.

### **A Little Bit About Chrysocolla**

Chrysocolla is a minor ore of copper and is also used as an ornamental stone. The name is derived from the Greek word Chrysolos for gold and Kolla for glue in reference to a similar looking material that was used in soldering gold. This indicates the ancients smelted the ore to make a copper alloy of gold much as we do today.

The popularity of using chrysocolla as a gem material was not widespread until a long time later. Professional mineralogists thought of chrysocolla as a pretty blue copper ore. They identified it as a somewhat brittle, hydrous silicate of copper or a secondary mineral formed by the action of air and water on primary copper deposits. Malachite, a green carbonate of copper, also frequently occurs with chrysocolla, as do small amounts of azurite, another copper carbonate.

To rockhounds today, chrysocolla is that beautiful blue agate-like material best suited for turning into gems and jewelry. Actually, gem grade chrysocolla is a copper stained chalcedony that was probably formed by percolating waters that picked up silica and copper, and then deposited it in seams and fissures. In Arizona, it was valued as a gemstone for many years. The old Dominican Mine at Globe had started as a silver producer, but later turned out to be a very rich copper mine, and produced some of the finest gem chrysocolla. Tiffany's of New York bought a large quantity of this blue material to cut into gemstones. This was at the turn of the 20th century. In other mines in Arizona, large deposits of chrysocolla were found, but unfortunately

were sent to the crushers and on to the leaching plants for recovery of the copper contents.

Many rockhounds and miners found they could sell the "blue rock" for money, and the operators of the mine had to place guards about the areas. Any employee picking up chrysocolla was fired on the spot. Nevertheless, a lot of chrysocolla found its way to the market.

from Petrified Digest, 1995,  
via The Pebble Trails 11/04

### **Largest ever field of impact craters uncovered**

New Scientist Online Edition 11/07/04

The discovery of the largest field of impact craters ever uncovered on Earth is the first evidence that the planet suffered simultaneous meteor impacts in the recent past. The field has gone unnoticed until now because it is partially buried beneath the sands of the Sahara desert in south-west Egypt.

Philippe Paillou of Bordeaux University Observatory in Flouirac, France, first noticed circular geological structures in the Sahara last year, while analyzing radar satellite pictures of the area.

The structures turned out to be part of a huge field of 100 craters spread over 5000 square kilometers near the Gilf Kebir plateau. The craters vary in diameter from 20 meters to 2 kilometers across. The previous largest known crater field covers a mere 60 square kilometers in Argentina.

In February, Paillou led a joint Egyptian and French mission to find the site and examined 13 of the craters, confirming that they were the result of simultaneous impacts. But accurately dating the field has been tricky. Paillou estimates that it is roughly 50 million years old, relatively young in geological terms.

The size of the field suggests that it could be the result of two or more meteors disintegrating as they entered Earth's atmosphere, the first evidence of a multiple strike, he says.

"Because the field is so big, it can't have been made by one meteor," says Paillou. But more information is needed to understand the event and its effects, and Paillou plans to return to the area next month.