

Meeting #34  
**June 10, 2015**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Meeting Attendees**

*Community Working Group members present:*

Nancy Vogler – LOST Trail  
Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce alternate  
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison  
Roy Chavez - Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners  
Bill Vogler – Superior Copper Alliance  
Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Water Board  
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board  
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club  
Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce  
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance  
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior  
Frank Stapleton – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center

*Community Working Group members not present:*

Matt Nelson / Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association  
Mark Nipp – Town of Superior  
Michael Lira – Central Arizona College  
George Martin – JF Ranch  
Lynn Martin – JF Ranch  
Mark Siegwarth – Boyce Thompson Arboretum  
Jeff Bunkelmann – Central Arizona College  
Superior Rotary Club  
Superior Unified School District #15

*Resolution Copper Company:*

Jim Schenk – Manager for Communities & Social Performance

*Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA)*

John Godec  
Debra Duerr

*Public Guests:*

Jacqui Smith – Arizona Water Company  
Louie Rabago – Red Bear Outfitters/Cobre Valley Institute of Technology

**Introductions & Housekeeping**

John Godec welcomed everyone to the meeting. Quite a few members were unable to make it tonight. It was confirmed that the group will take the month of August off.

Godec said that he had invited the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) to speak to the group tonight, but they were unable to do so. ADHS has been conducting lead level tests on children throughout the state; they were doing one in Kearney. The Mayor of Superior requested that a study be done here. The Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center representative said he thinks that the plan is to do the blood screens at the Superior Clinic, and the Center has partnered with the State to offer free blood tests for children here. ADHS is trying to figure out how they will handle this request as part of the ongoing Superior Health Study.

Godec observed that it seems the project has been gaining more media interest lately, locally, regionally, and nationally. For example, Bill Vogler was interviewed by The Dailey Show, which is planning a piece on the Resolution Copper Project (RCP). At the last meeting, it was discussed whether the group thinks there should be a spokesperson for the group but did not come to any conclusion. A member suggested that if we assign a spokesperson, it would need to be someone who is neutral. Another pointed out that all we can do is describe the group and not take positions, because it is not a decision-making group. Some thought it might be helpful to have a spokesperson for the group, although several members thought this might be difficult to identify. A suggestion was made that the group might want to develop a few key messages and common themes that the group would like to convey, so everyone could refer to it. A member noted that this project has had national and even international press coverage. A member feels that this group represents the opinion of Resolution Copper, and the company is financially supporting the group. In response to a question from the facilitator, most members said they do not believe they represent Resolution. Another member said he believes that the difference of opinions represented on this group is what makes it effective.

Jim Schenck of Resolution reported that RCP has a project starting up. People may have noticed that there is some construction going on above the courthouse near the Magma Club. This is going to be a pump house for potable water, which is used for cement, cooling towers, and drill rigs; pumping enough water to the required sites has been a challenge. The Magma Club belongs to the city, while the parking lot, where the construction is occurring, belongs to RCP. The pipeline goes across the access to the Magma Club. However, blocking off the parking lot until August can be a problem. The question of whether permits are needed has come up; necessary approvals have been obtained. The group asked:

- Will the pump station belong to Resolution or to the Arizona Water Company?
  - It will belong to Resolution. However, an Arizona Water Company representative attending the meeting said they have moved the location of where RCP takes water to be more efficient and effective. She further said that contractors are required to obtain any necessary permits.
- Is this for additional mine water?
  - No, it's for potable water.

Schenck also reported that Resolution had a public meeting at San Carlos last month, which took a long time to put together. The tribe allowed an 'invitation-only' meeting at Apache Gold Casino. One Council member attended. Water was a major issue. This was followed by an open letter in the local newspapers last week. Major themes, aside from water, were "why don't we

know these things?” and “how do we engage with our leadership?” The council member who came seemed interested and responsive.

On another topic, a member asked the group if they know that Rio Tinto just purchased mineral rights to a property near the tailings site, using Bronco Minerals Exploration. A news release was shared about this topic. Apparently, some people are concerned because it is near a Wilderness Area, and is a large area, and are wondering how to find out about actions taken like this by Resolution. The group agreed we should explore this topic further and see if we can learn more facts. Resolution offered to explain the situation further at the next meeting.

- A member asked whether the group has opinions about what Resolution should inform this group about? For instance, when land is being purchased?
  - Several members thought that, yes, this would be good, so members can be effective liaisons with their constituents.
  - This would not include confidential or business information.
  - What the group is asking Resolution for is transparency, and most felt the company has been so.
  - Jim Schenck clarified that there are things a company needs to disclose, and sometimes this needs to be done for everyone/the whole community at the same time. Some of the topics that come up at these meetings are things the general public is not necessarily interested in but this group is.
  - A member clarified that the group should know about things town residents ask about or hear about, so CWG members have the correct information.

### **Subcommittee/Task Force Update**

All

A summary of subcommittees and task forces was presented on a PowerPoint slide, as follows:

#### **Community Investment**

- Schedule meeting with Resolution to learn more about policies & desired approaches for establishing a program
- Pursue meeting with Copper Triangle leaders to discuss this concept, if appropriate

#### **Recreation & Access**

- Gathering information about ongoing recreation efforts & users in region
- Requested presentation on Tonto National Forest Travel Management Plan
- Request help from Resolution coordinating tailings site with Tonto TMP

#### **Historic Preservation**

- Identified several area contact and experts on local historic resources
  - Discussed specific cultural resources for preservation + general concept
  - Request information from Resolution on sites to be included in EIS study area
  - Keep track of Resolution discussions on old Magma properties re-use
- (This Task Force may interface with the Community Investment Subcommittee on funding for historic surveys in future)

A member suggested that some of the bullet points on this slide begin to explain things this group does.

Regarding community investments, Resolution reported that since last month, the Arizona Community Foundation has provided the company with some more information; this discussion needs to be taken to Resolution's corporate level. The Recreation and Access Task Force noted that they would like to hear from the Forest Service regarding the proposed Travel Management Plan. The Historic Preservation Task Force would like to see what properties of interest are within the area that will be studied in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and asked if Resolution could provide information about that.

### **Discussion of Resolution Copper Project EIS Process & Role of CWG**

All

Godec reported that the Request for Proposal for a contractor to prepare the project Environmental Impact Statement came out a couple of weeks ago. He explained what the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is, and that it was the forerunner of most other federal environmental laws and regulations. An important point is that public participation is required as part of NEPA. The public scoping process would be the first step in the study, helping to form and direct the environmental studies that are done. He noted that cooperation with tribes is also an integral and required component.

He reviewed highlights of the Forest Service's proposed EIS schedule, showing that 5 years are included to complete the studies at this point. No mining will begin until this is complete, nor will the land exchange be implemented until the EIS is complete. A member noted that the exchange can go ahead regardless of the results of the EIS. Schenck clarified that the legislation says the lands "may" be conveyed, not that they have to be conveyed, and that the exchanged lands need to be of equal or greater value.

Several members observed that the idea that Resolution is trying to circumvent the NEPA process has been persistent in the community for years.

Schenck said that Resolution will have an internal training on NEPA; if any of the group members are interested in attending, let him know and he will provide details.

Godec asked the group whether they feel that the CWG should be involved in the EIS process as a whole. Some members thought that the group doesn't 'speak with a single voice'. Several thought it would be appropriate to come up with some statements for consideration.

The group considered who they think they represent:

- Our respective organizations and communities
- A way to collect and disseminate information – there's continuity here
- Every member organization can still speak independently.

- Some EIS participatory ideas the group suggested include the following:
- Prepare a Scoping statement – makes sense, based on the issues we agreed are important
  - Host public meetings – makes sense to invite information experts from the Forest Service and the EIS consultant, Resolution representatives, or others as appropriate – also invite San Carlos and Native American representatives
  - Advocate for mitigation measures – this is important to the group, e.g. historic preservation, recreation, community investments

### **Open Discussion**

The LOST Trail representative said they recently discovered that an Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed in 1996 for a dam on the trail, and the Forest Service did not know about it.

A member asked Resolution if they have talked with any other tribes besides San Carlos. Schenck said that they have tried to do this. A member noted that the Intertribal Council of Arizona does not support the land exchange legislation. There has not yet been any government-to-government consultation on this project.

### **Public Questions & Comments**

Louie Rabago said he was glad to come to a meeting, representing Superior Outfitters.

### **Future Meeting Planning**

The group asked whether the Tonto National Forest has been invited to talk about travel management. We hope to secure a representative for the next (July 8) meeting.

A member requested that we ask for a presentation on the history of Arizona Water Company, more information about where Superior gets its water, and how much water Superior uses.

Godec pointed out that the group has also asked for information on Resolution Copper Mine employment. Ian Edgar has volunteered to provide this, possibly at the October meeting.

#### ***Next Meeting:***

*5:30 PM*

*Wednesday, July 8, 2015*

*Superior Chamber of Commerce*

Tonto National Forest has been invited to talk about the Travel Management Plan.