

**UTAH LABOR COMMISSION
MINE SAFETY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, December 13, 2012 - 11:00 A.M.
Conducted by ILINC Webinar
From the Labor Commission Offices
Salt Lake City, Utah**

The following Advisory Council members were in attendance:

Kent Houghton, Chairman
Kim McCarter, Professor, University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering
J D McKenzie, Coal Mine Engineer, Bureau of Land Management
Mark Compton, President, Utah Mining Association
Terri Watkins, Chief Nursing Office, Castle View Hospital
Kristine Pankow, University of Utah, Associate Director of Seismograph Stations
John Byars, Manager of Engineering, SUFCO Mine, Arch Coal

Absent:

Jimmy Brock, Senior Vice President, Consol Energy
Bruce Riches, Captain, Department of Public Safety
Greg Funk, Emery County Sheriff
John Baza, Division Director, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil Gas and Mining
Don Shelley, United Mine Workers of America
Mike Dalpiaz, International Vice President, United Mine Workers of America
Ralph Sanich, Manager of Health Safety and Training, Interwest Mining Company
Steven Childs, Skyline Mine

Legislative Liaison present:

None

Others present:

Debbie King, Administrative Secretary, Coal Miner Certification
Ami Windham, Senior Business Annalist, Division of Boiler, Elevator and Coal Mine Safety

- 1. Kent Houghton, Chairman – Meeting called to order 11.07 A.M.**
 - Approval of last meetings minutes. There was not a quorum of members present to vote on the minutes for the March, June, and September meetings.
- 2. Report to MSTAC-** Kent Houghton addressed the meeting and gave a summary of the activities of the Office of Coal Mine Safety for the quarter. He visited every coal mine in the state during the quarter and met with their respective safety departments. He gave an update on the status and activities of each mine in the state He attended the Local Emergency Planning Council meeting in Carbon County. There were no mines that conducted their emergency response training to date this quarter but Dugout Mine has scheduled theirs for the 21st of December. SUFCO and Skyline have had their training this year. Mines that do not conduct the required training will be sent letters of non compliance after the first of the year. He attended the U of U Eastern Energy Symposium and attended one electrical recertification training session at the college. He gave an over view of the safety statistics for the mines in the state. There have been

no fatalities in the coal mines in the state this year and the accident rates have improved from last year. He is looking into the new safety Core Safety program developed by the National Mining Association for small mines. The Core Safety Program may be something some of our smaller mines who do not have safety programs could use.

3. Old Business – Carried forward from the last meeting was a discussion on new recommendations by the council.

- Kim McCarter stated that he had been working on recommendations for funding for research at the University of Utah and would try to have a recommendation to propose for a discussion and a vote at the next meeting.
- There was no further discussion on recommendations.

4. New Business – There was a discussion on the MSTAC meeting schedules for next year and how many meetings should be webinars and how many should be regular in person meetings. The consensus of the members present was that a once a year regular meeting for the first quarter would be better for every ones schedules and the rest of the meetings would be webinars. This will be open for further discussion at the next meeting.

- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 28, 2013 at the Carbon County Events Center.
- Kim McCarter mentioned that Thomas Hethmon from the University of Utah had been involved with the Core Safety Program development and would be a good source for Kent Houghton to contact for further information. The Office of Coal Mine Safety would like to work with some of our small mines in developing safety programs and will contact him to pursue this further.
- There was a question on filling the vacancies on the MSTAC Committee. The Labor Commission is accepting recommendations for the two mine safety training positions. MSHA does not yet have a permanent replacement for their vacancy it may be until after the first of the year.

Adjourn – There was no further business to discuss and no objections.

- Kent Houghton declared the meeting adjourned at 11.26 P.M.

6. Next Meeting – The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 11.00 A.M. at the Carbon County Events Center, 310 South Fairgrounds Road. Price, Utah.