

## 56TH NEVADA ASSEMBLY SESSION

PRESENT: Homer, Lowman, Olsen, Ronzone, Bryan, Getto and Fry

ABSENT: Dini and Swackhamer

GUESTS: Lou Paley of the Nevada A.F.L.C.I.O., Paul Gemmill of the Nevada Mining Association, Howard Gray, a practicing Reno attorney representing the Nevada Mining Association and Douglas Miller, owner of the Miller Geophysical Exploration Company of Carson City (882-3534).

Chairman Homer called the meeting to order at 8:10 A.M. for the purpose of discussing three mining bills-- S.B. 254, A.B. 418 and A.B. 542.

Discussion began on S.B. 254 which "Allows inspector of mines and deputies to examine mines without notice." Lou Paley spoke in favor of this bill. He commented on the added efficiency there would be by enabling the Deputy Inspectors to inspect mines rather than having to call out the Inspector each time. Mr. Gemmill, Mr. Gray and Mr. Miller, who were also present, said that they had not heard any adverse comments about this bill at all. They were in favor of it. Mr. Ronzone moved a "do pass" on this bill. Mr. Getto seconded. Motion carried.

A.B. 418 "Creates additional ways to locate mining claims." Mr. Gemmill said what they were trying to do is eliminate the unnecessary bulldozer work on claims. Also, to eliminate mail order sale of claims. He felt a filing fee would be a good idea for remedying this sort of operation. He felt that perhaps this fee could be used to put the claims on a map.

In comment to page 2, line 6, 7 and 8 reading "within 1 year after filing the location certificate, the locator shall have a survey made by a registered land surveyor,..." Dr. Homer didn't feel this was fair because of the great expense of a registered surveyor. Mr. Gemmill felt it could be done by any qualified engineer or surveyor just as long as it allows the claim to be put on a map.

Mr. Gray stated that he would not urge the passage of this bill because when you get down to dollars and cents, it is not practical but on the other hand, there should be at least a sketch of that mine. Industrial engineers of BIM can establish a mineral monument if there are a lot of claims going on in the area. He also felt that where so much per claim was charged was not too honourous. He said that until you have a discovery, you haven't got a claim. He was opposed to having people come in with, say, 50 location notices. He felt there should be a statute against mass claims.

Mr. Douglas Miller who is not in the mining business but merely representing people in the mining industry spoke about the policing and enforcement of surveying. He concurred with Dr. Homer about the expense but also that there was no policing in this area and record keeping was quite poor. He suggested a quite inexpensive and very accurate method of surveying called stadia cadastral. He felt that by using this method, there is no reason why there should be any trouble deciding where boundaries are. He felt that a survey should be required. He felt that a fee should be required and he felt there should be proper enforcement in the staking of claims. He felt that if a man is going to invest his money he is entitled to some insurance.

He said that most legitimate mining people want to do the best they can for the least money. The backbone of our economy is mining industry but there are people who are going to spoil it. Catalogue sales, etc., are a threat to the legitimate miners.

Mr. Gray said, in reference to the expense of claiming a location, that he would recommend that the location be completed by a discovery monument and staking the four corners. It doesn't require a survey to do that.

Mr. Miller commented that a lot of people don't take the time to search out private property so their claims are staked on private property. He also said that under the present law there are provisions that location work could be done by drilling. This was passed thinking that it would alleviate some of the surface work.

Mr. Gemmill brought up Section 6 of this bill which reads "the cost of the survey and the mapping shall be allowed as a credit for the labor or improvements as required by federal law and the provisions of NRS 517.230. He said that federal law would not permit this.

Chairman Homer said that bill will be held if it was thought proper wording could be developed. He suggested that the guests representing the mining industry get together with Mr. Getto to come up with some wording to make this a meaningful piece of legislation.

A.B. 542 "Defines "development work" on patented mine." Mr. Gemmill said this bill came from the City Commissioners in Lincoln County. It was originated because it was thought people were getting away with using maintenance work as development work.

Mr. Gray said he was definitely opposed to this bill. He felt that it would have to be amended to include all claims. Mr. Miller said that some individuals patent claims and no effort is made to work them. But they are held off the tax roles by these individuals just scratching around on the surface.

Mr. Ronzone asked if there was more than one way to patent a claim.

Mr. Gray said that the only way is to perform the requirements laid down by the federal land statutes or those laid down by BLM. He questioned the wording in the first sentence of the bill as to whether it referred to a mine or a group of mines. He felt that if it referred to a group of mines, it was a good bill. He suggested that the wording be changed to read "...a patented mine or a group of patented mines..." He commented, however, that he can't see anything to be gained by this bill.

It was decided to hold the bill for comments from the introducers.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 A.M.

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC RESOURCES

Date MARCH 11, 1971 Time 8:00 A.M. Room 214

<u>Bills or Resolutions to be considered</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Counsel requested*</u>
A.B. 418	Creates additional ways to locate mining claims.	
A.B. 542	Defines "development work" on patented mine.	

\*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.

HEARINGS PENDING

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_

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Subject \_\_\_\_\_