

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

**Thursday, September 26, 2013 - 11:00 A.M.
Carbon County Events Center
310 South Fair Grounds Road
Price, Utah 84501**

The following Advisory Council members were in attendance:

Kent Houghton, Chairman
Kristine Pankow, University of Utah, Associate Director of Seismograph Stations
John Byars, Manager of Engineering, SUFCO Mine, Bowie Resources
Ralph Sanich, Manager of Health Safety and Training, Interwest Mining Company
Mark Compton, President, Utah Mining Association
Thomas Hethmon, Associate Professor, University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering
Mike Dalpiaz, International Vice President, United Mine Workers of America
Kim McCarter, Professor, University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering
J D McKenzie, Coal Mine Engineer, Bureau of Land Management
Terri Watkins, Chief Nursing Officer, Castle View Hospital

Absent:

David Hibbs, Western Coal Division Manager, Utah American Energy
Steven Childs, Skyline Mine
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
J D McKenzie, Coal Mine Engineer, Bureau of Land Management
Don Shelley, United Mine Workers of America

Legislative Liaison present:

Senator David Hinkins

Others present:

Stephen Faulk, Bureau of Land Management, Coal Mine Engineer
Brady Huntsman, SUFCO Mine

1. Kent Houghton, Chairman – Meeting called to order 11.05 A.M.

- Approval of the last six meeting minutes.
- Mike Dalpiaz made a motion to approve the minutes as written.
- Ralph Sanich seconded the motion.
- The minutes of the last six meetings were approved by a voice vote.

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. I visited every coal mine in the state during the quarter and met with their respective safety departments. Debbie King and I represented the State

of Utah at the National Mine Rescue Contest in Columbus Ohio and presented the state trophy to the highest placing Utah team, SUFCO White Team. He attended the Local Emergency Planning Council meetings in Sevier and Carbon Counties the meeting in Emery County was canceled. I attended a surface annual retraining session at the Utah State University (USU) Eastern and the safety convention put on by the Utah Mining Association at Park City. I attended the United Mine Workers of America Safety Conference in Price. The Labor Commission and the Office of Coal Mine Safety presented the safe operator of the year award for the year 2012. This years recipient for under ground coal mine is Bowie Resources SUFCO Mine and the safe operator of the year coal preparation plant also goes to Bowie Resources Dugout Mine, Castle Valley Preparation Plant. The safe operator of the year award for a surface mine went to Alton Coal Development, Coal Hollow Mine.

3. **Old Business** – There was no old business to bring forward.

4. **New Business – Cuts in the Mine Health and Safety Administration (MSHA) safety training grants to states.** The USU Eastern mining department has had their grant reduced by 75% and it is uncertain if the University will carry the program. The mining department provides a valuable service to the mines in the area for training. It would be in the interest of the safety of the miners if the mining department program could be funded.
 - Mike Dalpaz made the motion that the MSTAC Committee make a recommendation on the annual report to the Governor that the state increase the funding to the USU Eastern budget to make up the amount lost by the MSHA grant cuts.
 - Mark Compton seconded the motion.
 - The motion was passed by a voice vote.

5. **Adjourn** – There was no further business to discuss.
 - Ralph Sanich made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Terri Watkins seconded the motion
 - Meeting was adjourned by a voice vote.
 - Kent Houghton declared the meeting adjourned at 12:06 P.M.

6. **Next Meeting** – The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 9:30 A.M. This will be an teleconference from the Labor Commission offices in Salt Lake.