

MINUTES
BOARD OF COAL MINE SAFETY
DEP Cambria Office
March 5, 2019 – 10 a.m. – Ebensburg, PA

VOTING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Stefanko, DEP, Deputy Secretary for Active and Abandoned Mining Operations
Bobby Bodenschatz, PCA
Joseph Zelanko, PCA
Todd Moore, CONSOL Energy
Ron Bowersox, UMWA
Frank Reidelbach, UMWA
Jim Sabella, UMWA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STAFF PRESENT

Colvin C. Carson, DEP, Director, Bureau of Mine Safety
Mary Martha Truschel DEP, Office of Chief Counsel
Joe Iole, DEP, Regional Counsel
Laura Edinger, DEP Policy Office
Charles Washlack, DEP, Bureau of Mine Safety
Dustin Mowery, DEP, Bureau of Mine Safety
Peggy Scheloske, DEP, Bureau of Mine Safety

OTHERS PRESENT

Tanner Lowmaster, Rosebud Mining
R. Henry Moore, Jackson Kelly/PLLC
Stan Popich
Ben Stock, Rosebud Mining
Jake Wells, Rosebud Mining

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Stefanko, DEP Deputy Secretary for Active and Abandoned Mining Operations and Acting Chairman of the Board of Coal Mine Safety called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. in the DEP Cambria Office, Conference Room 1A/B in Ebensburg.

The Board considered its first item of business which was approval of the September 4, 2018, meeting minutes.

Ron Bowersox moved to adopt the minutes to the Board. Joe Zelanko, seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board, and the minutes were adopted as presented.

Miner Certification Plan Proposal

Acting Chairman Stefanko reported that at the last meeting, DEP had committed to getting a more detailed process to the Board for review, to include discussion of the logistics of electronic and paper exams. This will be provided once the position of Mineral Resources Specialist is filled. Once this person is in place the draft plan can be completed and shared with the Board.

Reportable Accidents

Acting Chairman Stefanko reported that at meetings last year, there was discussion of the reportable accidents list and draft proposed regulatory language provided by the PCA. At the September 2018 meeting, Board members in attendance requested that we table the discussion until all Board members were present.

Acting Chairman Stefanko asked if there was any further discussion on the proposal. Hearing none, he solicited the members for a motion to either move it forward or to table this proposal and present it at some other time.

Joseph Zelanko moved that the PCA Reportable Accident Proposed Regulation be moved forward as written. Bobby Bodenschatz seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion failed.

The members would like to meet again to discuss the draft proposed language prior to the next meeting to come to a resolution. There will be two members to represent the coal mine operators and two members to represent the union miners. Board Liaison Peggy will send out a notice for a meeting to be held in the New Stanton Office with some proposed dates. Acting Charmain Stefanko asked the members to plan to report in at the next meeting.

Acting Chairman Stefanko asked if there was any additional information needed from DEP to bring to that meeting. The members present indicated that they did not require any additional information.

OTHER BUSINESS

Acting Chairman Stefanko announced that this was Mine Safety Director, Craig Carson's, last meeting and that he will be retiring in May of this year. He thanked him for his service to DEP and his work in keeping our miners safe. Board members will be notified when an acting Mine Safety Director is appointed.

Acting Chairman Stefanko asked if there was any other business the Board would like to consider or any new proposed regulation or items for consideration at this time. No other business was brought forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Acting Chairman Stefanko asked the members of the public in attendance if they would like to provide any other comments. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss,

Frank Reidelbach made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joseph Zelanko seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m. The next Board meeting will be held on June 4, 2019, at 10 a.m. at the DEP Cambria Office in Ebensburg.