

PRECIOUS METALS REPORT

MARKET COMMENT

FOMC minutes

Most Federal Reserve officials supported a move towards unwinding the Fed's massive balance sheet at "an upcoming meeting," according to minutes of its July policy meeting released Wednesday.

At the July meeting, the Federal Open Markets Committee voted to leave interest rates unchanged, as expected. It also indicated that it planned to start work on shrinking its \$4.5 trillion balance sheet "relatively soon." Details on that could emerge as soon as September.

Besides the balance sheet, investors are focusing on how the Fed is thinking about inflation. Fed Chair Yellen attributed the recent slowdown to "idiosyncratic" or peculiar factors like cheaper wireless service.

The slowdown in inflation has stoked critics within and outside the Fed who argue for caution in raising rates.

According to the minutes, Fed participants saw inflation picking up towards its 2% objective "over the next couple of years."

Precious Metals had started to gain before the FOMC minutes were published. However, the biggest motion was seen at the beginning of the reading. Silver is back at the 200-day moving average. Palladium recorded a new annual high at \$929. Gold is back above \$1,290 and perhaps we will see a breakthrough over \$1,300 today.

Wishing you all a nice day

TRADING RANGE (COMEX/NYMEX Far East and early European ranges 08/17/2017)

	Gold (Dec)	Silver (Sep)	Platinum(Oct)	Palladium(Sep)	Euro/USD
Open	1,290.00	17.1200	983.50	917.55	1.1766
Low	1,288.20	17.0550	978.20	917.20	1.1734
High	1,296.00	17.1750	985.10	929.00	1.1789

LONDON BENCHMARKS / ECB-EXCHANGE RATE (08/16/2017)

	Gold	Silver	Platinum	Palladium	Euro/USD
AM	1,270.15	16.6800	964.00	893.00	1.1710
PM	1,272.75		963.00	896.00	

TRADING RANGE (COMEX/NYMEX 08/16/2017)

	Gold (Dec)	Silver (Sep)	Platinum(Oct)	Palladium(Sep)	Euro/USD
Low	1,273.20	16.6100	963.80	885.90	1.1680
High	1,289.50	17.1300	984.40	917.20	1.1778
Close	1,282.90	16.9400	974.50	910.20	1.1768

SUPPORT / RESISTANCE (USD/toz)

	Gold	Silver	Platinum	Palladium	Euro/USD
Support	1,273	16.5600	954	886	1.1730
Resistance	1,298	17.2400	990	929	1.1820

PRICE RANGES FOR MINOR PGM's

Rh 1040 – 1,080 / Ir 960 – 1,000 / Ru 60 – 70

GLOBAL ECONOMIC CALENDAR (08/17/2017)

Euro-Zone: CPI (EU), Trade Balance (EU), ECB Monetary Policy Meeting

UK: Retail Sales

US: Jobless Claims, Industrial Production, Capacity Utilization

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