# MEETING MINUTES 2019 WINTER BUSINESS MEETING ST. GEORGE, UTAH February 6, 2019

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The NAAMLP Annual Business Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Autumn Coleman. Acknowledged Utah staff for organizing meeting in such a beautiful setting.

#### **PROXIES**

Marvin Ellis (IN) for Illinois; Robert Toole (OK) for Kansas

#### ROLL CALL BY SECRETARY TREASURER – MEMBERS PRESENT

AL (Chuck Williams, Jeff Butler, Dustin Morin, Les Kearley); AK (Justin Ireys); AR (Jim Stephens, Ben Reynolds, Mo Shafii); CO (Jeff Graves, Tara Tafi); Hopi (Norman Honie); IN (Marvin Ellis); IA (Susan Kozak); KY (Bob Scott); LA (Abby Alkire); MD (Mike Garner, Tim Miller); MS (Teague Duncan); MO (Mike Mueller, Austin Rehagen); MT (Autumn Coleman, Bill Snoddy); Navajo (Madeline Roanhorse); NV (Robert Ghiglier); NM (Mike Tompson); ND (William Dodd); OH (Mike Bowden, Jim Bishop); OK (Robert Toole, Mike Sharp); PA (Eric Cavazza, Brian Bradley, John Stefanko); TX (Adam Levy); UT (Steve Fluke, Dana Dean); VA (Lesa Baker); WV (Travis Parsons); WY (Alan Edwards, Dave Pendleton, Don Newton, Lindsey French)

#### **ATTENDING BY PHONE:**

TN (Trevor Martin); BLM, Utah State Office (Carrie Snyder)

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT FROM MEETING:**

AZ, CA, Crow, ID, IL, KS

#### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

IMCC (Greg Conrad, Tom Clarke, Ryan Ellis); Bruce Stover (Colorado citizen); Foundation for PA Watersheds (Louise Dunlap); WPCAMR PA AML Campaign (Anne Daymut)

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Wyoming moved to approve the agenda, West Virginia seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER, 2018 MEETING IN WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA</u>

Minutes were distributed to the membership in advance by email. Alabama moved to approve the minutes, Wyoming seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT (Susan Kozak)

Beginning Balance (September 2, 2018) = \$68,772.37; Current Balance (February 1, 2019) = \$86,040.95; Major expenditures since 2018 Annual Business Meeting were Six-month services to IMCC (\$15,000), Scholarship/Travel fees (\$8,941.26), recording equipment (\$1,187). Major Deposits include Virginia Conference closeout (\$40,675.20) and publication fees (\$2,000). Fees are still needed from 4 programs (\$1,000). The Treasurer's Report was distributed to meeting attendees. Pennsylvania moved to accept Treasurer's report, seconded by Louisiana, motion carried unanimously.

#### **TOPICS**

### 1. UMWA pensions bill from Sen. Manchin (S.27) – Presentation by IMCC. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Ryan (IMCC) summarized the proposed bill and referenced a memo sent out earlier. Senator Manchin's goal is to help mine workers to make sure their pension funds are solvent. This would add capacity for pension funding through Treasury funds and using AML fund interest. The bill also increases the annual limit on transfers from the AML Trust Fund from \$490 million to \$750 million. Major concern for our grants in the past was regarding the cap but language in the bill indicates reductions would now fall under UMWA and not affect grants, so want to make sure that language remains. The bill also extends black lung excise tax at current rates for another 10 years. Another proposed bill just extends the black lung tax.

#### **Ouestions:**

Prognosis on bill support? There is support for extending black lung excise tax, more limited support for pensions. This is a high priority for Senator Manchin.

Will it make fee extension more difficult? This is something they will consider together due to the struggling coal industry. Various coal industry legacy issues up in the air.

Could this be a good thing if they are using our interest and better for our future? Might be incentive for UMWA to support reauthorization. But % of interest they need from our fund has been dwindling. Likely, UMWA wants to keep their issues separate from reauthorization. Bill currently a democratic bill and not bipartisan.

# 2. Hardrock AML + 1872 Mining Law Reform + Hardrock Good Samaritan - Presentation by IMCC. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP - lead by Jeff Graves.

Not a lot of action yet, early in Congress. In past, these 3 issues are married together. Need for hardrock AML pretty well known, as well as Good Samaritan. New chair has introduced these topics in the past. Incoming staff for HNRC well versed on these issues and it is high priority for bill to receive more bipartisan support. Need for hardrock funding is not controversial but where to generate fee is. Industry alarmed by possible fee. Looking at similar structure to SMCRA – federal program distributing funds to state programs, similar priority designations. One unknown is what the hardrock inventory really looks like.

Mining Law reform not popular among republicans.

Hardrock Good Samaritan – stalled for over 20 years. A few new attempts on ideas over the last few years. Expect something introduced in house – Senator Gardner (CO) has been on forefront of topic. Discussion:

Jeff (CO) - What's the common definition of hard rock? Many different definitions in conversation but could bridge the gap between eastern states, western states, and tribes. Ryan – most bills focused on locatable minerals (some include uranium, some don't). It has been suggested to leave definition to BLM, but this is a big topic – what falls in this definition. Would we want significantly different treatment based on locatable vs. industrial?

Jeff (CO) - would be helpful to provide inventory on non-coal needs in states, if you have that information. More broad based than just standard western definition. If you have some numbers, Jeff would like to pull that together for better national perspective.

# 3. Coal Good Samaritan - Community Reclamation Partnerships Act (CRPA) - Presentation by IMCC and Pennsylvania AML. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP

This is a coal focused Good Samaritan bill for Title 4, developed with HNRC last session and discusses responsibilities under the Clean Water Act. The bill was reintroduced in the House this year and is on HNR minority staff radar.

The language focuses on states doing water treatment projects to help comply with the Clean Water Act. Currently, permits are so restrictive for treatment at AML sites; there is liability for any

pollution not reduced. For state or NGO by doing project, you become liable for site if not cleaned up to permit standards. The bill intends to clarify what the state responsibilities are for AML treatment sites and have avenue in place to allow NGO to assist with projects. State programs could enter an MOU with EPA, which outlines how to handle water treatment and standards to achieve, including contingencies, would have effect of allowing permit shield to take affect and not have citizen suits.

IMCC key question – Are we comfortable to continue to support in this congress?

Eric (PA) – motion for NAAMLP to, in general, supports efforts to develop a Federal Coal Good Samaritan program. **Motion from PA, second MT. Motion passes.** 

Eric (PA) – developed 3 briefings for their congressional staff. These have been emailed out to the membership and could be used by other states.

Allan (WY) – PA brief discusses how many emergencies they have had in previous years. NAAMLP might want to package a summary for all programs to help with messaging point regarding budget planning and the impact of unexpected emergencies. Mike Garner volunteered to work on this item.

# 4. IMCC Hill Visits, Update on Legislative Outlook, General and re. Reauthorization – Presentation by IMCC. O&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

IMCC spent two days meeting with new HRC staff earlier this year to hear priorities and discuss reauthorization. The reception was very good and they felt good connections were made. These meetings started the ball rolling on reauthorization. Most of the staff respected the importance and value of going forward. It was a good opportunity to tell what program is all about. Republican staff mentioned the importance of AML vs the health of the industry. There was discussion regarding industry position. The RECLAIM Act was also part of the conversations. A booklet of briefing overview materials developed by IMCC and NAAMLP was distributed to the legislative staff.

# 5. Reauthorization Scenarios – Presentation by IMCC – Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Greg (IMCC) has been working with congressional staff to help understanding regarding different possible legislation scenarios and the impact for the area they represent. Many concerned on implication of this as "tax" on industry. We have two people as our champions. Need to find some strong cosponsors.

Next steps – referenced handout on potential AML vehicles. This document reflects current conversations with congressional staff.

Discussion regarding timing of RECLAIM vs reauthorization and which will take center stage. The key is to make people understand the 2 ideas and their differences. IMCC has stressed that the last 2006 amendments took 10 years to get in place. Greg feels we are on track with strategy. Discussion followed regarding reauthorization priorities – emergency funding, minimum program funding, RECLAIM and offset funding.

Greg (IMCC) – summarized priorities: 15 year extension, delay of disbursement of unappropriated balance, minimum program increase to \$5 million annually, emergency funding restored, expand AMD set-aside program, return sequestered money, and confirm a sequestration exemption. We would want report language with this bill to clarify funding remains for certified programs.

#### Coleman called for a 15 minute break at 10:25.

Eric (PA) made a motion to endorse the priorities for reauthorization (15 year extension of fee collection, delay disbursement of unappropriated balance to coincide with 15 year extension, raise minimum programs to \$5M annually, restore OSMRE funding of emergencies, expand

AMD set-aside program, return sequestered money, and confirm a sequestration exemption) as outlined by Greg (IMCC) and no other changes to current law. **Motion from PA, WV second. Unanimous approval**. Clarification, minimum program no less than \$5M.

# 6. RECLAIM Act Update and Potential Interaction with Reauthorization – Presentation by IMCC – Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Ryan (IMCC) reviewed the current draft of the RECLAIM Act. There have been some good changes made to the document but still points of concern. The focus is still on projects with enhanced economic revitalization aspects and leveraging other sources of funding. As currently proposed, could push site selection away from safety to economics and partners. There is still flexibility for waivers to do P1 or P2 projects, but concern on how OSMRE would interpret the language and how flexible they might be on waivers.

In proposed language, each state would receive funding for first few years based on historic coal and fees from time period. But then, states would only receive what they successfully committed and then extra funding would be doled out by OSM to states based upon need. Many association members are concerned that states could lose out on funding based on ability to get it spent. Perhaps language could be added to clarify what "committed" means and if the ability to spend was outside of your control. Be open to capture some RECLAIM ideas into reauthorization but flesh out idea that AML already is an economic benefit. Long-term economic benefit does not come from a 5 year RECLAIM Act but from long-term AML program reauthorization.

Discussion followed regarding RECLAIM vs reauthorization timing vs pilot program. General consensus that RECLAIM does not make sense as we approach the end of fee collection. Most association members could be supportive of some sort of RECLAIM act as long as there is a simple fee extension, if RECLAIM gains momentum first.

# 7. Economic Benefits of AML + AMD Funding Proposal – Presentation by Montana and Wyoming. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Autumn (MT) mentioned that Ryan (IMCC) had requested state examples of economic ties to reclamation. If you have examples, please send to IMCC and copy Autumn. There was a quick poll and MD, OH, WV and PA has some studies. Suggestion to possibly link on Our Works Not Done and maybe on NAAMLP website.

# 8. Reauthorization Legislation DRAFT – Presentation by IMCC. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Alan (WY) presented a thought piece (previously emailed to membership) discussing the economic benefits of AMD treatment. Discussion regarding economic benefit goals of RECLAIM Act vs western state's needs. Idea to support RECLAIM, if needed, to extend fee collection but also have small diversion from trust fund for AMD work/economic benefits. This could preserve the trust fund for longer period of time and make sure the funding goes to the programs with greatest need. Discussion followed and determined idea a bit premature (not ready to share with others as a document) but should flesh out with steering committee and be prepared if RECLAIM is the avenue that moves forward.

#### Coleman called for lunch at 11:55. Reconvene at 1:00.

# 9. Overall Readiness for IMCC/NAAMLP on Reauthorization – Presentation by IMCC. Discussion with NAAMLP. And IMCC AML Fact Sheet

Ryan (IMCC) reviewed the AML fact sheet created by IMCC. It is a high level view of what AML is and why it is important. This is part of the congressional briefing book. The briefing book could be a good model for what programs might do for themselves. IMCC can share the documents.

IMCC called Congressman Rodgers office over lunch for an update. There is a push for introduction of bills and ideally legislative hearings (not an oversight hearing). At hearings, hope for time slot for a state presentation (oral and written testimony).

IMCC is working to coordinate congressional staff briefings and it would be helpful to have some NAAMLP members in attendance as constituents (early April?). Coordinate with action at state level – ideal to see something like the MT hearing (where a broad range of interests testified) in each state. Resolutions from County Commissioners are very valuable. At this time, we need momentum to build at state level.

Data needs: information on trust fund balances, when will reclamation be done (cost projection), how much can we do in 15 years, rate sites being added vs reclaimed on inventory, how to implement some of our proposals (increase minimum program, etc.).

Round table discussion on state efforts.

IMCC has had conversations with NMA on the subject of reauthorization and followed-up with a letter responding to NMA assertions. No response yet.

# 10. OurWorksNotDone, Status and Encouraging Participation – Presentation by Eric Cavazza. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Alan (WY) It is extremely important to get each state updated on the website and keep new information going. They have now added social media ability. After today's discussion, they will add emergency and economic reports/data.

Eric (PA) – They are uploading some new videos and planning more.

• **FAQs** – Presentation by Ryan Ellis. Discussion from NAAMLP.

# 11. OIG Report re. Certified Programs Update – Presentation by Montana and Wyoming. Potential pitfalls to uncertified states. Q&A and Comments from NAAMLP.

Autumn (MT) – They were planning a meeting with OSMRE in DC but it did not happen. WY and MT are working with the Caspar field office to meet recommendations of the report and the goal is to get a response from OSMRE that all is good and then report back to OIG to close out.

#### 12. AML Funding Flow Chart – Presentation by Ryan Ellis

The document was previously sent by Ryan (IMCC). It is a handy tool to understand funding for stakeholders. There was discussion on who owns the document and if it can be posted to a website.

# 13. Press Inquiries and Communication Plans – Presentation by Autumn Coleman and Ryan Ellis. Do we need to develop speaking points for the press? Discussion from NAAMLP.

This was recommended as a steering team item – some bullet points have been developed.

#### SUMMIT GROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 1 **Data Reporting Group** (Brian Bradley)

They are working on standardized eAMLIS reporting and using the data to have annual milestone reports for the fact sheets. Anybody with ideas and energy are welcome to help with the effort to find different ways to use the data and present it graphically.

The workgroup is working with OSMRE and financial data from FBMS but there are complications due to how different programs enter their data. They have validated the data with OSMRE and every penny is accounted for. Current data shows a 9% average for Admin/Unassigned nationally.

The workgroup has given language ideas on footnotes to OSMRE to better explain data – one example is regarding the green book data and that it is not a comprehensive picture of all spending categories.

Mike (OH) - A 5 year average has been completed for cost by keyword. Brian (PA) – This is needed due to outdated cost estimates in AMLIS for uncompleted. This can be used to see how

accurate the data in AMLIS is currently.

#### Presentation by Mike Bowden (Ohio) on eAMLIS queries and 5-year data for State Annual Reports.

Mike (OH) – Demonstrated how to use the query functions in eAMLIS to develop a 5 year average for PADs and State Annual Reports. He had a power point with steps.

#### Coleman called for a 15 minute break at 3:07.

#### 2 **AML-1** (Autumn Coleman)

The group hasn't met in quite a while. Autumn will plan a check-in now that the shutdown is over. They are close to finalizing items.

#### 3 **NEPA** (Travis Parsons)

The group went several months without calls. There was a call in mid-January without OSM. The Categorical Exclusion updates rests with OSMRE. A few other items mentioned: updated NEPA manual coming out soon; changes to the USFW IPac search; potential of regional programmatic agreements or MOUs for broader use.

#### 4 Messaging (Eric Cavazza and Alan Edwards)

18 association members are participating on Our Works Not Done website and a reminder was recently sent out to get more on board.

The recently finished FAQ document has been divided in subcategories for easier reference.

At the recent IMCC meeting, they discussed doing some videos featuring impacted citizens, partners, and contractors – real people who vote. PA is developing a video around an emergency (showed video). They also plan on doing a video at a ribbon cutting for a treatment system.

If you see things on the Our Works Not Done website that need improvements, let them know.

Autumn (MT) – has been working with OSMRE communication office and they are looking for stories regarding emergencies for social media – send to OSMRE in timely manner.

Bill (MT) – It would be nice to have room for more than 3 news events per program. Not just videos but print articles.

• **Vision Keepers Proposal** (Dustin Morin and Eric Cavazza) No funds for this, Dustin will follow-up with them.

#### 5 **e-AMLIS** (Travis Parsons)

The group was slow getting started but now Keith Clossen (OSMRE) is making significant improvements. The requested disclaimer has been added. Improvements include a ticking clock for how long until you log off (1 hour), truncated coordinates to single decimal point, updated security on background databases, and they plan to do some training.

Mike (OH) –one day training session in Appalachia as trial run. Keith is looking at dates for other regions in spring/summer.

# ANNE DAYMUT - WPCAMR WATERSHED COORDINATOR – NGO Perspective on Reauthorization or AML Legislation Discussion and O&A from NAAMLP

Anne had a power point presentation. Her group represents 24 counties with bituminous coal in the western PA region and there is a sister organization in the east. Anne discussed some of the work the campaign has already completed and how to customize your advocacy efforts. They produced a fact sheet – similar to ours – and it has their 4 main priorities on the back, slightly different than ours but could be tweaked based on our 7 priorities. They would like the fees restructure back to original amounts. They are supportive of ideas on job development and economic redevelopment around AML. Mentioned the economic impact if AML does not clean up streams.

What they are hearing so far: expect hearings sometime in June, Thompson interested in sponsoring; HNR would like to see new faces this time around (business owners, landowners, and local people). Offered to help with video editing.

Ways to foster relationships with NGOs: PA successful due to collaboration among watershed groups, have funding through Growing Greener Program and collaboration with local government – county conservation districts and watershed specialists.

Take aways: customize your advocacy, trust your NGOs, methods to foster relationships. Offer if we have an NGO we think should get organized or help nationally, feel free to have them contact Anne or Louise.

Pursuing good partnerships will be important to our programs and moving forward.

#### **ADJOURN FOR THE DAY at 4:51**

# MEETING MINUTES 2019 WINTER BUSINESS MEETING ST. GEORGE, UTAH February 7, 2019

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The NAAMLP Annual Business Meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by President Autumn Coleman.

#### ROLL CALL BY SECRETARY TREASURER - MEMBERS PRESENT

AL (Chuck Williams, Jeff Butler, Dustin Morin, Les Kearley); AK (Justin Ireys); AR (Jim Stephens, Ben Reynolds, Mo Shafii); CO (Jeff Graves, Tara Tafi); Hopi (Norman Honie); IN (Marvin Ellis); IA (Susan Kozak); KY (Bob Scott); LA (Abby Alkire); MD (Mike Garner, Tim Miller); MS (Teague Duncan); MO (Mike Mueller, Austin Rehagen); MT (Autumn Coleman, Bill Snoddy); Navajo (Madeline Roanhorse); NV (Robert Ghiglier); NM (Mike Tompson); ND (William Dodd); OH (Mike Bowden, Jim Bishop); OK (Robert Toole, Mike Sharp); PA (Eric Cavazza, Brian Bradley, John Stefanko); TX (Adam Levy); UT (Steve Fluke, Dana Dean); VA (Lesa Baker); WV (Travis Parsons); WY (Alan Edwards, Dave Pendleton, Don Newton, Lindsey French)

#### **ATTENDING BY PHONE:**

TN (Trevor Martin); BLM (Erinn Shirley, Carrie Snyder); NPS (Hillary Smith); USFS (Scott Ludwig); GAO (Raj Verma, Elizabeth Urgman, Leslie Pollock)

#### FEDERAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

1 OSMRE (Sterling Rideout and Yolande Norman)

Not in attendance.

#### 2 NPS (Hillary Smith)

Submitted written report. Looking at abandoned mine sites and what needs to be accomplished at parks. They have 16 projects going in 11 parks in 7 different states. They appreciate our willingness to help and have great response from us as partners. They would like to focus more work in Colorado. State of Virginia has been a great partner – applying for future funding for some copper closures. Utah – meeting to set up a site visit for a uranium mine closure. Call set up with California and some work at Mojave. Discussed bat gate in Montana and got referral for project in Glacier. They are working with staff in Arizona for guidance on closure types. Utilizing states to increase their capacity and get more work done on limited funding.

#### 3 **BLM** (Erinn Shirley)

Working on combination of AML and hazmat programs – not implemented, yet. They are working through a GAO audit. Finishing legislative review of latest Good Sam act that has been submitted. Updates to AMSCAM – working on data cleanup and mobile app. Still catching up after shutdown.

#### 4 USFS (Scott Ludwig)

Working through GAO audit. Also looking at Good Sam act that has been submitted. Really no agency input prior to bill being sent out and major concern is still CWA liability. Encouraging that EPA is reaching out to states and others to have dialog on Good Sam. Plan on attending a Good Sam summit in Colorado (BLM leadership will probably be there).

#### 5 GAO (Raj Verma)

Had a request from Senator Udall under Senate Appropriation Committee to look at number of abandoned hard rock mines and how much has been spent in the past 10 years on remediation. What challenges do entities doing reclamation face? Focused on hard rock, not coal. Add value and new information to highlight successes and partnerships. Asking state agencies for their inventory to provide bigger picture to legislators. Not an actual audit of programs. Focused on 13 western states. Reaching out to other non-agency partners – Western Governors Association and Trout Unlimited. Targeting summer or early fall for a report out and will share with us. They are working on the definition of hard rock – applicability to quarries – right now has excluded sand and gravel and quarries, still debating uranium. Provided definition in previous 2008 review. Each state may have own definition, but trying to standardize. When considering safety hazards, those types that are excluded have those hazards and should be considered – maybe not be as bad environmentally but we are still concerned on safety hazards. Hoping to report back to Senator Udall by late summer/early fall and will share with NAAMLP.

#### IMCC Update (Ryan Ellis and Tom Clark)

- IMCC Executive Director year one progress and changes Greg and Beth retired. Tom Clarke hired as new director. Ryan now director of legislative affairs well deserved. IMCC has a new website.
- Contract with Greg Conrad for work on Reauthorization IMCC board has proposed \$30,000 contract for consulting services (at fall IMCC meeting). At that time, members had different sentiments on how to pay this some want to approach NAAMLP and see if we can contribute to that contract amount. This will be discussed further at the May IMCC meeting.
- Updates on FY19 Budget Congressional negotiators think they are close to a deal not sure it will satisfy President.
- Outlook for 116<sup>th</sup> Congress Spoke with incoming majority staff in December have full slate
  of issues they want to cover. That list of issues will take through at least June does not include
  AML. Lots of ties to climate change on issues to tackle for HNRC. 1872 mining law reform is
  of particular attention for HNRC committee chair.
- Shutdown impacts Training classes have been postponed and revised. Grants probably won't be announced until April.
- Clean Water Act WOTUS definitions currently inconsistent. Gave history of legal decisions. EPA announced new rule in December and it will be published soon for comment. Public hearing to be held in Kansas City. Questions surrounding groundwater jurisdiction related with mines and some recent legal decisions.
- OSM reinitiating engagement with USFW regarding endangered species consultation. IMCC filed many pages of comments. Biological Opinion replace 2006 and 2016. Draft MOU in October and sent out for comments. IMCC issues too similar to 2016, too many aspects of stream protection rule, does not include terms and conditions/incidental take statement not there, focuses on Appalachia and mountaintop mining almost exclusively and not big picture of country or support this with science, FWS has virtual veto over state permits.
- If OSM continues to work on Zinke's reorganization plan may change regional coverage for states realignment. Under active discussion.

#### IMCC UPDATE - CONTINUED (RYAN ELLIS AND TOM CLARK)

IMCC AML Committee Update (Travis Parsons) – Committee discussed Balosh briefing and need to be united in efforts on the Hill. Discussed summit teams and debriefed on workgroups. Suggestion to get correction to NMA statements out to public and use OSM 10 year data. Discussed all the messaging items and FBMS and outreach plans. Need to work with NMA to educate on facts. Discussed OIG reports and federal oversight. For industry, reauthorization really comes down to economics and we need to focus on partnerships and messaging – work with local coal associations. IMCC met with OSMRE after the meeting and discussed summit item status. Need to check-in on where things stand. Continuing to have discussions on best way to handle media and how to get correct info out in response. IMCC is developing a comprehensive list of applicable media contacts for programs across the nation.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### NAAMLP Website (Dana Dean and/or Steve Fluke)

Looking for comments on website or updates. Need California and Idaho contact information.

#### NAAMLP Accomplishments Document (Jim Bishop and Autumn Coleman)

Accomplishments report on webpage for 2017 – worked on 2018 update but had lively discussion with PIO committee regarding consistency of figures and OSM/IMCC figures – making minor changes. They will get the changes done in 10 days and notify when it is up on website for use.

#### NAAMLP Booklet (Jim Bishop and Autumn Coleman)

Boxes of extras in several states – just let Jim know if you need some.

#### Policies and Procedures Manual posting to website (with new Hardrock AML Award Section)

This section needs to be added to the P&P. It is drafted and needs approved. Finalize in Pittsburgh. We should also fix language on scholarships in P&P.

#### NAAMLP Hardrock Awards (Jeff Graves, Steve Fluke)

Planning same as last year, announcement coming. Need cases (~\$150 each) for the awards for mailing still – have been approved by finance committee. Plan to purchase and then get reimbursed (or have invoice sent to Susan).

#### WPCAMR and NASLR partnering with NAAMLP for 2019 Annual Conference

Moving forward with partnering for conference.

#### **NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION**

eAMLIS training report (Mike Bowden)

Discussed yesterday.

#### **Undelivered Orders (Mike Garner)**

Mike has received data from most states – enough to consider complete. Requested OSMRE's UDO report but has not received yet. Mike explained UDO a bit.

#### **State Plan work groups (Autumn Coleman)**

Certified states must redo state plans as part of OIG recommendations. Do we want an organized effort (support group)? We could help share materials or have conference calls. Let Autumn know if interested.

#### **Bucknam Award (Autumn Coleman and Bob Scott)**

Amend award to include and honor staff person from Montana, Tom Henderson. There is a tribute to Tom in the NAAMLP Fall 2018 newsletter.

Pointed out TIPS instructors are not eligible for the award, just NTTP. Discussion on adding separate TIPS award (and include Tech Transfer). If so, need a draft for review and approval in Pittsburgh.

#### **Bernard Award and OSMRE Awards (Autumn Coleman)**

Nominations are due June 30. Email will be sent out looking for nominations. And, OSM is encouraging nominations for the AML awards. The Bernard family found it an extreme honor to be invited to the conference in Montana – consider again for future meetings (and for Bucknam family).

#### **Procedures for Winter Business Meetings and Annual Meetings (Autumn Coleman)**

Discussion on coordinating awards for each conference – usually host state, with coordination with OK, OSM, and current award holder. Need to clarify responsibilities in P&P prior to Pittsburgh. Clarify things on Winter Business meeting details – budget, meeting room expectations – Rob, Autumn, Jeff, Lisa, Eric will work on this – incorporate as appendix that can be kept updated.

**Steve** (UT) – sent out survey monkey to some people on potential conference on Bats and Mines - looking for topics. If interested, contact Steve. Autumn will send out notice to the association.

#### Coleman called for a 15 minute break at 10:28.

#### **PILOT REPORTS** (5-10 MINUTES EACH)

**Pennsylvania** – For 2016, 14 projects funded and all funding committed. 4 of 14 projects are complete, rest in construction. Projects are leveraging \$3-4 per \$1 AML. For 2017, 12 projects were selected, same kind of benefits, 2 are under construction and 6 of 12 have been initiated. For 2018, progress is delayed due to shut down. Projects are under OSMRE review, holding back some funds for an economic analysis of pilot program – may hire firm to do this. There is tremendous interest and success with media on pilot projects.

**Kentucky** – They view the pilot projects as economic development grants that the AML program implements. There is way more demand than money. The Governor is involved with press releases and ground breaking. The pilot projects take a lot of manpower away from the AML program. Out of over 150 applications, only 2 included reclamation work.

West Virginia – The program is purely economic development. They have ATP for all 2016 projects except one. Most projects are in construction or bidding from 2016. An apple orchard project seems promising to meet goals of program. They are working on ATPs for many of the 2017 projects. They will likely need extensions. For 2018, many trails/resorts and municipal sewer upgrade projects are being developed and there is an upswing on utility type projects – still in vetting process.

**Ohio** – Doing P1 and P2 reclamation on all projects. They are still working on vetting process and on schedule.

**Virginia** – For 2017, 6 projects selected and 5 have made it through vetting. There are 2 industrial sites and 3 ecotourism sites. For 2018, 10 projects selected and next meeting scheduled, some unique projects – some 2017 applied for phase 2, fish farm, develop homes on AML, solar installation.

**Alabama** – They would like to acknowledge Senator Shelby and support for pilot projects. Alabama is trying to stay with tie to AML features. For 2017, one project will add on to previous AML reclamation with hotel and development, US Steel projects, multiple partners with all projects. For 2018, applications just closed and they are looking for AML ties. There are 8 valid apps and the committee will meet soon for discussion – one on national wildlife refuge to add recreational amenities, industrial park, athletic complex addition, commercial center, and more US Steel projects.

#### **Tribes**

**Hopi** – They just received a letter last year that they are now in the pilot and there was a meeting in Denver on October 30. They haven't had much time to put projects together. It is difficult to negotiate tribe/village jurisdictional issues. Looking at tribal wide projects – develop new community and infrastructure, enhance local fishing spot. They are curious on future funding outlook.

**Navajo Nation** – They are looking at proposals from economic development programs and have put out a press release with a March deadline. There are ideas for water projects, hotel development, and working with DNR programs on infrastructure projects. They created a flyer to gain interest.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **Finance Committee (Eric Cavazza)**

The committee had a lengthy meeting Tuesday afternoon. Review of treasurer's report and upcoming expenses - \$400 for tax filing; winter business meeting ~\$12,500; deposit for 2020 WV meeting \$6,311; second IMCC payment \$15,000. That leaves us around \$40,000 for balance. Discussed at length request from IMCC to contribute to Greg's consulting contract: proposal is \$20k to bring total contract up to \$50k. Heavy debate.

From committee meeting:

**First motion**: Counter the IMCC request with an offer of \$10k and explanation of our current financial situation, subject to PA conference. Otherwise this could affect our usual IMCC agreement in the fall. Motion did not carry.

**Second motion**: NAAMLP is willing to consider additional funding with IMCC for Greg's consulting contract when funding is actually needed and formally requested. This would require a vote by the full association, by email, and would require 2/3 approval of all voting members (per bylaws). Motion carried in committee.

We do feel Greg's efforts are essential to reauthorization but the membership is concerned regarding the association's financial situation. We would like to see how the next IMCC meeting goes. Contracts have been executed for the next 3 conferences and/or meetings – PA, WV and NV. We are caught up on deposits.

Scholarships/travel is usually ~ \$15k total annually.

#### **Research Committee (Travis Parsons)**

No updates since last meeting.

#### **Training Committee (Bob Scott)**

Delays in training classes due to shut down – email sent out and will be forwarded to association. Ann Walker will be retiring. NTTP/TIPS steering committee meeting – looking for good instructors, please nominate anyone on your staff that would be a good fit. There is a new enrollment process – no longer using DOI Learn. NTTP/TIPS staff will be doing the enrollments. Dawn Pacula is the new TIPS program manager. Shoot Bob and Rob Welsh an email on any shut down effects on technology, training etc. They need a new mid-continent replacement on steering committee.

#### **Scholarship Committee (Mike Garner)**

A joint meeting with the finance committee was held this week. There are typically 4 scholarships -3 undergrads (one from each region) and 1 graduate student. Total cost typically around \$15k (includes travel to the annual conference). Mike has been getting good response on Scholarship.com. He has a blanket email contact list to send out requests.

#### **Minimum Program Committee (Justin Ireys)**

A very short meeting was held. They are pleased to see the request for increased funding for minimum programs is high on the priorities for reauthorization as well as support for OSMRE to dedicate funding to emergencies again.

#### **Membership Committee (Travis Parsons)**

They are trying to locate NY (Tom might have an IMCC contact) and MI program contacts to discuss potential memberships. We are always looking for other states to join NAAMLP. Suggestion at meeting to check Washington and Oregon.

#### **Public Information Committee**

The NAAMLP booklets and one pager are out there for use.

# **Continuity of the Summit Groups and NAAMLP Committees** (Autumn Coleman and Travis Parsons)

It was suggested that perhaps Autumn and Tom could reach out to OSMRE and see what their opinion is regarding the Summit groups. It would be better to have OSMRE with us to discuss these topics. Autumn is concerned on PIO committee and messaging summit group. We plan to continue to push forward on our objectives.

#### **Solicitation of Committee Members**

The committee list was routed for updates.

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS UPDATE**

**Fall 2019** – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – Website established, downtown Pittsburg, Sept 8-11, preconference tours are lined up, Tuesday tours planned, emphasize call for papers. Anne mentioned scholarships (for reduced registration fee) are available to non-profits.

Winter 2020 – Charleston, West Virginia – Post card handout, convenient location

**Fall 2020** – Lake Tahoe, Nevada – planning going well, working on tours, CA will be helping, Sept 20-23

Winter 2021 – Orange Beach, Alabama – working on contract this year

Fall 2021 – Utah and/or Colorado – thinking Grand Junction, negotiating hotel; or Colorado Springs

Winter 2022 – Jackson Hole, WY – need to evaluate date due to ski season

#### WINTER BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00