



Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition

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November 8, 2021

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTICE

The next Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition, Board of Directors meeting will be Friday, November 19th, 4:00 pm, at the Spearfish Holiday Inn.

The tentative agenda items are:

- We will have Sheriff Brian Dean of Lawrence County as a speaker at the meeting to discuss OHV and multiple use issues.
- Black Hills Timber
- Forest Plan Revision
- Submitted Gold Exploration Comments
- Officer Elections for 2022
- Directors Round Robin

Please feel free to call me at 605-341-0875 if you have any questions or comments.

Ben Wudtke
Executive Secretary

Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition- September 24, 2021

The September 2021 BHRMUC meeting was called to order at 4:08 pm at the Holiday Inn in Spearfish, SD on 09/24/2021. Those in attendance were Eric Jennings, Don Hausle, Ben Wudtke, Jean Kennedy, Dale Kennedy, Larry Mann, and Matt Lottes.

Larry asks to amend the meeting agenda to start with discussion about the status of the Jenny Gulch Gold Exploration Project. Eric moved to approve amendment, Jean Kennedy seconded, and all were in favor.

Eric passed out copies of the Treasurer's Report. Matt motioned to approve the report, Don seconded, all were in favor.

Larry spoke on F3 Gold's struggles to move forward with the Jenny Gulch Gold Exploration Project. While exploration projects of USFS usually receive a Categorical Exclusion, an Environmental Analysis (EA) is being conducted for this project. The draft EA can be found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57428>. Larry noted that the General Mining Act of 1872 provides for a right to mining exploration on federal public lands. The project projects to use 42 50'x50' drill pads totaling approximately 2.4 acres all together. 3" diameter cores are drilled to extract mineral samples. The cores are filled and capped in reclamation. Larry asked that the group would submit comments to the Forest Service on the project. Eric moved to develop and submit comments, Matt seconded, and all were in favor.

August field trip recap (Kirk Hill Fire south of Sturgis) – Ben summarized that while the hot, dry, and windy conditions created high fire danger, the stand conditions of the forest resulted in a low intensity fire that was similar to that of a prescribed burn. The fire had burned through a recently commercially thinned stand of timber. Ben also summarized the issue with mistyped structural stage classes of USFS stands.

Black Hills Timber – The GTR is looking like it will be used by the USFS as the “best available science” in the decision making process regarding the future of the Black Hills timber sale program. Ben informed that the Data Quality Act may be used in litigation by the BHFRA against the Forest Service to challenge the GTR if it is used to reduce the timber sale program. All in attendance at this meeting were in favor of the BHRMUC supporting the BHFRA in this. Precommercial needs will likely not be met with the reduction of timber sales due to reduced KV funds.

Ben discussed the need for the Forest to get back to traditional forestry (treat areas that need to be treated) as opposed to the current BHRL project mainly focusing on treating one type of stand and ignoring others.

Elk Management Plan – Eric discussed his main concern with the project: not enough contingency tags made available. 20 contingency tags were given out this year to further control the elk population during this excessively dry year.

OHV progress – basically the Forest Service has been having meetings to plan for more meetings. It was noted that 80% of ATV activity takes place on road systems (not trail systems). Revenue from ATV permits just goes towards trail system maintenance not road system maintenance, so there is a dilemma on how to address ATV damage/disturbance to roads.

Following a brief round-robin, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.