



**MILLENNIUM DIGGERS
ASSOCIATION
Keizer, Oregon**



Secretary/Editor Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT- Troy Ray

VICE PRESIDENT- Christoph Schmidt

TREASURER- Penny Esplin

Meeting Minutes from May, 27th 2021

Meeting Called to Order: We met outdoors. After we recited the Pledge of Allegiance, Troy called the meeting to order.

Attendance: **11** were present including 1 guest (Jeff from WVM)

Treasurer's Report: Troy collected 6 memberships at the meeting last month and received 2 by mail. He deposited that money from memberships into our bank and Penny gave him cash and checks from membership dues to make another deposit. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made, seconded and passed by all.

Secretary's Report: No meeting minutes from April, Penny was not present. Motion to approve, seconded and passed.

Upcoming Events/Outings:

-**SUNSTONES: PENNY, WALT AND TERRIE** heading to E. Oregon following meeting.

-**WVM MEETING ON THURS JUNE 17TH 7:00PM** at Jim and Patti Perkey's place. **(That's TONIGHT!)**

-**PRINEVILLE ROCKHOUND POW WOW** at Crook County Fairgrounds in Prineville 3rd week in June: **THURS JUNE 17th thru SUN, JUNE 20th** (That's **THIS** weekend!) Camping \$10.00 per night

-**A CAMP TRIP TO BRIGG'S/FOSSIL FLATS-** Outing planned for sometime in **MID-JULY**, will know specifics this next meeting (on June 24th). So far, Troy, Penny, Walt, Terrie, Don & Yvette are planning to go.

-**AUG 20TH-22ND WILLAMETTE AGATE AND MINERAL SHOW (WAM'S)** to be held at the **POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**, outdoors.

-**MINER'S MEADOW:** Troy checked on availability and found the only time we can reserve it would be in October. That was fine with us, so a motion was made for Troy to make reservations for **MINER'S MEADOW FOR OCT 8TH, 9TH AND 10TH (FRI, SAT, SUN)**. The motion was seconded and approved by all.

-**PICNIC AT DON'S THIS SUMMER-** (date and time to be announced) Also, Don says anyone who wants to go to his place and visit is welcome ANYTIME!

-AND, AT OUR NEXT MEETING on June 24th (next Thurs), **David Schmidt** is making **STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE for us ALL!** Great incentive to come to the meeting and join us! This has been an annual tradition with him, and it's wonderful he goes through all the trouble preparing and serving us just to make us HAPPY! Yay!

New Business: Troy wants to ask the church when and if we will be able to hold our meetings inside again. He wanted to know who he could talk to about it. Penny gave him Marlea's phone number as she is the contact person between us and the church.

Claims Reports: Has anybody been to one of our claims recently? If you have, you need to fill out a Claim Maintenance Form.

UPDATE: Our Jeeter Creek claim is currently closed and there are large NO TRESSPASSING signs posted, saying the area is closed for fire clean up and violators will be prosecuted. There are now signs on Hiway 22 showing that Little North Fork Rd is closed to all non-resident traffic. Parking tickets are \$390 plus impound fees and they are dead serious about it!

-Brigg's Creek/Fossil Flats is now ESH (Essential Salmon Habitat) and so is Troy's new claim up on the Calapooya, it has been taken as well.

Government Affairs:

-Washington State has issued a new Gold and Fish pamphlet that replaces the former Fish and Water Pamphlet that doubled as a dredge permit. As of last March in Washington, dredging was banned in Washington in all rivers labeled ESH, just like Oregon did.

-Cape Disappointment has new rules that are covered in the new Gold and Fish Pamphlet, this now has banned the use of Gold Cubes on the beach. New regulations are non-motorized (battery or fuel) and sluices cannot have more than 10 sq ft of surface space.

-On May 1st, WA Gov. Jay Inslee signed a bill ESHB 1261 which bans all offshore mining and exploration. This includes all Motorized, Non-Motorized and Gravity Syphons setups.

-Oregon's River Democracy Act (Federal Bill) which was sponsored and introduced by Ron Wyden on 02/03/21, is in committee and hasn't moved anywhere. Online seems to show that it had a 5% chance of passing, but they more than likely release that kind of information so people won't pay attention.

-Oregon's HB2594 puts people's private property into conservation trust, that bill is currently in the House Committee on Water.

Report on Past Outings: Wes and Tammy gave a glowing summary on the Beverly Beach outing from April 3rd. They said they have never seen so many agates! And the day was beautiful and the black sand was rich at 2 1/2- 3ft down. Had a nice golden strip along the bottom.

Rocks and Treasures: Don brought in some Thunder-Eggs he got from Skull Springs, he passed them around for us all to see, they were wonderful specimens!

-Penny brought some black barrel shaped Augite crystals she and Walt found up around the North Fork of the Wilson River in Tillamook State Forest. (Looks similar to Tourmaline).

OUR NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY JUNE 24TH OUTDOORS AT THE CHURCH.

Remember: Strawberry Shortcake!

-Meeting Adjourned

PS: Christoph showed up just as meeting was over. He's busy working 2 jobs (what a guy!) and Sophie is due to have their baby this month!

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Report from April's Meeting: Last meeting, Joe gave a great presentation on SW Rockhounding and his outing with Ken looking for Fire Agates