

**November 10, 2021
MEETING SUMMARY**

Meeting Attendees

Community Working Group members present both in-person and by Zoom:

Todd Pryor – Town of Superior
Jim Schenck – Rebuild Superior, Legends of Superior Trail
Arlynn Godinez – Superior Unified School District Board / Maricopa County
Mila Besich – Town of Superior
Ricardo Provencio – United Superiorites
Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance
Lynne Nemeth – Boyce Thompson Arboretum
Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce
Jeff Bunkleemann – Central Arizona College
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association
Fernando Shipley – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center Board
Amanda Moors – Arizona Wildlife Federation
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club
Bruce Wittig -- Queen Valley Water Department, Fire Department
Silvia Werre – Top of the World

Community Working Group members not present:

Tweedy Armitage – Superior Historical Society
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison
Lynn Martin – JF, JI Ranch
Karen Kitchayan Jones – San Carlos Apache Tribe
Tino Flores – Copper Corridor Economic Development Coalition
Anna Flores – Town of Kearny (retired from Town of Kearny and CWG)
Sylvia Kerlock – Town of Winkelman
Richard Matthews – Queen Valley Water Board
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board
Tiffany Rowell – Superior community
George Martin – JF, JI Ranch
Cathy Melvin – Gila County
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior
Mayor Bracamonte – Town of Winkelman
Gloria Ruiz – Town of Winkelman

Resolution Copper Company:

Ana Vargas - Community Engagement Specialist

Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA):

John Godec
Sydney Uphouse

Guest Speakers:

Kevin Hebert - Matrix
Summer Igo - Matrix
Krisztina Kalman-Schueler - DMM Advisory Group

Welcome and Introductions

John Godec welcomed everyone and asked that they introduce themselves. Godec then asked the group to share any community updates. The group discussed several upcoming events including a LOST donation event as well as a photo with Santa event at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum. Godec also reminded the group of the upcoming water forum scheduled for February 18, 2022. The event is expected to be an all-day event that will cover everything water-related surrounding Resolution Copper. Guest speakers will be present, and experts will be available to answer any questions people may have.

This led to a discussion among group members about making sure the CWG is actively seeking participation from stakeholder groups. The group agreed that it is important to evaluate what groups or individuals are missing from their discussions and attempt to recruit those who could make important contributions to the CWG.

Resolution Copper Updates

Godec asked Ana to provide an update on Resolution. Ana shared that the FEIS is still progressing and that the Oak Flat language has been taken out of the report. The Department of Interior is expected to re-release the FEIS in Spring 2022, with a 60-day notice being given to tribes prior to its release. Thus far, the Oak Flat bill has not been successfully attached to any other legislation in Congress, indicating that it may not have the traction it needs to be passed. It is expected that upcoming congressional elections will play a role in the outcome of the bill.

Mayor Besich added that the Town of Superior submitted a request to the federal government in October to purchase land exchange parcels. This land exchange purchase will be supported by Resolution, who is expected to present the town with an agreement to provide funding toward the purchase. Superior will partner with CPLC to develop the land once it is purchased.

Water Quality Presentation

Godec asked Kevin Hebert and Summer Igo to provide an update on the water sources their company has been monitoring and sampling at the same time as Resolution. Kevin and Summer shared a PowerPoint presentation displaying the data they've gathered from recent water quality tests at various locations. This presentation titled, "Groundwater Monitoring (2nd and 3rd Quarters, 2011)", is available for viewing on the CWG website (superiorazcwg.org).

Kevin and Summer explained that, overall, all the water they sampled meets health and safety standards. The only concern they noted is an increase in arsenic levels in the Gallery well located at Boyce Thompson Arboretum. In addition, PFAS were detected in all samples, but they did not exceed current health advisory levels. Kevin explained that PFAS are now being detected regularly in water sources all over the world. There's no way currently to explain the source of the PFAS, but PFAS have only recently been added to the list of tested contaminants because of concerns about aerial fire retardant used to fight wildfires this past summer.

Copper Markets Presentation

Godec invited Krisztina Kalman-Schueler to explain a bit about copper markets and the global economics of copper. The first presentation covered copper demand outlook. This presentation discussed the market drivers for copper demand as well as projections for demand growth. It also discussed substitutions for copper, the extent of these substitutions, and the ability for these substitutions to meet market demand.

The second presentation discussed the copper circular economy and how copper is mined, used, discarded and recycled. It also discussed the planned copper supply and gave visual representations of current and projected mining operations and their size.

Both presentations are available for viewing on the CWG website.

One member of the CWG asked if recycled copper can indeed sufficiently meet copper needs going forward. This is a suggestion that has sparked debate among elected officials and others in regard to the need and construction of the Resolution Copper mine. Krisztina responded that, while it may be possible to increase the amount of copper recycled, recycled copper could never be enough to meet the current and expected demands of the market.

The CWG agreed that the copper presentations were very informative and would allow the group to better understand the market, need and economics of copper mining. Copper is critical in the shift towards renewable energy and green technologies.

The group closed the meeting by discussing the role copper will play in the current U.S. infrastructure bill, electric vehicles, renewable energy, green resources, and improvements to the electrical grid.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

6:00pm (MST)

In-person at Superior Chamber of Commerce and online via Zoom
RSVP needed in order to prepare meals for in-person attendees.

The next meeting will discuss CWG 2022 priorities