

## Libby Asbestos Superfund Oversight Committee Meeting

**October 30, 2025**

**2:00 PM**

**Location of Meeting:**

Virtual attendance with in-person in Libby, MT.

**2:01 pm Call to Order**

The Libby Asbestos Superfund Oversight Committee conference call was called to order at 2:00 PM on October 30, 2025, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

This was the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting in accordance with the Montana Code Annotated 75-10-1601. Public notice of this meeting was provided via newspaper ads, press release, social media, and the DEQ website.

**2:02 pm Roll Call**

Chairman Teske conducted a roll call of attendees and confirmed that a quorum of oversight committee members was present. The following people were present or attended remotely.

<b>Oversight Committee Members:</b>		
Director of DEQ or designated representative	Sonja Nowakowski	Present electronically
Lincoln County Commissioner designated by the Commission	Chairman Brent Teske	Present in Libby
Member of the House of Representatives whose district includes at least a portion of Lincoln County appointed by the speaker of the House	Representative Tom Millett	Present in Libby
Citizen of Lincoln County nominated by the Lincoln County Commission and selected by the governor	George Jamison	Present in Libby
Member of the Senate whose district includes at least a portion of Lincoln County appointed by the Senate president	Senator Mike Cuffe	Present in Libby

<b>Other Interested Attendees</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	
Amanda Harcourt	ARP	Present in Libby
Amy Fantozzi	City/County BOH	Present in Libby
Amy Steinmetz	DEQ	Present electronically
Chris Wardell	DEQ	Present electronically
Jake Garcin	DEQ	Present electronically
Jon Morgan	DEQ	Present electronically
Katie Garcin-Forba	DEQ	Present electronically
Kevin Stone	DEQ	Present electronically
Melody Kraayeveld	DEQ	Present electronically
Al Basile	EPA	Present electronically
Beth Archer	EPA	Present electronically
Cyrus Western	EPA	Present electronically
Dania Zinner	EPA	Present electronically

David Berry	EPA	Present electronically
Jamie Miller	EPA	Present electronically
Jason Fritz	EPA	Present electronically
Corrina Brown	Lincoln County	Present in Libby
Kathi Hooper	Lincoln County	Present electronically
Bret Romney	Potential Facilitator	Present electronically
Ray Stout	Reporter	Present electronically
Steve Gunderson	Resident	Present in Libby
Nick Raines	WR Grace	Present in Libby

2:04 pm	Discussion
Review and approve minutes of August 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, meeting	<p><b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right. Moving on. Thank you everybody for coming out today and attending the Thursday October 30th LASOC meeting. First agenda item is review and approval of minutes from the August 29, 2025 meeting. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> The only thing I wondered about Mr. Chairman-on page 4 Director Nowakowski had a question on some of the smart goals and we were going to circle back to that and I don't know if we did or if that was still an open question. <b>Director Nowakowski:</b> Mr. Chairman and Senator Cuffe, I can certainly respond to that. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yes, ma'am. <b>Director Nowakowski:</b> First I apologize. I'm not sure why I can't get my camera to work. So, sorry about that, I'll continue to try to troubleshoot but yes we were able to I think circle back you guys took a look at those. I emailed them to you. We presented them to our interim budget committee in the legislature as well as to the environmental quality council and so I think we have finalized those but again we'll continue to welcome your feedback and any updates you would like to make. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay. Well, apparently she got her answers and you're comfortable with that, Sir. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Yeah, I couldn't understand it very well. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> It did sound like they got some reply and some answers on it. Yeah, your microphone is kind of a little echoey in the background as well, ma'am. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Sounded like Halloween. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, anything else. I'd entertain motion. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Move to accept the minute as presented. <b>George Jamison:</b> Second. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Motion and second. Any further discussion or corrections. All right, hearing none, all those in favor signify by Aye. <b>All:</b> Aye. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> I don't know- she was able- looks like she's off screen for a second. Guess we'll circle back. Pardon me – ah Sonja- I think she was having some issues and she dropped off and I just want to record her vote – all right so we'll circle back to that if and when she comes back online. Okay, next up is the- pardon - is she back on-kind of. Director we had a vote on the minutes and I'd like to record your vote, yeah or nay for approval. <b>Director Nowakowski:</b> Apologies, I vote aye. I sound better. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Thank you.</p>

2:07 pm	Discussion
Site Budget and Funding Report- Melody Kraayeveld	<p><b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, we're moving on to the site budget and funding report from Melody, please. <b>Melody Kraayeveld:</b> I've provided the site budget and funding report. I just want to indicate that in August, George had requested that we update some language regarding the bankruptcy, and that has not been updated. So I flagged that for updates for our next meeting. Does anyone have questions. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Did you find it, sir. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Well, I looked at it. I printed them off and went over it at home when I was- <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay, any questions on the site funding and budget reports. All right, hearing none, I will entertain a motion. <b>George Jamison:</b> Move to approve. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, I have a motion. Can I get a second. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> I'll make a second. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, a motion and a second. Any further discussion. All right, hearing none, all in favor signify by aye. <b>All:</b> Aye. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Opposed. All right- thank you.</p>

2:08 pm	Discussion
Support of Property Owners Report- Melody Kraayeveld	<p><b>Chairman Teske:</b> Support of property owners report. Melody as well. <b>Melody Kraayeveld:</b> Likewise on this report, there was a request that we split the EPA grants because we now have two separate grants we've operated underneath and those have not been separated, so that's also flagged to be split for the next meeting. Are there additional questions or comments. <b>George Jamison:</b> I have none. <b>Chairman Teske:</b></p>

	Okay, all right, can we get a motion. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Move to accept. <b>Representative Millett:</b> Second. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Any further discussion. All in favor signify by aye. <b>All:</b> Aye. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Opposed. Okay.
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2:09 pm	Discussion
O&M Update – Melody Kraayeveld and Mandy Harcourt - Activities at OU1, 2, 4, 5, 7, & 8	<b>Chairman Teske:</b> So DEQ/EPA site update or update O&M - sorry, got ahead of myself, O&M update, Melody and Mandy. <b>Melody Kraayeveld:</b> I'll hand this to Mandy for the update. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Thank you. <b>Mandy Harcourt:</b> Today's ARP update is going to cover activities completed and ongoing since August. ARP responded to 16 hotline calls; 124 utility locates and conducted 12 site visits between August and October. Libby and Troy scopes of work completed or ongoing: 709 Idaho Ave. interior removal, 3274 Farm to Market Road quick response, 721 Flower Creek Road exterior removal, 36735 US Highway 2 CMU wall demolition, GID 5730 Port property is just ongoing excavation out there, and then 217 Dawson Street- this is a NOPEC property that came up this year but will be coming in early spring when the property owner can get back here and settle in the house. It was an inherited property, so that will be in spring of 2026. Libby and Troy properties with upcoming abatements or sampling include: 308 East 2nd Street stockpile sampling, 933 Farm to Market Road exterior sampling for development, OU5 swim pond, and OU5 new staging yard. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, so we got a lot going on. Okay. Anything to add, Melody. <b>Melody Kraayeveld:</b> The only O&M update I would have is the inspection is in final review with EPA and once that is signed, I will get a copy over to you. Hopefully that will be in the next few weeks. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Thank you. All right.

2:11 pm	Discussion
DEQ/EPA Site Update – Melody Kraayeveld - Activities at OU3 & OU6	<b>Chairman Teske:</b> Moving on now to the DEQ/EPA site update. Melody again. <b>Melody Kraayeveld:</b> Just have a couple of quick updates for OU3. I did have a meeting earlier today with Nick and he was able to share that they feel they are on schedule for the draft FS being released at the end of March of 2026. And just to flag with you, it is not a CERCLA action, but they will be doing some forest management up there, so you might see some activity near the mine site over the next few months. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Thank you. Anybody else have anything to add. EPA. <b>Dania Zinner:</b> Hi, yeah, this is Dania Zinner EPA, and I wasn't sure if Regional Administrator Western, if you were able to stay for the whole meeting or just the next five minutes, but I'd like EPA to give a few updates. <b>Cyrus Western:</b> Yeah, I mean, I was hoping to maybe engage some dialogue with the committee. If now is best, that's great. If not, we can, if later works best as well, that's okay. I don't know- Commissioner Teske or what works best for you. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> So if we're finished with the site update discussion, what we're going to move into next is probably what you want to comment on. <b>Cyrus Western:</b> Okay, that works. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> So Dania, anything else site update wise. <b>Dania Zinner:</b> Um, no, I would just say that EPA did meet with a subgroup of the LASOC to discuss public health studies with ATSDR on Tuesday, September 23rd and I think it was a really collaborative meeting. I think it went really well and there's definitely more to talk about and I think that's what we're going to talk about next. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay, all right, anyone else. We'll move on. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Who's the subgroup. She said LASOC subgroup. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yeah, we're going to work on some more identification and some stuff here in the next agenda item, so we'll have some answers for you on that. Yah, we're moving along pretty quick here, so all right, closing that agenda item.

2:14 pm	Discussion
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<p>Request from City-County Board of Health (BOH) for Lincoln County-Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request to fund facilitator- George Jamison</li> <li>- Contact person for BOH- Brent Teske</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chairman Teske:</b> Next one is request for City-County Board of Health, Lincoln County action items, and that's where we're going to get into some of this discussion on a subgroup and a committee that we're trying to form and get some facilitator funds for moving forward with some questions and requests. So, would you like to open that, sir. <b>George Jamison:</b> Yes, thank you. I'd written down a few remarks and we've touched on those already to introduce this. But as you heard, subsequent to the August LASOC meeting, we did have that online meeting that Dania mentioned with the EPA at their invitation on September 23rd. That was the first step to explore collaboration regarding our five-year review concerns. The people that participated in that meeting included EPA, ATSDR, DEQ, LASOC, ARP, the Lincoln County Health Department, the Lincoln County City-County Board of Health, the CARD scientific advisory group, and Mr. Romney, who's our proposed facilitator. So we had a broad level of attendance. There's a lot we could talk about, but EPA indicated that the five-year review report would not be reopened for consideration, nor could an addendum be created. Technical areas of concern were discussed and EPA provided again their explanation they'd given us before about the risk assessment and the toxicological subjects. The group was briefed on the renewed role to be taken by the Board of Health to move the issues forward, including the need for a facilitator. There were other topics briefly discussed and it was a meeting that we needed to have. Also subsequent to that August meeting, where the minutes of course left off with our activities, the Board of Health appointed liaisons to lead their engagement on matters that are related to the superfund sites, which includes the asbestos site five-year review issues. The liaisons will also be LASOC's contacts with the board, as was previously requested by Commissioner Teske. Thereafter, on October 14th, the Board of Health met and prepared the written request that you've been provided in the packet here today, that is the subject of this next agenda item. Namely, that request is to provide a facilitator and to name a contact person from LASCO to the Board of Health, and the Board of Health will begin forming a work group once a facilitator is available. So, at this point, we can move with whatever discussions you want, but I would just say that the next step would be to reference both the Board of Health letter that you have and the document in your packet titled "proposed recommendation for funding the facilitator services". At your discretion, we can proceed with that, or unless you want the administrator to speak. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yeah, Sir, if you're in a time crunch at all and would like to make your comments now, that'd be fine. If not, if you wanna stand by and listen a little longer—it's up to you. <b>Cyrus Western:</b> Commissioner, if it's okay, is it all right if I jump in. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yep. <b>Cyrus Western:</b> I wanted to tune in today and thank you for letting me join, to talk about—I think you guys sent me a letter back in May, was that June- Jamie, and then there was a follow-up one as well, is that correct. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yeah, I forgot the timeline but it was somewhere late summer. <b>Jamie Miller:</b> June and July. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> There you go. <b>Cyrus Western:</b> Yeah. And so, you just caught me reading the letter, I want to make sure I understand—the primary concern that you guys have is that there's a chance that the remedy might not be protective, and that if it is not, then amending the remedy would be an option that you'd be interested in. Am I understanding that correctly, Commissioner. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> I believe that was probably the intent in the beginning, before we got a little more information about the remedy and how it was structured and handled. Now we're focusing more on not losing that data input that we wanted to put into the addendum. And just trying to stay on track so that for the next five-year review, this is all noted and is all considered, so we don't have this issue again in the future. George, anything you want to add to that that I'm missing on that point. <b>George Jamison:</b> Well, I think he suggested that our point was to say that we didn't believe that the remedy was protective, and that's not exactly what we've said. We think instead that with the information that's available and so forth since the original risk assessment and toxicological study, that there are some valid reasons to wonder if that decision should be held in abeyance. By that, we would not want to say that it's unprotective, but we just think it would be a deferred protectiveness choice in your five-year review. That's one of the options. But we understand procedurally that's probably not possible. We had hoped that we could have some dialogue about an addendum to the report that would basically acknowledge that and then lay out a program for some objectives and goals to get to some answers over whatever period of time that might take. So you're close, but I hope that helps a little bit. <b>Cyrus Western:</b> So, I mean, I think one of the big prerogatives I have in being the Regional Administrator with all of the superfund sites I interact with is to keep things moving. I certainly appreciate this. We want to make sure that everything is above board and that we are absolutely committed to ensuring that we are protecting human health and the environment here. Ultimately, if you want to talk about reviewing data, I'm more than happy to have that conversation. As you know, I think Jason's on the call here. He's my top tox guy. I'm more than happy to instruct him to do kind of a technical analysis of the data that is available now.</p>
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And if, for whatever reason, between the standards that we have and the data available, he sees anything that gives him pause for concern, I'm happy to then elevate to the next level, which is a systematic review which could take many months and hundreds of thousands of dollars, which is fine if he believed that that is the next course of action. However, if he does not find anything in an initial analysis that is concerning, then it's time to make the process move. That's how I'm approaching this and that's kinda what I'm prepared to offer if you feel that would be helpful for you. **Chairman Teske:** I mean, I think that's ultimately what we're after—just making sure we cover all of those bases with the information that's out there that you're basing everything on right now and the new information that's being presented and new studies being presented—to make sure that all of that is taken into consideration and added into the formula that makes that remedy. We just want to make sure that all of that is considered, all of it is put on the table and all of it is presented. And you know initially this was brought to your attention through LASOC. LASOC is not going to be the proper place for this to lay and rest and be worked through, so that's why we brought in the City-County Board of Health and some representatives from some other agencies that can help us navigate through this to make sure that we're all presenting good information and that we're getting the results that we know is right for public health and safety. **Cyrus Western:** Sure. **Chairman Teske:** But if you're willing to move forward with that process as you laid it out there, I think that's satisfactory for what we're looking for as well. **Cyrus Western:** Well, I appreciate that. I have supreme confidence in Jason, and he's one of the top tox guys we have at the agency, specifically on asbestos. So, Jason, do you have any recollection of how long that might take -a couple of weeks, a month, what are you thinking. **Chairman Teske:** Well, the issue has been timing with meetings and things like that. So the Board of Health met earlier in the month, I believe it was, yeah, earlier in the month. They meet quarterly; they assigned a couple of folks and a request letter for a facilitator. So today's meeting, which is a couple of months after we met last time—if we can get that action taken care of, then we can actually hit the ground to start moving forward with this, because then it's outside of just committee timelines and it's in a subcommittee that can operate at a quicker pace. **Cyrus Western:** So, Commissioner Teske, am I hearing you correctly saying that you feel your analysis will be quicker and more effective than Jason reviewing the data. Is that what I'm hearing. **Chairman Teske:** No, no, no, no. I mean, it will put our committee in place to start working with Jason and the other entities to start moving forward with some answers. **Cyrus Western:** Okay. **Chairman Teske:** No, no we're not analysis by any way shape or form. **Cyrus Western:** Okay. **Chairman Teske:** I don't even know if I know how to spell analysis. **Senator Cuffe:** So anyway, I guess I'm sitting here kind of— **Cyrus Western:** Well, Jason, how long do you think that might take for you. Do you know. **Chairman Teske:** I don't know if we can put a timeline on this right now because, like I said, it's going to take a meeting to establish. **Jason Fritz:** I'm having some connection issues here. **Chairman Teske:** Yeah. He's locked up for some reason. **George Jamison:** We've got to, uh, the Board of Health needs to form a work group to begin with. That's going to take time to recruit members, and it's gonna be I'd think several months for sure. **Chairman Teske:** I don't see this being a quick short turnaround—here's the data, let's move forward kind of a thing—without some back and forth. For some reason, Jason, you're muted or something's going on. I can see your lips moving, but we can't hear you. I see your hand up- even now, Sir, still no volume. **Jason Fritz:** Now. **Chairman Teske:** There you go. There you go. **Jason Fritz:** Ah, can you hear us now. **Chairman Teske:** Yes. **Jason Fritz:** Fantastic. I apologize for the difficulties. One of the four microphone settings apparently works. Thank you again, myself Jason Fritz. I have David Berry, Al Basile, and Beth Archer, part of the technical team for Libby amphibole asbestos, in the room with me. Just to respond quickly to Cyrus's inquiry about our technical review—as you mentioned, it could be multiple stages. The first stage would probably take a couple of months, and as Cyrus mentioned, a full systematic review would be extremely time and cost intensive. So, of course, what we want to do is speak to yourself and the LASOC who have the technical concerns about the potential deferred or lack of protectiveness of the remedy. The easiest way to proceed is to talk with you folks on a technical basis first before we start trying to figure out to what extent and what is the nature of that technical review. So whatever time frame you can work with, we're willing to work with you on that, understanding that the more delay we have before we can talk on a technical basis with yourself means everything will take longer. **George Jamison:** We understand that. **Chairman Teske:** Yep. Yep, And I appreciate that. **Jason Fritz:** Thank you. Appreciate that. **Chairman Teske:** Okay. Mr. Cuffe. **Senator Cuffe:** Senator Cuffe. **Chairman Teske:** Okay. Senator Cuffe. **Senator Cuffe:** I've been a member of the group quite a while. I didn't know anything about a subgroup or other meetings. We had some discussion last meeting. I don't know how the subgroup was formed, where we went, what we did, and now kind of getting, I guess I'll

say, blindsided with something brand new. When I've had a concern, I've reached out to you folks individually or in the meetings, so I'm trying to figure out what's going on. I don't know—was Sonja included in the subgroup, or do we have a minority, two people, that were in the subgroup of what's going on. **George Jamison:** The subgroup to carry this forward, to craft and bring together in a coherent form that we can give to Jason and other people that we've been talking about here, has yet to be formed. It's not been formed. **Senator Cuffe:** I understood him to say there was a subgroup that had met. **Chairman Teske:** No, we had a group of representatives meet on a zoom call, but it's not a subgroup. It was a concern from EPA about what we want and what our request is and so we met with them on a zoom call and talked to them about that. **George Jamison:** Senator Cuffe, that's not a formal subgroup. Those are representatives. **Senator Cuffe:** If we went back and listened to the report earlier. It sounded like we said a subgroup met with people. **Chairman Teske:** I think she said that- **Senator Cuffe:** And I didn't know if we had it. Well, I thought you said it- a LASOC subgroup, so anyway, yeah, that's uh, that somehow this draft request for a facilitator came out of that, right. **Chairman Teske:** It came out of that discussion we had previously. **George Jamison:** I wrote that as the background that's required by our bylaws to present a recommendation, and that's how this document came about. **Senator Cuffe:** Okay. **Chairman Teske:** Something else Sir. **Senator Cuffe:** If I understand, well, no, I'm just trying to understand. If I understand that you're saying there should be another group or that some of the things that have been coming up here should go to the Board of Health or some combination. I'm just trying to figure out what we're talking about and how many other meetings there have been. **George Jamison:** Other meetings, I'm sorry, but other meetings of who. **Senator Cuffe:** Well, of any subgroup or LASOC. **George Jamison:** Well, the Board of Health— Amy Fantozzi is here—but the Board has met and some of their folks have met. We've talked about some of these things. They've been part of these discussions as we've already mentioned and they participated in the call, the invitation to meet with the EPA. So they were part of that, but there's no formal subgroup and what the Board of Health, as I understand it, intends to do is form a working group—a subgroup, if you want to call it that—that will take up this topic and carry it forward from what we've done so far. **Senator Cuffe:** So a discussion has been you folks and the Board of Health then. **Chairman Teske:** Well, we originally discussed this in our last LASOC meeting. I'm looking at the minutes right now. It's an additional discussion now at the DEQ about what they think about the use of a subcommittee like this for the five-year review structure and what that structure needed. And then we all agreed we need some kind of structure. I'm not sure where that structure should be-if it should be in this committee, or it should be DEQ itself, or it should be in the Board of Health, which has basically had no involvement. So this effort needs a home. And that was from the minutes last time when we discussed this as an agenda item back then. **Senator Cuffe:** Well, let me throw out this other out-then I'm going back to DC and then talking with Senator Danes' office. I understood there had been some kind of a meeting with some of the folks on this committee. Was that the so-called subgroup or whatever it is. **Chairman Teske:** No, that was another zoom call where they just wanted to wrap their head around what the letter and the request was, so that they knew what was going on here. But again, it wasn't a subcommittee. It was representatives from the Health Department, from DEQ, from LASOC. I mean, there's just a number of folks on another zoom call. Danes, Zinke, and the new lady from Sheehy's office—that's who it was. She had no clue what was going on because the previous one had quit. So it was just basically they wanted to understand what was going on and that was at the request of Steve Howke from Zinke's office that we inform all of them on basically where we're at and what the issue is. **Senator Cuffe:** Well, I guess I'll say for myself, I would like to be informed also. **Chairman Teske:** Sure. **Senator Cuffe:** And I may have liked to have been on the meeting. You know, had I not brought things up last meeting, we'd be on a whole different tack completely. We had a pretty hot letter cooked up and I guess right now, because I brought that up, am I being excluded from things now. **Chairman Teske:** No, it's a whole quorum issue more than anything. Okay. If you want to be involved in this process, I'll more than gladly step aside. I've got enough on my plate. **Senator Cuffe:** I'm just trying to understand. **Chairman Teske:** Sure. Sure. **Senator Cuffe:** I'm just trying to understand. **Chairman Teske:** Yeah, and there's no—uh, yeah. okay. **Senator Cuffe:** Well. **Chairman Teske:** Mr. Millett, I mean, you feel the same. I mean, you weren't at the last meeting. I think you were out of state or out of town- **Representative Millett:** I was. I was traveling. **Chairman Teske:** Which I wholly get, and there was a lot of discussion about this issue. The discussions that have been going on since that time have been trying to get us to where we have some information to bring back to these folks at this meeting here. So that's what we've been trying to develop. **Representative Millett:** I kind of, I understand what you guys are trying to do. The only thing, and I probably echo what Senator Cuffe says, if you ever have these

meetings, please let me know so I can try to join them. If I can, that'd be great, because I'm like Senator Cuffe—I'm kind of like, wow, what's going on here. **Senator Cuffe:** If there's an issue with a quorum, at least we can be informed ahead of time and say, what do we think or do we want to be part of it. It's kind of hard to say, well, you can replace me, put me on the committee instead of you, but the meetings or the talk is already done. **Chairman Teske:** Oh no, there's going to be a lot of talking to do. Has this been going out to the entire LASOC in the emails. **Amanda Harcourt:** Has what. **Chairman Teske:** Well, like the emails that we get from EPA or DEQ or anything. **Amanda Harcourt:** They send it out to whomever they want to and then we respond to it. **Chairman Teske:** Alright, we will do a better job keeping you informed. If you would like to participate, just let me know and we can make that arrangement. **Senator Cuffe:** Well, I may have a few notes here. **Chairman Teske:** Sure. **Senator Cuffe:** If it's proper, Mr. Chairman, without realizing what was coming on to discuss today. What I'd like to have is some kind of a good summary report of where we've come from. I said 25 years—LASOC doesn't go back that far—but the asbestos issue goes back a lot further than that, though it became very predominant about 25 years ago. Part of this came from a discussion with George, where there's concern that this is still not a safe and healthy place and I look back—what have we done in the last 25 years. What are the steps. How much contaminated material. How many homes have we followed up on. To where, in my mind, we've done a whole heck of a lot. There are some good points in this request. I'm not just trying to be negative. I'm just trying to say, hey, I don't like to get blindsided—when I think I'm a part of something, then find out I'm not. There are some good points, but are we opening an expensive, open-ended, forever study of what. What are we trying to do with it. Or is it some kind of a thing or somebody just chasing money. What is the real thing. Do we not think it's a healthy place yet. Have we done all the work we did and not gained. Is there new data. And I think you mentioned there maybe was some new data, but what is it. Is it of the kinds of things the committee has been working on for years. I'm gathering what you said just now—maybe it's a whole different kind of a thing. There's concern how far into the future will our funding last us, but if we begin dispersing the same funding in different directions, especially without knowing where we're going, does that make sense. I don't know where we're at, what we're doing or those sorts of things. **Chairman Teske:** I understand where you're coming from. I am not qualified to make the judgment whether we've made a dent in this or not. I don't know. Obviously, you would think that by removing the source and the cleanup that's been done, that yes—but I asked that exact question to EPA when they were here: how long is it going to take before you see data, or a timeline that shows that we were here in 2000 or 1999 when this started, and because of all the successes, we're here. They don't have that—they're not gonna to have that. I don't know if there's a statistical spreadsheet or data somewhere that shows that we've made a dent in this or not. But we know we have. Obviously, by removing the source of contaminant, we've made a dent and somehow bettered the quality of life here. But the question still stands: Okay, so doing what we can do now, there's new data—that something else could possibly be possibly happening. We don't know; we haven't delved into it enough to find out 100% for sure. That's the question; is there a new threat. Is there a continued threat. Is there something that's recently presented or unknown that they need to consider. And the argument has been, in the five-year review, we don't feel that they considered that new data as viable, you know, input. So, and so we just wanna get that- **Senator Cuffe:** Well, what is the data. Is the data coming from folks that were exposed some time ago and now is showing up. **Chairman Teske:** So my understanding is it's data that's been from the ongoing CARD study and in a number of different things from different entities. So is that correct. **George Jamison:** And we've outlined these in previous documents that have come before this group and they've been listed in detail, but I mean that these are both clinical findings and things through analysis of the data that has been collected from very early on by the CARD clinic that included things about autoimmune disease and things of that nature. And they're also, or the other thing is as time goes on, the body of our knowledge in the scientific and clinical care community grows like any profession. And so, that's the other large body of knowledge that we have brought forth, but we are just simply saying this needs to be considered, because as our knowledge increases, we think it bears asking the question, are we still protected. We're not saying we're not, but we think that it warrants an examination. And that's what we're talking about. And we're not saying that the site is unprotective now. I think it was probably incorrect to just blanketly say it was protective and leave it there when there was an option to say protectiveness deferred until we do some additional things to examine this. Now we've been told that that's not going to be the outcome, and I accept that. But that's what we're trying to do with the Board of Health and so forth, is to draw together these concerns into a cohesive document that we can present and provide that to EPA and DEQ and anybody that's interested for examination. And

that's what we think has not been adequately considered, nor have the ecological concerns that we raised; those were totally ignored, or at least not mentioned in the report. So that's what we're trying to do is to have the state of knowledge- to be assured that the state of our knowledge as things progress over the years regarding this contaminant are properly taken into account. The EPA believes they are. We are not convinced of that, but that's what we'd like to examine with them. That's all this is about.

**Chairman Teske:** And I'm not willing to put a dollar amount on public health and safety or a reputational amount on public health and safety because we just want the warm and fuzzy that we're all safe and sound here, you know. **Senator Cuffe:** When I brought my two-year-old boy to town here in 1972, and my daughter was born here in 1973. It's not the same place as it is today. There was asbestos being created all the time. It was in the air. There was a filter out on the courthouse lawn. We should be able to put a filter out and say how much is in the air, how much is there. Where have we come from in the 25 years, not going 52 years or three when I moved here. But if we start from 25, that's when the real hammer came down, became very obvious. And have we not made great strides since then. We're now in the world of cleaning up, in some cases, houses that somebody wants to remodel, or that somebody's purchased and found a bag in a shed, an old, old bag that happened to contain something that appears to be contaminated. Well, we have done a lot. And if there's a threat, where the heck is the threat coming from. Is the data coming from people in the last two years or is it coming from somebody that lived here in those earlier years. Is there issues in the data of somebody that's 15, 20 years old. Or the autoimmune disease-is it showing up in sixth graders. **Chairman Teske:** All good question. **Senator Cuffe:** What is it we're talking about. I'm not aware of those sorts of things. **George Jamison:** Those are the type of questions that we've said need to be thought about and addressed if we can, and some of the questions you've mentioned, and I'm not a scientist and an expert in those matters, but I've spent a lot of time discussing those with people that are, and a lot of that data is available with the information that CARD through ASTR grants and so forth over the years have collected. And it needs to be looked at and analyzed because one of the problems with this, as you should know, is that the diseases from LA exposure have a very long latency period. So the things that were looked at back when everything blew up, you know, when this site came into being and the set of people then and their age group and the workers and so forth. I mean, now, as you've said, we're 20 years later or so. So, you've got this younger group of people coming that they may have data on, in different age groups that has yet to be examined and revisited to see what are we seeing now with those younger people. Because that should show-

**Senator Cuffe:** What kind of younger people are you talking about. **Chairman Teske:** Well, the 15, 20 year olds, you were just talking about. **George Jamison:** Yeah. **Chairman Teske:** They don't test those folks.

There's no testing criteria for anybody that's. **Senator Cuffe:** If there's no testing then there's no data.

He's saying there's data. **Chairman Teske:** Well, no, the data from the CARD clinic. **George Jamison:** Yeah.

**Chairman Teske:** From the previous test. **Senator Cuffe:** Yeah, when there was abundant asbestos floating around. It's not floating around now. **Chairman Teske:** Do you know that. **Senator Cuffe:** Should the kids here are getting any worse contamination that the kids in Kalispell or Spokane or in a city where it's blowing off brake drums and things. What we were set up to deal with was to clean up the source of the problem, and if you clean up the source, the problem should go away. If it's coming, it's got to be coming from someplace else. If we have cleaned up the source to the degree I believe it's been cleaned up but it's still coming. Where the heck is it coming from. **George Jamison:** We're not saying it's still coming. We're saying that we need to answer the question that you've raised about-. We believe, I mean, there's been a huge amount done, of course, we're not suggesting there hasn't, what we're saying though is we should now be able to look with information that's available and things that can be done to say: to examine are the younger people who have not had those same exposures or were not subject to the earlier screening and so forth, how are things looking for them. Because it should show that, I mean, I would expect it's going to show- **Chairman Teske:** The question was why is there such a high rate of autoimmune disease in the community. Why- what's the factor. What's the common factor. Okay, what's the common factor in a lot of the illnesses. Exposure to LA. So, you know, the science is trying to determine whether or not they're related. **Senator Cuffe:** Okay, but that's a separate problem. **Chairman Teske:** No, it's not. It's the problem. **Dania Zinner:** Could I interrupt. I'm really sorry to interrupt, but I need to add and correct a few things. This is Dania Zinner EPA. **Chairman Teske:** Go for it. **Dania Zinner:**

Okay. Thank you. Um, yeah so to add to the discussion and I agree with you all, you all bring up really good points. I did want to mention a few things. EPA has measured the ambient air in Libby for many, many years, and it's a hundred thousand times lower than it was when the mine was operating. Although we did a background study and compared the ambient air of Libby with Eureka, Whitefish, I believe

Kalispell and Helena. And the ambient air is the same. The asbestos levels are the same as those cities. We've done, yeah, over 25 years of removal actions and cleanups. We have a very robust O&M program, which the state and the Lincoln County Asbestos Resource Program, I believe, are doing a fantastic job. And we can always improve upon that but what I'm not seeing- I'm not seeing widespread recontamination. I'm not seeing- uh, what I am seeing is people are utilizing asbestos resource program which is one of our worries so that's great. There's redevelopment happening. We're using the asbestos resource program we're adapting. So I did want to make the point again I think I made this point last meeting of risk management versus risk assessment. And risk management is preventing that exposure. So preventing exposures to asbestos in the community. Risk assessment and public health studies, I think, is what you're all talking about. And there's a couple of questions that have come up. The autoimmune diseases is the incidence of asbestos related diseases in Libby, is that going down. Which I think is what everyone would really like to know that. Unfortunately, public health studies are not in EPA's wheelhouse. That's ATSDR and right now ATSDR is furloughed and they are not working during the government shutdown right now. So I don't have any updates from them. So I just wanted also to offer, I've requested for EPA to present on this agenda several times now and I'd like to request to present and kind of start talking about some of these issues you all have raised on the next LASOC meeting. And we're happy to be on virtually or in person if you guys don't want to have representatives for these issues. So just wanted to throw that out there. But yeah, it's a very important conversation and EPA is committed on and helping talk through these issues. **Chairman Teske:** Thank you. **Senator Cuffe:** I missed part of what she said. **Chairman Teske:** Which part. **Senator Cuffe:** The part-if I might, in the beginning, you said you've done studies, I believe you said Kalispell and Eureka. And what did you say the comparison showed. **Dania Zinner:** Yeah, we did background levels of asbestos, Libby amphibole asbestos concentrations in the ambient air in those cities. And they're the exact same concentrations as Libby now. **Senator Cuffe:** The exact same. **Dania Zinner:** Yeah, the mine isn't operating, there's been a lot of cleanups done. **Senator Cuffe:** Thank you. **Dania Zinner:** Yep. **Chairman Teske:** And like you mentioned, you know, that's the risk management aspect of this. And we get that; there has been a ton of work for risk management and we've reduced that risk a lot through that. But that risk assessment is continuing and ongoing all the time. You know, and that's what we wanna look at right now. All right what's the assessment. You know I liken this to cancer treatment. I mean 50 years ago you got the big C-word-you were dead. Now there's been a lot of studies, a lot of medical advancement, you know with even AI right now as we're sitting here you know they've really decreased the amount of fatalities from cancer you know. And so the same thing is you know there's new science. There's emerging science. There's illnesses that we can account for, and we just want them to consider those and keep that conversation alive in the future so that it just doesn't get, you know, a paper doesn't get presented and it gets pooped off. So and that's, you know, that's what, you know, we're looking at this last time around was, you know, we should have been having these conversations leading up to our comment for the five-year review, and we didn't. And I don't know if that was a timing issue or what, some of the stuff we didn't know about till right as that document was signed off, but now we're here and we just don't want to lose this conversation, this information, and the scope for this risk assessment, ongoing risk assessment, moving forward. And that's what the subcommittee would do. You know, we've mentioned it before, I looked even in the minutes here, we've got the feasibility study coming up for OU3, okay. We wanna be involved as a community, as a committee, as a Board of Health in that feasibility study, you know. So this is all also parallel, a prelude to being involved and committed to that feasibility study and what comes out of that at the same time. So you got anything else you wanna add Sir. **George Jamison:** I don't think so. **Chairman Teske:** Okay, anything else Sir. **Senator Cuffe:** Well I just say I don't think that my blood pressure needed to be got up today. **Chairman Teske:** No, well. **Senator Cuffe:** If something would have been said- you know when I had a concern about what you guys were bringing up the letter that had been written I came and talked to you, right. **Chairman Teske:** Yep, well- kinda- we'll get into that some other time. **Senator Cuffe:** If you want to, whatever. **Chairman Teske:** Yeah. **Senator Cuffe:** But I did, I called you up. I called you up, set up meetings. **Chairman Teske:** So yeah. **Senator Cuffe:** Well, and that's all I'm saying and then basically, all of a sudden I come in today and we're talking about a whole new world. **Chairman Teske:** We're talking about the exact same thing. **Senator Cuffe:** And I'm saying I'll go back to what I started out with- how about a summary on where we've come from in 25 years. She did a great job right there telling me. You know, I asked you specifically you were asked whatever it was- two months ago do you think it's a healthy place to live and you didn't know. Well I think it is, I believe it is but because I was there for- I've been here 50 or some years around it in and out. Lived here constantly

when my kids were small. This is so much better now. It is so much better than it was 25 years ago.

**Chairman Teske:** We have-. **Senator Cuffe:** Which we're working with the EPA. That's how we were set up. **Chairman Teske:** The continued assessment of what that risk is, what that risk brings, how that risk manifests is what we're asking about. There's no denying there's been milestones. There's no denying there's been great work on the ground. There's no denying there's been great work in the legislature to get us to the point we are now. That doesn't mean that we're done. **Senator Cuffe:** Well, in a way, I think a little bit what I'm hearing is you talked about the CARD clinic. Are we saying we're gonna pick up the load of analysis that the CARD clinic was doing. That's all I'm saying. **Chairman Teske:** Nope. **Senator Cuffe:** There's many good points here, but if we're gonna open up what I call an expensive open-ended forever study of what. Or do we have researchers that see some money and a chance to chase some money. I don't doubt your integrity, your reasons, and I think I have the same ones. You know, I helped create CARD or I mean excuse me, LASOC back in the beginning, 10-12 years ago. I've been on it seven years. I just think we've done a pretty good job. And I think we're, if the goal is showing that we have cleaned up the source of the problem, there does come a time to say, hey, we've had some success, maybe we've had a big success. I think if the ambient air here, when it was, what did she say, a thousand times worse. Now, we're on par with the towns around that never had a mine. So. **Chairman Teske:** Pardon me. **Amy Fantozzi:** Can I just say something, um. **Chairman Teske:** Would you just introduce yourself for the public please. **Amy Fantozzi:** I'm Amy Fantozzi, I'm the chair for the Board of Health. And I think that there's, you know, we're talking about doing, you know, like risk assessment. And, you know, that's why the Board of Health has requested a facilitator to then develop a work group, not necessarily a subcommittee, but a work group. To bring a diverse group of entities together to ask these questions and to like figure out a plan moving forward and like key recommendations of like what does need to happen or what does need to happen to make sure that we're doing our due diligence. It's not that it's an unsafe place to live, but what are the long-term repercussions for the young people now that are living here that are genetically related to people that had direct exposure versus young people that are living here that did not have genetics. You know, they're not a child of someone who grew up here. You know, is there differences. And there's data. It's just that that data hasn't been analyzed. You know, there's all kinds of data. That's why we know- why is there such a high number of people with autoimmune, you know, what do they have in common. But you can't do that without analyzing the data. You know, there's data available just hasn't been analyzed. Because the questions haven't been raised on what to analyze it for and that's kind of what this work group- to really start. And bring in people that know data and know how to do research to be able to hone in on what questions should we still be asking before they completely close the, you know, close the book and say oh stamp of approval, they're good to go.

**Senator Cuffe:** Well if I heard him right, they're dealing with the source. That's EPA's function. Their function is not dealing, and I'm not saying it's something maybe doesn't need to be dealt with, but I don't know if EPA or LASOC is the ones that need to take it on. Somebody does, and maybe it is. Maybe it's great to have a subgroup. Maybe I was surprised. And I was surprised at the big, hot letter that was written the first time. And I thought maybe we had overcome stuff after our last meeting and then I felt well here I am blindsided again. That all of a sudden there's a subgroup meeting and you may not call it a subgroup- I've heard it called a subgroup. So, anyway, I've said enough. **Chairman Teske:** All right.

**Senator Cuffe:** If Sonja, do you have anything to say. **Director Nowakowski:** Mr. Chairman, Senator Cuffe, this is Sonja, I've joined Amy in her office since I couldn't get my technology to work. Appreciate the discussion, really appreciate EPA's participation in this meeting and would really encourage LASOC to take them up on their offer to be on future agendas and share some information. Also would just completely under LASOC's prerogative just would respectfully ask, I understand that there were some meetings potentially with the congressional delegation and I don't know if those were at LASOC's request or some of the delegation's requests, but I personally have certainly fielded a lot of follow ups on that and just would have appreciated a little bit of a heads up or a better understanding of kind of what you are asking so that the state of Montana could speak with one voice. So just kind of lessons learned there and just would appreciate in the future a little bit of outreach on that. And again, thanks for letting me be part of the dialogue. I would echo Regional Administrator Western's suggestion also that perhaps there's an opportunity for toxicologists at EPA to review this if LASOC is supportive and kind of report back on next steps. But again, thank you for your time and letting me participate today. **Chairman Teske:** Thank you. All right, any additional comments or discussion. **Dania Zinner:** This is Dania Zinner. Yeah, I wanted to reiterate what EPA Regional Administrator Western said: EPA is committed, we could perform a technical review of available research on health effects of Libby amphibole asbestos and we could put

those findings in a memo for the LASOC's review if that is helpful for this group. **Chairman Teske:** Go ahead. **George Jamison:** Well, I think what we're saying here to get us back, I think, on what we've been intent on all along and what the Board of Health is focused on is for our, let's call it a work group, which will be under the guidance and so forth of the Health Department, or excuse me, the Board of Health, is to put together a statement and a collection of our thoughts and ideas as Commissioner Teske said from a diverse group of people and the scientists that we've collaborated with and then, and we want the opportunity to do that, have the time to do that, and then present that to EPA for their consideration. That's the next step. That's a step we've advocated since- even during the last meeting. And that's what this recommendation is about. **Senator Cuffe:** So that's telling her, no, you don't want their help. **George Jamison:** Of course I want their help, just that LASOC- **Senator Cuffe:** She made an offer- **Chairman Teske:** She made an offer to LASOC. LASOC is not gonna be where this lands, okay, this is gonna land with the Board of Health and in whatever, you know, subcommittee and representatives from other expertise fields and stuff, that's where it's gonna land, you know, because I mean nobody here is an expert on this. They are, you know, they're doctors, they're nurses, they're scientists, I mean, it needs to land—they're not here. So for them to come up here and give us their brief on toxicology, I mean, that's falling on deaf ears. So it's gonna land at a different location, Board of Health, and not specifically here with LASOC. We brought the issue to the attention and now it needs to go to the next stage, which is going to be somebody who's qualified to go through this process. **George Jamison:** We're not- **Chairman Teske:** That ain't me. **George Jamison:** So we're not, certainly not rejecting their role and responsibility to review it— I mean, they have the responsibility, EPA does, along with DEQ on these matters. We understand that. What we're simply saying is we want the opportunity and we're going to exert the effort to organize our thoughts, put this information together in some good form and provide it to them. And then yes, absolutely at that time—not now, because we haven't done it yet—and when we've done that and been given that, afforded that opportunity with the facilitator to work through that to give it to them, then yes, we expect we're going to get their input and their feedback. **Senator Cuffe:** Okay. **Chairman Teske:** So just not here. **Senator Cuffe:** But yeah, what she said was she offered their services to help and do some of this analysis, and we're saying no, we're going to do it- **George Jamison:** I didn't hear that as her- **Senator Cuffe:** Dania. Mr. Chairman. **Chairman Teske:** Dania. **Dania Zinner:** Yeah, I guess what I've heard from these—conversations—is that I feel like there's some concern that EPA didn't look at the last 10 years of public health data in relation to this five-year review. So just to try and get ahead of what your concerns are, we were thinking of starting a literature review of that 10 years of data, and we can put all of our findings into a draft memo that you all could review. And so, yeah, I was just—we were brainstorming ways to work in parallel with y'all. **Chairman Teske:** Well, and y'all is the problem. Y'all isn't going to be these gentlemen and Madam sitting at this table, it's going to be- the y'all, it's going to be whoever the Board of Health and the professionals that are going to be reviewing this and working with you on this, you know. So that's why there wasn't a lot of sense for you to come here today and get into great detail with this one, you're going to have to just turn around and do it again. **Dania Zinner:** And we're welcome to do that, we're welcome to meet with the LASOC, Board of Health, whoever, an O&M work group, however you all want to organize this, we're willing to meet with anyone. **Chairman Teske:** You're more than welcome all the time. **Dania Zinner:** Okay, thank you. **George Jamison:** Okay, can I suggest- **Chairman Teske:** Yes. **George Jamison:** We go back and see if we can move on this agenda item one way or another. What I gave you in this, prepared in this document, which was, as I said, was intended to- based on the guidance in our bylaws, was you're supposed to present background information and the rationale and justification for, and you've got details of a recommendation here, and then at the end there's a motion for funding and I would say, and it basically says the motion hereby is made to present and support a recommendation to DEQ to provide funding for facilitator services as outlined in this document as presented today. And that's the motion that I present for consideration and ask that we either move on that or something. **Chairman Teske:** All right, so we have a motion. Do we have a second. **Representative Millett:** I'll second. **Chairman Teske:** All right, second. So further discussion, Gentlemen, Ma'am. **Representative Millett:** I have a couple of questions, please. **Chairman Teske:** Sure. **Representative Millett:** So I think I understand what's going on with this, with the motion. It's basically the way I understand it is, and I do want to say with the Board of Health, thank you for stepping up and offering your services for this. This is great. So I understand that there's a lot of information. I mean, I can read it right here. There's a lot of information here and you just need to get your feet underneath you to understand all this stuff. And I can understand that and appreciate that. So you're just requesting that a facilitator come in, get the information to you so you can be up to speed. So

then you can start doing your job. Is that a pretty good summary of what's going on here. **Amy Fantozzi:** And to bring in all these entities to ask the right questions and get all the accurate information and the information you needed so we can make next step plans. **Representative Millett:** Okay. The only other question I have is, it says in the document that you're just requesting \$10,000 for this facilitator. My only question is, well, two questions. How long do you think it's going to take you to get up to speed. First of all, do you have any, just a general idea. Is it going to be a month, two months, three months for the facilitator. Any idea. Have you put any thought into that. **Amy Fantozzi:** We've done a lot of the background. My understanding is that the facilitator is just going to help those discussions on how to move forward with this. **Representative Millett:** Okay. **Amy Fantozzi** You know, getting all the right people involved and at the table to make decisions about how to move forward. **Representative Millett:** I do have a question for the facilitator. **George Jamison:** Mr. Millett, can I interject. **Representative Millett:** Sure. **George Jamison:** I think you might have missed it at the last meeting, but one of the things we just sort of anecdotally said is with the supposed advent of the draft feasibility study coming out the end of March and in broad time scales, I would hope that we would have our product or whatever we're going to do with this work group through the Board of Health have it done by somewhere in that time frame so that we're not still dealing with trying to prepare that when the next thing is coming out. So that's my guess. **Representative Millett:** Okay. **George Jamison:** It's a guess, but a lot of it depends on when we can recruit some people, some volunteers that are willing to come jump into this and help us with it, so that it's not just Amy and Jan Ivers who are the liaison people from Board of Health and so forth, and there have been discussions just between us about who are some of the people we could bring back in that participated in the O&M planning process very heavily when that activity was under the Board of Health. And I don't know if you missed it in this, but that activity kind of moved away from Board of Health who was the lead group through all this during O&M planning when COVID hit and that was pulled out and now we're putting it back where it should have been and anyway sorry to interrupt but I hope that helps. **Representative Millett:** Yeah that's fine. **Chairman Teske:** You had a question for Mr. Romney, Sir. **Representative Millett:** Maybe not for Mr. Romney, it's just that so my understanding is this is just not to exceed \$10,000, that's it, if they need more money for a facilitator, they're going to have to come back to LASOC and get permission for that, right-or approval. **Chairman Teske:** Correct. **George Jamison:** Yes, if I might, yes, that's correct. But actually, that would have to come from, that okay comes from DEQ. **Chairman Teske:** Through us. **Representative Millett:** Correct. **Chairman Teske:** Yeah. good question. **Representative Millett:** Okay. You've answered my questions. Thank you. **Chairman Teske:** Sure. **Senator Cuffe:** With the accounts that we have, would this expenditure- I don't think that this money falls under the intent of Orphan's Share funding. **Chairman Teske:** That might be a Melody question. **Senator Cuffe:** Sonja, I think, can help. **Chairman Teske:** Sonja, Melody, someone from DEQ, are you willing to answer that question. **Director Nowakowski:** Mr. Chairman, and I'll have Melody jump in on this. It's my understanding this would come through the EPA funding, Melody. **Melody Kraayeveld:** We had discussed this coming from either through EPA or through LASOC. I think that this particular motion is for it to be funded through LASOC. As for how far funding would reach, I mean, it's very dependent on how much work needs to be done at a property. I mean, some properties cost \$60,000 or \$70,000 and others we would only need to come in and sample, it could cost a couple of thousand. **Senator Cuffe:** Mr. Chairman, my point is I sit on the committee or I have sat on it many times of the group that dishes out the Orphan Share money, and I think it's intended for site cleanups where there's no parent available. And now W.R. Grace is out of it. It fits very nicely what we've been doing. I'm not sure that it fits going out into additional health studies. And there are, you know, I think Sonja can get an answer or I can call legislative services and get an answer, but that's my question on that. EPA money, I cannot speak to them. **Chairman Teske:** Sure, and I know Melody you ran that by some legal consultants, correct, whether or not it will apply. **Melody Kraayeveld:** I did and there aren't any legal concerns with allocating that funding that way. **Chairman Teske:** Okay, does that help Sir. **Senator Cuffe:** Yeah. And we'll have to make sure where it comes from. **George Jamison:** If I might, this is, I don't want to delay us too long but I do want to point out that if you look at the changes that were made from the original Vincent bills about two years later, there was a strong effort made then that was successful, I guess you'd say, I think it was appropriate to expand the role of this committee and when you read that changed language then it seems very clear that this fits perfectly and I think it's exactly what these funds are intended for and if you look on the back, the little diagram on the back of the site funding and budget report that we have back here, and it shows the administrative support accounts, and so forth that can be allocated and used, that would have originally been used for a liaison and that fell through, you know,

but that money is for administrative purposes and that's basically what this is- to supplement what we're doing with the ARP through DEQ to support our efforts. **Chairman Teske:** Does that help Sir. **Senator Cuffe:** I understand what he said, I don't necessarily agree, you know, I don't think you can- The Orphan Share money is designated in a certain way. And, you know, we can change the title, you know, after we've got it. **George Jamison:** I would respectfully encourage you to look at that revised language and talk to Mr. Gunderson, who crafted that language. And I think this does perfectly fit. And I think you're also hearing that's what- **Senator Cuffe:** I'm just saying, Orphan Share money was intended for project cleanup. **Chairman Teske:** Okay. **George Jamison:** Okay. fine. **Director Nowakowski:** Mr. Chair, this is Sonja. I would just like to note, I think there's a little bit of confusion here and I think we need to get our facts straight here. I want to walk through my understanding of what the ask is: you are going to vote on a motion to expend dollars to hire a facilitator to gather information and get kind of a list of questions that then you are going to send to the EPA to review and answer. **George Jamison:** The ask is that a facilitator would assist the Board of Health in that endeavor—to draw that material together and to help organize the group and help us refine our message so that we're clear in what we want to do and just help us facilitate and bring all that together. **Director Nowakowski:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I guess I would have two follow-up questions on that or points. **Chairman Teske:** Okay. **Director Nowakowski:** The first, if you're able to do an estimate a timeline for how long that will take on your end, so then EPA can respond how long they think it will take on their end to review. And then secondly, to Representative Millett's point—thank you very much. It needs to be less than \$10,000 to avoid a task order and some different items. I think we might need to get some clarity on our end from Jon Morgan. It was my understanding we'd potentially use EPA grant money to pay for this, not to use LASOC money. As Senator Cuffe discussed, LASOC dollars are out of Orphan Share, which is for cleanup. I think we may need to get some clarity on our end. I don't know if Jon Morgan- if you're still on, and I don't want to put you on the spot, but I do think we need a little clarity there of what the expectation is for those dollars to flow. Oh, and Mr. Chair, I think Kevin—. I think we just need to get some clarity on that front. Go ahead, Jon. **Jon Morgan:** Oh, no, I was just going to note I will follow up with Melody when we're done with this call and talk about the different funding sources as well. **Chairman Teske:** I guess if we're in consensus—**Beth Archer:** Oh, sorry, I just wanted to briefly say—oh, never mind, I will not say that. I'll talk with Jason. **Chairman Teske:** I'm not sure who that was. All right, I mean, we've got a motion and a second, and we're unsure of the funding source—is that correct. What was the motion's source funding request. I want to make sure we're talking about the same thing. **George Jamison:** I think, as you consider this, this references a document that specifically cites under "details or recommendation," it does cite the O&M account funds 02130 that are used annually for administrative costs. That's not actual cleanup—that's something that I think you do need to examine, because we do spend administrative dollars, for example, with the agreement with the county here to support these meetings, and that's not cleanup. Those are administrative costs. Anyway, it does cite that as what we propose as the recommended source of funding. **Chairman Teske:** Can anyone testify to Fund 02130 being appropriate. **George Jamison:** I think if we move this motion forward, then obviously DEQ will have to consider it and decide whether or not to support the funding. **Chairman Teske:** Mr. Fritz, you've got your hand up. **Beth Archer:** Hey y'all, this is Beth Archer—I'm in the room with Jason. I was trying to talk earlier and I messed it up with the computer, but I think one thing I just wanted to make sure everyone was aware that EPA does have a funding source available for facilitation. It's our Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center. So that is a alternative funding source that I did want to make sure folks were aware of. Thank you. **Chairman Teske:** Okay. So, Melody, could you clarify that funding source—02130 fund—as being appropriate. **Melody Kraayeveld:** I believe, per conversations we've had internally, we determined it would be appropriate based on bylaws, but I would defer to Jon Morgan, who's my legal representation on that one. **Chairman Teske:** Mr. Morgan, do you have a comment. **Jon Morgan:** We can follow up on our end just to make sure that we're looking at the right funding sources for this. **Chairman Teske:** All right, so how's that going to affect the motion if we don't have a specific source notated, or do you want to move forward with the motion specifically outlining that source of funding. **George Jamison:** Do it. **Chairman Teske:** Okay. All right. So the motion is made and seconded. Any further discussion. Anyone online. All those in favor signify by aye. **All: Aye.** **Chairman Teske:** Opposed. **Senator Cuffe:** No. **Chairman Teske:** Okay, did we lose the director again, Ma'am. **Director Nowakowski:** No, I'm here, Mr. Chair. I'm going to abstain from voting on this since I'll be approving the funding source. **Chairman Teske:** Perfect, thank you. Make a note so. All right, so three - one, motion is approved. **George Jamison:** We also need to designate a contact person to work with the Board of Health. **Chairman Teske:** So that is a contact from liaison to the

	<p>Board of Health. Is that what you're asking for. <b>George Jamison:</b> From LASOC. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay. All right and I would nominate Mr. Jamison solely for the fact that he's probably the most knowledgeable on this subject and on what the points of contention and issue are. Any other nominations. No, nobody wants to step up. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> I'll nominate you. You shot it, you can skin it, I think. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right. I'll decline just because I have way too much on my plate right now. I don't have time for another subcommittee, I don't have time for another deal, and again, I am nowhere near in the realm of expertise as this gentleman here, so. <b>George Jamison:</b> I'm willing to do it if that's the wish of this committee. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay, all right. <b>Representative Millett:</b> You need a second on that. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yes, please. <b>Representative Millett:</b> I second the nomination. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right. Any other nominations. All those in favor signify by aye. <b>All:</b> Aye. Opposed. All right, Mr. Jamison—it says Janison here, which is it. You, sir, are the lucky participant. <b>George Jamison:</b> Thank you. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, so the liaison and representatives from the Board of Health are going to be Mrs. Ivers, correct and yourself, all right. So if you've got Board of Health inquiries, please direct it toward them.</p>
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3:24 pm	Discussion
Discussion and Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Date and Location of next Meeting</li> <li>- Summary of Action Items</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chairman Teske:</b> And finally date and location for the next meeting. We've kind of been going mid-quarter, so what's that going to put us at- the end of January, beginning of February. <b>Amanda Harcourt:</b> Ya, January. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Anybody have any conflicts. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Mr. Chairman, before we go there. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Sure. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> The connection with Mr. Jamison and the LASOC and I don't know is it the Board of Health or the new group, or something in between. <b>George Jamison:</b> I don't understand your question. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Well, you're a liaison to something. <b>George Jamison:</b> To the Board of Health. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> And you'll then keep us informed. Are we still- <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Correct. <b>George Jamison:</b> Of course I will. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yeah, yeah. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Well I- <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Yeah, that's his role is going to be liaison from LASOC. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> It came as a surprise today and that's why I'm being very specific. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, clarified-okay. So date and location—does anybody have any conflicts end of January, beginning of February. <b>Representative Millett:</b> The only conflict I have is a Water Policy Interim Committee meeting the 12th and 13<sup>th</sup>. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Of. <b>Representative Millett:</b> January. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay, so if we look further toward the end of the month or beginning of February, okay, she'll focus on a Doodle poll for the end of January or beginning of February, get it out to everybody, and I assume we'll be here for a location, nobody is gonna be. <b>Representative Millett:</b> Not the first week of February either. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Not the first week, okay. All right; maybe we'll focus on the end of January. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Avoid the 19th please. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Of January. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> Yeah. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay. <b>Representative Millett:</b> Everything else is good. You're good. <b>George Jamison:</b> I'll be here. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, summary of action items—I think we've pretty well covered everything through discussion and have a little better understanding of where we're moving forward to, and hopefully we'll get some feedback of where we're moving forward. <b>George Jamison:</b> Just need word on the facilitator so we can start work. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Okay. So, anything else.</p>

3:26 pm	Discussion
Public Comment	<p><b>Chairman Teske:</b> Any public comment. I know this has been a long one. Comment from the room. Yes, Sir.</p> <p><b>Steve Gunderson:</b> Steve Gunderson, past representative, sponsor of HB30 from 2019. I was just going through the bill's language and I think it's going to be up to Director Nowakowski of DEQ to double check that because I'm reading that we were funding cleanup, so anything over that I think is going to have to be decided by DEQ, but I just double check that. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> I believe that's the question that Jon Morgan is going to ask, clarify. <b>Steve Gunderson:</b> Thank you Mr. Chair. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> Thank you. Anyone else. Any public comment online. I don't know who caller zero one is. Do you have a comment. I'm not hearing anything. Caller zero one. Not sure what that is. Okay, well, we're not hearing whoever caller zero one is. I hate to move beyond you here but for some reason we're not hearing whoever that is and if you have a comment, please address it to us. All right. Hearing no other public comment, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn. <b>Senator Cuffe:</b> So moved. <b>Representative Millett:</b> Second. <b>Chairman Teske:</b> All right, all those in favor signify by aye. <b>All:</b> Aye. Opposed. All right. Thank you everybody for coming out today and sticking around.</p>

Meeting Adjourned 3:28 pm

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