



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ABANDONED MINE LAND PROGRAMS

ALABAMA ALASKA ARIZONA ARKANSAS CALIFORNIA COLORADO CROW HOPI ILLINOIS INDIANA IOWA KANSAS
KENTUCKY LOUISIANA MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI MISSOURI MONTANA NAVAJO NEVADA NEW MEXICO NORTH DAKOTA
OHIO OKLAHOMA PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE TEXAS UTAH VIRGINIA WEST VIRGINIA WYOMING

MEETING MINUTES
2015 Annual Business Meeting
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 30, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The NAAML P Annual Business Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President Eric Cavazza. The meeting began with a greeting from President Cavazza and an introduction from all meeting attendees.

PROXIES

There were no proxies.

ROLL CALL BY SECRETARY TREASURER (Justin Ireys) – MEMBERS PRESENT

AL (Chuck Williams); AK (Justin Ireys); AR (James Stephens); CO (Bruce Stover, Steve Renner, Jeff Graves); Crow (Laura Little Owl); IL (Greg Pinto/phone); IN (Marvin Ellis, Mark Stacy); IA (Susan Kozak); KS (Murray J. Balk); KY (Bob Scott); MD (Mike Garner); Louisiana (Luzma Mata De Leder); Missouri (Mike Mueller); MT (Autumn Coleman, Thad Adkins); Navajo (Madeline Roanhorse); NV (Robert Ghiglieri, Jeryl Gardner); NM (John Kretzmann, Lloyd Moiola); ND (Bill Dodd); OH (Jim Bishop); OK (Mike Sharp, Robert Toole, Diane Ireton); PA (Eric Cavazza, Brian Bradley, John Stefanko); TN (Trevor Martin); TX (Mark Rhodes); UT (Steve Fluke); VA (Richard Davis); WV (Rob Rice, Travis Parsons); WY (Alan Edwards, Bill Locke).

MEMBERS ABSENT FROM MEETING:

Arizona, Hopi, Mississippi

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

IMCC (Greg Conrad, Ryan Ellis); OSM (Ann Walker, Yolande Norman, Rick Buckley, Jay Bautista, Sterling Rideout, Patrick Dege, Rob Welsh, Tony Herrell); BLM (Larry Jackson, Myoshi Stith); California (Glenda Marsh/phone), Nevada (Jeryl Gardener), Texas (Roni Anson/attendee); WPCAMR (Andy McAllister, Anne Daymut); Colorado School of Mines (Linda Figueroa), NPS (John Burghardt)

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

After OSM update, move other federal agency updates in front of old business because of several early departures. Wyoming makes a motion to modify and approve agenda, seconded by Kansas. Agenda is approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH, 2015 MEETING IN ORANGE BEACH, AL

Minutes were distributed to the membership in advance by e-mail. Comments were received, the minutes were so edited for final distribution. Unknown voice made motion to approve minutes, seconded by an unknown voice, motion carried unanimously.

Due to a recording failure the St. Louis meeting was not captured, however a summary of the meeting was captured in a paper, Eric suggests using the paper in place of meeting minutes.

Alabama makes a motion to accept the summary paper in lieu of meeting minutes, seconded by Kansas, motion carries unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Justin Ireys)

There is \$38,719.16 available in the Association's checking account. Two CD's have been closed out and transferred to the checking account. Received a check in the amount of \$34,000 from the State of Ohio for the 2014 annual conference. Paid seed money to the states of Montana and Kentucky for the 2016 and 2017 annual conferences.

There are two states, Wyoming and Louisiana, and the Crow tribe which has yet to pay membership dues for 2015. Will send out a reminder e-mail for payment.

Kansas moves to accept Treasurer's report, seconded by Alabama, motion carried unanimously.

OSM UPDATE

1. Status of Power+, AMLER and Reauthorization

- There is draft legislation language, however it has not advanced. PA asks if it might advance during this budget year, and if not will OSM push it during the next budget year. OSM is does not know that answer.

Reauthorization is slow moving, still lots of work to do and information to collect. For a period of time beginning in January, IMCC and OSM had conference calls every two weeks to discuss different reauthorization issues and for purposes of data collection. The data was assembled quickly and since that time calls have not occurred. IMCC thanks OSM for efforts in gathering information some of which will be presented later by Ryan Ellis. That info had much to do with fund balances and info for the reauthorization subcommittee(s). Eric also thanks OSM and says it's important for OSM and States to work together on reauthorization.

2. Status of OSM Government Efficiencies Workgroup Recommendation

Financial Stability Workgroup - focused on ways to more efficiently provide states and tribes with funding, both in the short term and long term. According to OSM activities are on-going and will take more time and effort.

Program Efficiencies – identify specific programs for better efficiency and effectiveness. Many major recommendations were suggested that related to oversight, ten-day notices, which will also take a lot of time and effort to complete. One recommendation was with regard to the effectiveness of satellite imagery, TIPS completed a report on evaluation of satellite imagery

for remote sensing, work is still on going, and the geo-spatial branch is working on a server which will allow easier distribution of imagery.

OSM is working on control views for program amendments, working on ways to make it more efficient.

OSM is working to collaborate better with states and tribes to provide better technical assistance. OSM is also working to standardize the grant application process nationwide. OSM is trying to establish professional collaboration.

Training and Sustainability – Many recommendations came from the report. TIPS and NTTP have been meeting monthly since the beginning of the year to standardize the administrative process. Metrics that matter, training contacts, many in house processes try to collaborate. Updated instructor training course to be more effective, looking for new instructors that work with more experienced instructors. Training budget has been strained due to sequestration and government shutdown and some classes were cut. Looking for cost cutting measures, establishing new blanket agreements with hotels, air travel, e-learning courses. DOI learn metrics. Looking at new, different and more technical software. Working to modernize courses and design new classes. Alabama asks if NTTP and TIPS will be merged. OSM has looked at combining TIPS and NTTP, still working on process no decision yet made. Kentucky mentions they would like to see a grants training course established to be held on an annual basis, OSM responds they are working to create a class.

3. Training Program Update (Ann Walker)

This year, FY15, target for training was 650 people, 18 instructors from states, 689 total trained students. 1350 training requests for FY16, target is to train 837 NTTP students for FY16 does not include special requests. TIPS received 450 training request and hopeful to train about 350 students. TIPS has about 30 different software's, and offers about 25 classes. NTTP currently has 54 courses, many new hires which need training. Program effectiveness was rated at 95% based on student surveys.

4. 2016 Budget and Legislative Updates

OSM proposed a budget of \$160.5 million for discretionary funding, 10.4 mil increase from last year. Highlight of budget include AMLER proposal, \$200 million for 5 years. Restore historic AML fee to \$.35, \$.15, and \$.10. Reduce deficit by stopping funding for certified states is in the budget, establish a fund for hardrock AML. Budget includes \$4.4 million for advanced technology, geo-mine and geo-spatial. Budget also includes \$65.5 million for regulatory grants. Also includes \$1 million for community outreach and reforestation.

Wyoming asks OSM if a budget amendment will be required to institute the Stream Protection rule, OSM says budget already out the door and it's still in the proposal stage so the budget will not be amended.

5. 2016 Anticipated Sequestration Impacts on State programs (Title IV and Title V)

OSM does not yet know the percentage of sequestration, no official word. Eric asks if OSM anticipates the percentage to be the same, OSM does not know.

6. Update on OSM Rule Makings

Stream protection rule is number one priority, 6 public hearing meetings to gather comments. Comment period ends on October 26th. Looking to finalize rule by summer of 2016. **Cost recovery rule**, trying to finalize, at the stage of receiving approvals by attorney's and upper management, hopefully to finalize by end of the calendar, but not certain because so many resources have been dedicated to the stream protection rule. **Coal combustion residue rule**,

been drafted in house, solicitors have provided comments, it is a proposed rule, proposal will most likely be completed in spring or summer. **Temporary Cessation rule** has been drafted and reviewed by solicitors, summer of next year based on resources. **Mine safety rule** is much further behind other rules, major rewrites are ongoing, most likely for next spring or summer. Kentucky asks if there's a national take on placing fly ash in reclamation plans, OSM states there is not, field offices make that decision on whether or not to accept fly ash.

7. MSHA Jurisdiction at AML Project sites (AML Enhancement Rule and Title IV Project Sites)
OSMRE has participated in at least 5 meetings with MSHA. The issue is does MSHA have jurisdiction on AML sites where coal is being incidentally extracted? MSHA is still working on details.
One quick update from PA, they have a project which involves about 1 acres of coal extraction, MSHA came on site and said they will be taking jurisdiction, however MSHA field staff then met with the district office and realized that deliberations were on-going and that until those talks were finished at the national level MSHA would not be taking jurisdiction on any new sites. Therefore, MSHA advised that they would not take jurisdiction at the PA project.
8. NEPA and Categorical Exclusion (CE) update (follow-up)
Yolande mentioned that last year shortly after starting work with OSM that CE forms are out of date. PA states that the issue is more than with just water lines, but also includes 1 house subsidence control projects, feels that CE's should be looked at on an area basis rather than one structure because one small subsidence could affect more than one structure but a CE could not be used because the area was over one acre. The CE form is outdated, inconsistent and needs to be redone at some point.
9. Update on Progress of OSM Priority Documentation and Cost Estimation Teams
OSM is attempting to update and stream line the process of priority documentation and cost estimation through AML 1. The goal is complete the process sometime in FY16. There were working groups working on the issue but the loss of Tara Shifflett has caused delays.
10. E-AMLIS Reporting Issues
Reports and data extraction from E-AMLIS has been inaccurate, some duplicate numbers and some numbers are under reported. OSM is aware of the issue and is working with contractor to trouble shoot the problem. OSM asks states and tribes to manually check the data that has been input in to the system. OSM asks states and tribes to report problems as they arise to both the DC and regional offices. PA says many states and tribes do not maintain separate data bases and they are the ones most at risk regarding inaccurate data. OSM states it is a high priority issues to make fixes in AMLIS. PA states for purposes of reauthorization this is a huge issue to get fixed, and that under reported numbers make AML programs nationwide look bad. OSM states that the issue is problematic for them as well because they too, are also required to generate AMLIS report to OMB and Congress. They hope to have fixes completed sometime in FY16.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Potential NAAMLIP AML Award-Non-Coal and Non-Title IV Funded Projects-Jeryl Gardner
This idea was originally presented at the Alabama meeting in March. Nevada like other non-coal states have funding sources and limited reclamation award potential. They are proposing a new award category. Wants to introduce a site if the category were to be established. It's the Rio Tinto mine site in northern Elko County near the Idaho border, copper mine in the 1930's

and 1940's. Mining was restarted in the 1970's as a head leach facility, there has been no action since 1978 or 1979. Tailings contaminants include copper, lead, zinc, low pH, roughly 800,000 cubic yards total. Went through a CERCLA like process, in 2012 Record of Decision was issued, and in 2013 a consent decree was lodged in the court. Construction began in 2013, 50% of the tailing were removed and placed in an onsite repository. 2014 completed the majority of work, 85% and 90% complete, water treatment was utilized and discharge met water quality standards, 2015 all tailing removal was completed. Water treatment stopped. Long term monitoring will be at least 5 years, probably 20 years before receiving streams are back to pre-mining conditions. PA states internal discussions have been held, if we move forward our Public Information and Education committee will develop guidelines and a nomination form, it would then be circulated similar to our scholarship and nominations would be solicited, and then it could be awarded at the annual conference. Cost is small to produce an award, maybe \$200 per year. PA suggests the award should maybe include both non-coal (quarries, etc.) and hardrock projects. Murray suggests asking OSM to see if the award can be included in their awards program. PA doubts OSM would accept including this new award because it's outside of the program they fund. KY makes a motion to task the Public Information and Hardrock committees to consider the options and make a proposal in Sacramento complete with details, Colorado seconds, motion carries unanimously (Kansas abstains).

Other Federal AML Program Updates

1. NPS-(John Burghardt)

Partnered with 12 different states, and collaborated with many others, and thanks the association for the cooperation. Inventory and Assessment report put out last summer states the need for funding. 37,000 features were examined and 133 nation park units, total of 407 NPS unit now across the country. The report drew a lot of attention and they are hopeful to receive future funding in future federal funding. There is a \$5 million line item in the budget for AML. The report asked for \$141 million over 12 years to reclaim 3800 features that need attention. The report is available on the website and hard copies are also available.

2. BLM-(Larry Jackson and Myoshi Stith)

Larry introduces Myoshi Stith as a new employee to BLM, she will be working with him. They have 3 different funding sources, HAZMAT program (\$70 million annually), DOI central hazmat fund, AML fund. The budget has been fairly stable since 2011 at between \$14 and \$17 million. Larry and Myoshi have both been contracted several times regarding the Gold King spill by both the media and congressional staff, they have provided database records to both. They are working on a GIS system to deal with FOIA requests. Working to be more organized in terms of emergency response requests.

Larry says tough questions make you rethink priorities. Number 1 thing he sees is to establish an outreach within the department and outside the department. DOE uranium initiative, a report was submitted, BLM worked with DOE and EPA on the report. Serious funding was made available in 2009. 6,321 physical safety hazards have been closed. 28,723 sites and features have been inventoried. 8435 acres of remediation associated with water quality. BLM is also monitoring and maintaining about 5000 sites. All work is being done with a \$16.7 million budget.

Break from 10:30AM to 10:45AM

OLD BUSINESS (continued)

2. Sequestration Update (Status of OMB Response)

IMCC and NAAMLPL met with OMB to discuss whether AML funds should be exempt from sequestration. Ultimately OMB stated they did not have the authority to exempt the funds and that the authority rested with the committees in congress that have jurisdiction. A written response from OMB was not sent until the Governor of Alabama got involved. The written response was sent to NAAMLPL members. The plan moving forward is to schedule meetings with the House Budget Committee who has the authorities necessary to exempt the AML fund, it will require a legislative fix. NAAMLPL expects sequestration to remain the same FY17. Stay tuned for new developments.

3. OSM Government Efficiencies Workgroups-Group Discussion of the Results/Progress

NAAMLPL is encouraged that OSM is considering recommendations and appears to be moving forward with some implementation.

4. MSHA Jurisdiction at AML Project sites (AML Enhancement Rule Sites and Title IV Funded AML Projects)-Group Discussion

Most states are seeing that MSHA is not trying to assert jurisdiction. No real action by MSHA has occurred since the last business meeting. IMCC suggests not engaging with MSHA until prior to the Sacramento meeting. IMCC feels MSHA oversight will ultimately have to be fixed statutorily.

5. Potential for NAAMLPL to Develop an AML Poster-Jim Bishop

There is a recommendation to work with IMCC to produce about 1500 posters that highlight AML work around the country, the cost would be around \$3900. IMCC says they have an education workgroup that is willing to work with the NAAMLPL to design and produce the poster. IMCC suggests the poster contain information about AML programs, NAAMLPL, and sites around the country. IMCC says NAAMLPL should decide on if the poster should be for advocacy or educational purposes or a combination of both. Consensus is that the poster should target both education and advocacy.

Kansas makes a motion to authorize the Public Relations Committee to spend up to \$4000 to develop a poster which focuses on both advocacy and education, seconded by Kentucky, motion carries unanimously. The current plan is to have a poster which is available for review by the time NAAMLPL meets in Montana at the annual conference.

IMCC UPDATE

1. OSM and DOI Budget/Appropriations

At 10AM this morning the Senate passed a continuing resolution, the only thing it had attached to it was enhanced funding to fight wild fires, primarily in the west. It passed by strong majority, 72-23. It would extend funding through December 11th. The house is expected to take this measure up this afternoon and it is expected to pass by enough votes to make it to the President's desk. Funding is expected to be at last year's level which actually goes back to FY12. Senator McConnell hopes to bring some appropriations bills to the floor over the course of the next several weeks before the Dec. 11th cutoff in hopes of forcing a vote by the Democratic minority. There is full expectation that they will vote against it because many of the bills adhere to sequestration limits for discretionary, domestic, and military funding. Republicans would like to keep those sequestration targets in place, basically setting up a political fight to make a case and take a stand.

There are ongoing negotiations between Boehner, McConnell, and the President about a budget deal. Boehner would like to see something passed by December 11th, although it is not likely. Democratic leadership has now been brought in these discussions. This is not an omnibus appropriations bill like in the past, but rather something that would address budget targets like sequestration to perhaps move away from that approach under the Budget Act of 2011 in to something different in terms of how the government will be funded for not only 2016 but also 2017, a two year deal. Likelihood of that happening is limited. They will have to enact some kind of final resolution for funding for the balance of the fiscal year by Dec. 11th or do another CR and punt until after the first of the year. Since there is no election in November that will impact Congress or the Administration the dynamic is different than last year so there is flexibility to push some of this off until next year although it won't work well to do so.

2. Update on the AML Grants Sequestration Issue

Exemption is not likely, and sequestration is still the order of the day. Percentage of sequestration will be announced soon.

3. SMCRA Legislation and Other possible legislation-Mining Law Reform, including Hardrock AML program, and Latest Good Samaritan Bills

Several oversight hearings have occurred regarding Gold King. Good Sam legislation is expected to be introduced as early as next week. Two hearings are tentatively scheduled for Good Sam and Hardrock AML, one by the House Natural Resources Committee (Energy and Mineral Resources subcommittee) for Oct. 21st, and one by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Oct. 22, also on Good Sam. Both committees share jurisdiction and the bill is structured to assure joint jurisdiction. We fully expect IMCC and NAAMLNP will be approached to supply at least one witness for at least one of the hearings. We will want to submit a statement for both hearings, will be working with the hardrock committee and NAAMLNP leadership to accomplish that. The Natural Resources Committee hearing will be a legislative hearing. The Transportation and Infrastructure hearing will likely be an oversight hearing, although that could change. Each hearing will have a different flavor with different witnesses.

Mining Law Reform legislation is unlikely to move at the same pace as Good Sam but increased attention is being paid to it in light of the Gold King spill.

Other legislation related to SMCRA, we know there have been a couple bills introduced to provide relief for the pension fund for the United Mine Workers. Two bills have been introduced, one in the Senate, SB 1714 introduced by Mr. Manchin of West Virginia and another by Mr. McKinley also of West Virginia, HR 2403. The significance of these bills from our perspective is that they would allow the use of general treasury fund money to help shore up the UMW pension fund using the difference between existing treasury payments and the cap which is \$490 million. Given that the existing treasury payments are around \$150 million, that difference would be available to fund the UMW. Neither bill has seen action of late, haven't heard much from the pension fund folks, other than the fund is in trouble and they need relief. They hope to keep the bills moving and have also expressed a strong desire to keep this separate and distinct from any reauthorization effort for Title IV. Continuing to monitor for potential action.

4. CERCLA 108(b) financial responsibility update

There have been efforts by several environmental groups to fast track EPA into moving the rule. There was webinar held by EPA yesterday; an additional conference call is scheduled for

October 21st between EPA and States where a more direct conversation about the implications of this rule for the States will be had. The EPA has laid out a framework for what the rule is going to look like. EPA specifically addresses how this rule is going to interact with existing State regulatory requirements on financial requirements for the hardrock mining industry. EPA views the rule as separate and distinct from what the States are doing and also separate from what BLM and USFS are doing. Their rule is primarily focused on the release of hazardous substances, how they see that as different from what we do is still a mystery. States are still hoping for more clarity. The rule is going to be very broad. There are very small subsets of mines that will be exempt from the rule. It not only affects hardrock but potentially sand and gravel and other types of minerals. IMCC and States are still looking for clarification. We continue to be very mindful of the potential for this rule to preempt State financial assurance requirements but there is recognition of that in the framework and the need to have ongoing discussions and resolutions of the matter. We did not learn a lot of new information from the framework but we do know that EPA continues to have a certain mindset about how they want to do this rule and how it's going to affect other State and Federal agencies.

5. IMCC Contract for Services with NAAML P - (Review of Services Rendered in 2014-2015)
Greg Conrad passed around an overview of what has transpired under the contract over the last 6 months.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Other New Business (Fall Mtg. Format Proposal and Voting/Consensus Discussion)
Eric Cavazza brought up the topic of holding the annual business meeting during the 3rd week of September to avoid conflict with the end of the federal fiscal year, or possibly in October at the beginning of the fiscal although that could potentially conflict with IMCC's business meeting.

A discussion was also held to consider reformatting the business meeting to begin after lunch on Wednesday and finishing late Thursday afternoon. This would allow NAAML P members to attend Wednesday technical presentations and allow extra meeting time if there was an agenda that required more than an 8 hour meeting.

ERIC DIXON PRESENTATION

1. Abandoned Mine Land Program: A Policy Analysis for Central Appalachia and the Nation

The AML Report completed by Eric Dixon of the Appalachian Law Center can be found online at the following link:

<http://appalachianlawcenter.org/abandoned-mine-land-policy/>

The actual business meeting presentation that Eric Dixon delivered just before lunch can be found at the following link:

https://prezi.com/en2zoitg3wcj/aml-policy-presentation-naamlp-2015/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

2. Presentation on the AML Trust Fund, the Current Allocation Formula, and Effects if AMLER Approved/Implemented-Ryan Ellis

Ryan Ellis made a presentation and led a 41 minute discussion regarding the AML trust fund, the current allocation formula, and effects of AMLER if it were to be approved and implemented. On October 5, 2015, Eric Cavazza distributed to all NAAMLPLP members Ryan's presentation titled "Report on AML Fund for AML Association" as well as a spreadsheet titled "Historic Coal Projections with and without AMLER". If there are any members who did not receive the handouts please contact Justin Ireys or Chuck Williams.

3. Follow-up and Discussion from the June 10th Special NAAMLPLP Meeting in St. Louis, MO

- Finalize and/or Amend NAAMLPLP Reauthorization Position Paper

This was a very short discussion led by Brian Bradley of PA. We discussed the NAAMLPLP position paper titled "Analysis of SMCRA Title IV Reauthorization Legislative Options". The paper was originally developed at the special meeting in St. Louis in June of 2015.

The topics which were discussed in St. Louis were reorganized in the documents based on level of importance to the Association. The first two pages are ranked by importance directly related to reauthorization. On the third and fourth pages are issues rated as high importance to the Association but best addressed through other avenues other than through reauthorization. The last page was looking at issues proposed by OSM in the President's budget. The next step is to continue to formulate the reauthorization package. There are still issues to flesh out such as coming to consensus on fee amount, changing minimum program funding, and whether or not we would support a change to the funding formula.

The paper is available upon request from either Justin Ireys or Chuck Williams.

It was suggested that another special mid-year meeting take place to further hone down the reauthorization issues, but the meeting shouldn't include the full membership, but more of a small working group. It is suggested that the working group bring refined ideas to the winter meeting in Sacramento.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

1. SMCRA Reauthorization Committee-Brian Bradley/Murray Balk

The committee met on Sunday for two hours and discussed the position paper, the findings from Eric Dixon's report and suggests all NAAMLPLP members read at least the executive summary.

There was a general discussion regarding a hardrock fee, the consensus was that it should not be considered as part of the re-authorization effort, but that the Hardrock Committee should continue to develop a position.

Kansas expresses disappointment that the importance of minimum program funding level is listed as TBD in the position paper and feels that it should be considered as high importance. It was pointed out that that minimum program funding could be increased without legislative change. Minimum program states concur that program funding should be considered a high priority issue and that it should be considered as part of reauthorization. Funding level can be determined within the next 6 months to a year.

The discussion then proceeded to re-review of each of the TBD items listed in the position paper to see if there were any changes of position between the St. Louis meeting and this

meeting. The discussion then bogged down due to such a large group and again circled back around to creating a smaller group. It was suggested to down size the group from approximately 30 people to between 8 and 10 people. The group needs to consist of people from all regions, tribes, minimum program states, etc.

IMCC makes 3 points.....

1. The Association has been working off of a timeline that was laid out by IMCC about 6 to 9 months ago about how to be prepared for a reauthorization effort working back from September, 2021. That timeline appeared to be potentially impacted and accelerated because of what was happening with AMLER, but the momentum has begun to wane, there have been no champions as of yet, the administration seems to be wallowing in terms of their plans, so consequently we're moving to the point where AMLER is no longer driving our effort, AMLER is still alive and viable but we are now in a wait and see mode in terms of what may or may not happen even with all the press we've seen in DC and Appalachia, it is now a separate and ongoing initiative. The Association has done everything we can do to respond to AMLER and to position ourselves well and some of the input we've provide is still hanging out there as well, which is thereby affecting or impacting whatever next step may be appropriate for us. Reauthorization is now in separate world of its own which is where it was from the outset which provides us more time to do the work that we've been moving forward with but not as frenetically as before. We are back on course or where we were which was preparing for oversight hearings potentially as early as next year.
2. The reauthorization committee now needs to wrap up all the studies and create a document that summarizes our side of the story much like Eric Dixon did with his study. We need to create a notebook to be used for congressional briefings, for briefing of our own constituents within our states. It should be a complete, comprehensive, accurate assessment of how we see the world. We are 60% complete, but additional work is still needed. Ryan's work should be included. Also need to create additional charts and information. It would be the equivalent to the document that OSM created back in the mid 2000's.
3. Define our position statement, define what we believe a reauthorization bill should look like. The Association needs to begin to convert our paper/chart in to a legislative position paper which will then be converted in to a legislative proposal with actual legislative language that will amend the 2006 amendments to SMCRA.

The Association will now establish a smaller working group. The current group is at 13 people. The new group will be represented by..... Brian Bradley of PA, Murray Balk of KS, Alan Edwards of WY, Travis Parsons of WV, Mike Mueller (or a rep from IN (Mark Stacey) if Mike opts out), Greg Conrad of IMCC, Bill Dodd of ND, Glenda Marsh of CA, and Madeline Roanhorse of Navajo. This smaller working represents eastern, mid-continent, and western state, tribes, certified states, and minimum program states. (Editor's note: Eric Cavazza was also added to the workgroup after the Election of Officers was completed.)

- Inventory Subcommittee
- Expenditures Subcommittee
- Combined Benefit Fund (CBF) Subcommittee
- "What happens if not reauthorized" Subcommittee

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

1. Other New Business (Fall Mtg. Format Proposal and Voting/Consensus Discussion) (Continued):

Kansas makes a motion to amend the conference policy to not schedule any conferences that coincide with the end of the Federal Fiscal year and also to begin the business meeting at 1pm on Wednesday and continue through the end of the day Thursday (if necessary), seconded by Colorado. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Reauthorization Consensus

The Association's President poses the question of how to reach a consensus on the reauthorization position. The main question is how to resolve a dispute if a consensus cannot be reached. The by-laws are not clear, it was recommended to review IMCC by-laws. This discussion was left unresolved, with a goal of revisiting the issue in Sacramento.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION (Continued)

2. Finance Committee-Murray Balk

The committee met on Tuesday and recommends to increase the payment to IMCC from \$7,500 to \$10,000 every six months or \$20,000 annually. Kentucky makes a motion to accept the increase for IMCC, seconded by Alabama, motion passes unanimously.

There will also continue to be 3 scholarships, one for each of the three regions in the country.

3. Research Committee-Bob Scott

No research money, no report or update.

4. Training Committee-Bob Scott

Bob encourages all states to fill out surveys accurately because that is how OSM bases the class selection on. Survey is generally due in May or June. NTTIP and TIPS committees have voted unanimously to merge in to one steering committee. OSM is looking to recruit new instructors.

The states are asking OSM to establish an annual grants training class.

5. Scholarship Committee-Mike Garner

There will be 3 scholarships for \$2000 each, travel will also be included to conference. The flyer for the 2016 scholarship will be available in about 2 weeks and will be posted on the website. May 31st is the deadline for the applications to be submitted.

6. Minimum Program Committee-Justin Ireys/Mike Mueller

All of the minimum program states support increased funding to \$5 million annually as well as a 15 year reauthorization period.

7. Public Information and Education Committee-Jim Bishop

Looking for new before/after photos for website. Web domain fee is due. Oklahoma is looking for another state willing to host the webpage. Utah stepped and offered to host the website. Diane will continue to post new information and updates to the website.

8. Hardrock Committee-Glenda Marsh/Steve Fluke

They held a productive committee meeting last Tuesday, only 6 of 13 members participated. Gold King was the major focus of discussion. Glenda summarized the meeting and that summary is available upon request. The rest of the time Glenda provided details of the upcoming winter meeting in Sacramento, CA.

9. National Coal Mining Geospatial Committee-Mike Sharp

The committee is gaining momentum now that staffing levels are up. A GIS symbology set is being created for SMCRA programs.

Currently evaluation a program called HydroCAD for hydrologic evaluations.

The committee is looking to see if there may be a program that can be used in place of Galena Slope Stability.

Earth Vision is so expensive that the committee is currently looking at various replacement options.

The committee is also considering various mobile computing apps to be used with tablets, smart phones, etc.

The committee is also looking to develop an online global mapper training class.

10. Membership Committee

A few meetings back there were 4 states that could potentially become members, that is currently on hold, however if a hardrock bill was to pass that could

FUTURE MEETINGS UPDATE

1. Winter 2016 Sacramento, California (Glenda Marsh)

March 8-10, 2016. Meeting room and hotel has been secured.

2. Fall 2016 Bozeman, Montana (Autumn Coleman)

September 25-29, 2016. The Grand Tree Inn has been selected. There are surrounding hotels that can accommodate conference attendees if needed. Autumn requests that reservations be made as soon as possible. Website is now live, a Facebook page has been created. Wyoming will be hosting a preconference tour. Tour: 1. Drilling project at Red Lodge; 2. Cook City tailings project; 3. West side of Yellow Stone, Old Faithful; 4. Butte and Berkley Pit and Mining museum

3. Winter 2017 Glenwood Springs, Colorado (Steve Renner)

Shooting for pre spring break in early March. No hotel or dates have been selected.

4. Fall 2017 Lexington, Kentucky (Bob Scott)

September 24-29, 2017. Horse farms and bourbon! Free shuttle from airport to hotel (Hyatt Regency).

5. Winter 2018 Texas (Mark Rhodes)

Still working on location and date, will provide an update in Sacramento.

6. Fall 2018 Virginia (Richard Davis)

Have not yet determined location. Sunday September 23-27, 2018. Locations considered are Bristol, Richmond, and Williamsburg.

7. Winter 2019 Utah

St. George, Utah.

8. Fall 2019 Pennsylvania

TBD

Election of Officers

1. Solicit Nominations and Elect Association Officers for 2016

President: Kentucky nominates Chuck Williams, seconded by Montana. Motion passes unanimously.

Vice President: Wyoming nominates Justin Ireys, seconded by Alabama. Motion passes unanimously.

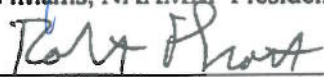
Secretary-Treasurer: Alabama nominates Bob Scott, seconded by Pennsylvania. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to adjourn, seconded (audio was not clear as to who made the motion and seconded)

Signed:



Chuck Williams, NAAML P President



Bob Scott, NAAML P Secretary/Treasurer

Date: 02/26/16

Date: 2/26/2016