

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
March 15, 2023

VIRTUAL MEETING

The following were present:

Brad Pierce, Committee Member, Chair, Citizen
Josh Reddell, Committee Member, Vice-Chairman, Citizen
Max Blair, Committee Member, Industry
David Carro, Committee Member, Surface Owner
Marc Cooper, Committee Member, Surface Owner - **ABSENT**
Philip Holmes, Committee Member, Industry - **ABSENT**
Larry Quirk, Committee Member, Citizen
Greg Bloodworth, Member, Citizen
Industry - OPEN
James Spehalski, Committee Member, Surface Owner
Tom Tobiassen, Committee Member, Citizen

Jeffrey S. Moore, City of Aurora, Oil & Gas Division Manager
Maria Alvarez, City of Aurora, Senior Planner
Forrest Thorniley, City of Aurora, Senior Inspector
Ian Best, City of Aurora, Assistant City Attorney
Jake Zambrano – Resident, City of Aurora
Monica Burton – Resident, City of Aurora

1. Chairman Pierce called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.
 - There was a quorum of 7.
 - Chairman Pierce asked that City of Aurora Staff and members of the public to introduce themselves. All attendees are listed above.
 - Mr. Reddell joined after meeting was called to order.
2. Approval of January 2023 minutes: Mr. Tobiassen motion to approve. Mr. Spehalski 2nd to approve, abstain due to absence at last meeting Mr. Bloodworth and Mr. Blair. Approved unanimously amongst other Committee members.
3. Public Comment Period
 - Jake Zambrano, Resident, City of Aurora
 - No comment
 - Monica Burton, Resident, City of Aurora
 - No comment
4. PED Presentation – (See Attachment)
 - Crestone Well pad changes – Exhibit A & B
 - Chairman Pierce will provide supporting documentation on the support for this change.
 - Approval of PED Presentation for Recommendation - Mr. Blair motion to approve. Mr. Spehalski 2nd to approve, approved unanimously.
5. Staff Updates
 - Maria Alvarez, Senior Planner, City of Aurora
Permitting
 - Jamaso Lateral AD Approval – received AD approval on February 8.
 - Chico Watkins and Watkins 30-5 – Completed 1st Review and awaiting Response to Comments from Operator.

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
March 15, 2023

- King North 3-65 – Under Review, went to PED for relocation and scheduled for City Council April Hearing.
- Lussing Trust – Pre-Application meeting held, Operator will reach out before submittal for portal set up and initial submittal.

- Forrest Thorniley, Sr. Inspector, City of Aurora
 - Inspections
 - Completions:
 - Grande South well pad– wrapping up.
 - Jamaso well pad – completed earlier this year and will begin completion phase.
 - Eastern Hills – coming online in the next 30+days or so.
 - Sky Ranch and Prosper Farms (Arapahoe County)
 - Spills:
 - 2 reportable spills since our last meeting
 - February 20th
 - The 1st was a mixture of fresh water and reuse water at the ground day the Grande South that reuse water not potable but was being used for COA golf courses. 100 barrels of water, not fresh but must be reported to CDPHE. The spill didn't make it to surface waters.
 - February 22nd
 - At Grande North produced water from well, phase of separation from sand coming back up for several hours, human error. Didn't make past pad and was a COGCC reportable event. In both cases the Operator dispatched the cleanup crew immediately.

- Jeffrey S. Moore, Manager Oil and Gas, City of Aurora
 - General Updates
 - Website ([Oil and Gas Drilling - City of Aurora \(auroragov.org\)](http://auroragov.org)).
 - Ms. Alvarez Presentation of newly developed Oil & Gas webpage
 - Link will be sent out to committee members.
 - Over 3,000 layers of information are available on Aurora GIS server, allowing you to click on and off different layers.
 - Will be adding P&A wells in the future to the layer map.
 - Lowry Ranch CAP (outside Aurora, Arapahoe County)
 - update – community interest and push back, latest status in October 2022, Crestone submitted documentation to COGCC, didn't pass the completeness check in the application stage, sent back to Operator for resubmittal.
 - COGCC could take several months to review the completed application for the Lowry Ranch CAP.
 - COGCC was getting so much interest from residents, a webpage was made available for this application.
 - Aurora O&G will be reviewing applications once it is made available as an external agency.
 - Arapahoe County Commissioners will be meeting on March 28 for O&G Moratorium, this is for 6 months to make adjustments to existing regulations.
 - Mr. Moore shared with O&GAC a one-minute video he created with the assistance of the Communications team regarding the Lowry Ranch CAP.
 - Mr. Blair shared there will be a preliminary meeting/discussion before March 28 with Study Session and Commissioner Session on March 20th at March 21st leading up to the meeting.

Staff Changes

- Ian Best, City Attorney moving to Aurora Water.

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- David Scott, New City Attorney will be joining O&G group and will also be attending Energy and Environment Symposium.
- Forrest Thorniley, Sr. Inspector accepted another position out of state, this is his last group gathering.
- Chairman Pierce thanked and gave kudos to both Mr. Best and Mr. Thorniley.
- Mr. Moore gave huge kudos to Mr. Thorniley, only complaint from the Operator is that he is super thorough. Thanks to Mr. Thorniley, we (COA) was able to purchase FLIR camera for inspections, as well as air monitoring process and RFP. We were able to choose a vendor with his assistance and dedicated work.

Five-Year Plan

- Completed everything that was proposed in the 1-year plan.
- Huge accomplishment to be able to move an item 1.5 years early, which is changing division name to Energy & Environment Division.
 - 1st reason – taking on Karen Hancock’s responsibilities, covering environmental investigation and remediation, air quality network.
 - 2nd reason – not doing this immediately but looking to bring in other forms of renewable energy: solar, wind, geothermal permitting. Forms are available in the Building Department but hard to find and access.
 - Working with IT and Communications to transition to Energy & Environment.
 - No changes to occur to O&GAC.
 - Will be reviewing O&G Manual to make sure there are no further changes that must take place before changing over.

6. Open Items

- Mr. Moore will be presenting at the Energy and Environment Symposium. Will be presenting on P&A wells.
- Mr. Quirk won’t be able to attend due to change in work schedule, but registration will still be used by staff, so far, the planned attendees will be: Mr. Moore, Ms. Alvarez, Mr. Best, Mr. Blair, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Scott.
- Industry position for O&GAC still open.
- Mr. Quirk commented on the public meeting in Adonia (Arapahoe County) regarding O&G and gave Mr. Moore kudos for attending and providing information.

7. Next meeting May 17th.

8. Meeting Adjourned at 5:15 PM

Chairman Pierce provided meeting dates for 2023 (listed below).

- May 17, 2023
- July 19, 2023
- September 20, 2023
- November 15, 2023

Minutes Approved



Brad Pierce, Chairman

____05/17/2023____
Date