

RESOLUTION URGING SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTE
AT PHELPS DODGE'S CHINO MINES,
GRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, 3/26/97

97-03-26

WHEREAS the members and retirees of the United Steelworkers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have produced copper at the Santa Rita (Chino) Mines for over 60 years, and are the bedrock of our community, and

WHEREAS the workers represented by the Unions have made Chino Mines one of the safest and most productive in the Phelps Dodge Corporation, and

WHEREAS the well-being and economic stability of mining families are important to the prosperity of Grant County, and

WHEREAS the copper mine workers have, through the years, been a positive force towards the goal of social justice and equality for all in our community, and

WHEREAS for the past 10 months USWA and IBEW union members have been trying to negotiate a contract with Phelps Dodge that provides continued prosperity and security for workers, their families and our community, but have been forced to work the last 8 months under the terms of the expired contract, and

WHEREAS Phelps Dodge's failure to offer a more beneficial labor agreement to workers has caused tension, uncertainty and economic peril to employees, and

WHEREAS during Phelps Dodge's tenure at these Grant County copper mines, and coinciding with its labor dispute, fewer and fewer mine jobs have been made available to young citizens in our community, and an increased number of workers have been brought in from other areas and other states, and

WHEREAS a new contract with acceptable terms of employment is critical to the security and prosperity of Grant County families and businesses, and a labor dispute will cause untold harm in our community, and

WHEREAS Phelps Dodge has denied the USWA's and IBEW's reasonable request to continue negotiations in the Silver City area to reach a fair contract, and

WHEREAS Phelps Dodge's unbudging stance is creating a crisis in Grant County and impacts all of Southwestern New Mexico,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners of Grant County urge Phelps Dodge to show consideration for our community and negotiate a fair contract ~~in the Mining District~~ that protects the families and businesses of Grant County.

WHEREAS, the Town of Hurley understands the importance of Copper Production in the County,

WHEREAS, the Town of Hurley recognizes the roles that Phelps Dodge, U.S Steelworkers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers all have in the economy of the County,

WHEREAS, the economic stability of the county is dependent on the production of copper and fair wages which are important to all parties concerned,

WHEREAS, Copper ore is being mined in Grant County, therefore the employment of local labor should be given first priority given that all qualifications are equal,

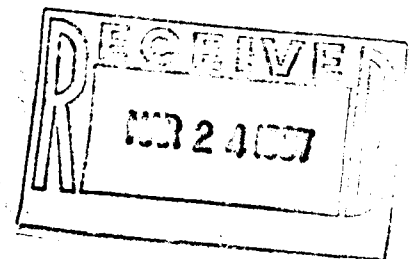
WHEREAS, it is important that all parties resume negotiation to pursue a settlement of their differences and come to a mutual agreement that will benefit all parties,

Whereas, the Town of Hurley encourages both parties to make every effort to come to an agreement, but in the event that a consensus is not reached that the assistance of a neutral mediation board be obtained,

Therefore be It resolved that the Town Councilors of Hurley urge all parties to show consideration for our community and negotiate in good faith,

Review this and Call me

Dave





Amalgamated Bayard District Union

Of The United Steelworkers Of America

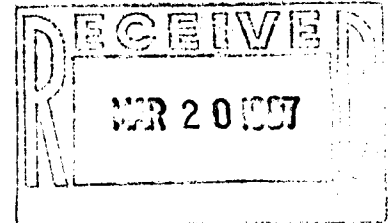
Local 890

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BAYARD, NEW MEXICO 88023



TELEPHONE
537-3992

March 20, 1997



Manuel Serna, Chairman
Grant County Commission
Grant County Courthouse
Silver City, New Mexico

HAND DELIVERED

Dear Mr. Serna:

Please place the attached "Resolution Urging Settlement of Labor Dispute at Phelps Dodge's Chino Mines" on the agenda for adoption at the County Commissioner's meeting on March 26.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Don Manning
President, Local 890
United Steelworkers of America AFL-CIO/CLC