

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RIGHTS
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 14, 2009

The Ad Hoc Committee on Mineral Rights of the Broome County Legislature met on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building, Binghamton, New York.

Members Present: S. Herz (Chair), M. Diffendorf, R. Keibel, M. Nirchi, D. Reynolds, Legislature; K. Keough, RPTS; R. Behnke, County Attorney's Office

Members Absent: None

Others Present: C. Riley, RPTS; M. Marinaccio, Town of Dickinson; G. LaBare, S. Messina, M. Whalen, C. Marion, E. Denk, C. Hall, Legislature

The Committee meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 3:05 pm.

Mr. Cleary made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keibel to approve the March 12, 2009. Motion carried.

The committee then reviewed six options to address the remaining issue of what the County should do regarding mineral rights and auction sales of improved properties. Mr. Keibel recommended that the Office of Real Property could split large properties into two parcels depending on the situation. One parcel, with the improvements and a small amount of land, would be considered a farmstead and the other parcel would contain the rest of the acreage and would be a vacant lot with no improvements. The County would auction the farmstead and the vacant lot would fall under the previously discussed moratorium on sales of vacant lots.

Mr. Nirchi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keibel that when feasible a farmstead be created on larger parcels and the farmstead with the mineral rights be sold at auction with the remaining acreage and parcel falling under the 12 month vacant property moratorium. It was the consensus of the committee that this be the recommendation for the final report.

Regarding the May auction, the committee re-evaluated the parcels in the Town of Nanticoke and the Town of Colesville. The committee previously agreed to have the Nanticoke property sold with mineral rights and the Town of Colesville property sold without the mineral rights. The committee's recommendation at this time is to have both properties sold first without the mineral rights and then with the mineral rights and the larger of the two bids would be the one accepted.

Mr. Keibel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Diffendorf that mineral rights will stay with properties that don't fall under the 12 month vacant property with no liability sale moratorium. Motion carried. Ayes-3, Nays-2 (Cleary, Nirchi)

Mr. Herz directed Legislative Assistant Chris Marion to complete and file a report of the committee with the Clerk of the Legislature within ten days of this meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Cleary made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Keibel. The meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.