



**Marathon County
Metallic Mining Committee Minutes
Tuesday, August 2, 2022**

Assembly Room, Marathon County Courthouse, 500 Forest St, Wausau WI

Attendance:	Member	Present	Not present
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn	X	
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	John Robinson	X	
	Jim Small	X	
	Alan Christensen.....	X	
	Russ Wilson	X	
	Kimm Weber	X (Webex)	
	Dean Beck	X	

Also present: – Lance Leonhard - Administrator, Mike Puerner - Corporation Counsel, Teal Fyksen, Brenda Iczkowski, Nicole Delonay, Laurie Miskimins, Shad Harvey, Garrett Pagel - Conservation, Planning, and Zoning, Dale Grosskurth – Health Department, Sarah Severson – County Administration

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Langenhahn at 3:00 p.m. at the Assembly Room, 500 Forest St, Wausau, WI.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

3. **Public Comment** –

The following individuals spoke in opposition to metallic mining in the County, and/or expressed concerns for the impacts mining could have to the area and environment.

- Bruce Grau – City of Wausau, WI
- Dan Barth – Town of Knowlton, WI
- Kathy Konte-Barth – Town of Knowlton, WI
- James Botsford – Town of Wausau, WI
- Ron James - Town of Evergreen, WI
- Wayne Kleinschmidt – Town of Wausau, WI
- Nancy Stencil – Town of Rib Mountain, WI
- Eric Rempala – Town of Irma, WI
- Lynn Sutherland – City of Wausau, WI
- Guy Reider – Menominee Co, WI

4. **Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports**

A. **Department Updates: Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ), Parks and Forestry (PRF), Solid Waste**

1. **Overview of the Marathon County Metallic Mining Exploration Permit Process**

Discussion: Harvey shared the section within the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 17.204.542, which focuses on exploration. The zoning code has four activity levels: Exploration, Bulk Sampling, Prospecting and Metallic Mining. The permit process for Exploration was briefly reviewed for the members of the Environmental Resources Committee and the Metallic Mining Committee. The ordinance is in place to keep the regulatory agencies on the same page and if an applicant supplies and completes the required information for the permit that meet the requirements of Chapter 17.204.542, the ordinance then requires the County to issue a permit.

Roberta Walls – Non-Metallic Mining DNR – Walls indicated her involvement with Aquila Resources and Green Light Metals. She will be transitioning metallic mining duties to Molly Gardner.

Molly Gardner – Metallic Mine Coordinator DNR- Gardner indicated she will be the main point of contact moving forward with Metallic Mines.

Action: None

Follow through: This presentation is for education purposes only.

2. **Informational Presentation from Green Light Metals**

Discussion: Dan Colton, CEO and President of Green Light Metals introduced himself along with Steve Donahue who is a board member for Green Light Metals and thanked the committee to allow them to share their mission statement and the purpose of them being here. A detailed powerpoint was presented, highlighting the company’s primary mission is to lead exploration/development of clean energy metals which are largely imported now. The timeline estimate for exploration is two 6-week drilling events starting in Fall 2022 and ending in fall/winter of 2023 designed to evaluate the structure and drill parallel to them. The end of the process there will be approximately 1,000 meters of core to be tested.

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The following permits, licenses, and approvals will be needed before the drilling begins:

- Wisconsin DNR Exploration license
- Marathon County Metallic Mining Exploration Permit
- Drill work plan approval from DNR
- Environmental and Wetlands permits/approval issued by DNR
- Notice to county/city officials and landowners.

Steve Donahue introduced himself and briefly shared his background and licenses as a hydrologist. He highlighted the need for the minerals in electronics and pharmaceuticals, and the company's concern for protecting land and water. Donahue acknowledged the concern for water quality. Green Light will be doing water quality monitoring in wells near the exploration. A community advisory committee will be developed along with outreach to committees and conversations with public. The DNR has a list of approved testing products that the exploration process will use. Donahue went through a few examples of regional mining success stories in places like Marquette County, MI

ERC and Metallic Mining Committees asked follow-up questions.

Action: None.

Follow Through: For informational purposes only.

5. **Adjourn - Motion / second** by Robinson / Wilson to **adjourn** at 5:05 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Laurie Miskimins, CPZ Director
For Jacob Langenhahn, Chair