

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

**Monday, September 15, 2014 – 9:30 A.M.  
Regular Meeting and Century Link Conferencing  
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

Mark Compton, President, Utah Mining Association

Kim McCarter, Professor, University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering

David Hibbs, Western Coal Division Manager, Utah American Energy

J D McKenzie, Coal Mine Engineer, Bureau of Land Management

Thomas Hethmon, Associate Professor, University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering

Terri Watkins, Chief Nursing Officer, Castle View Hospital

Randy Mabbutt, Instructor, Utah State University Eastern - Mining Department

**Absent:**

Bruce Riches, Captain, Department of Public Safety

Greg Funk, Emery County Sheriff

Mike Dalpiaz, International Vice President, United Mine Workers of America

Steven Childs, Skyline Mine

Don Shelley, United Mine Workers of America

John Baza, Division Director, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil Gas and Mining

**Legislative Liaison present:**

Mark Wheatley - Representative

**Others present:**

Debbie King, Administrative Secretary, Coal Mine Certification

**1. Kent Houghton, Chairman – Meeting called to order 9:33 A.M.**

- Approval of the last meeting minutes.
- There were no objections or corrections noted to the March 24 or June 23 meetings.
- Mark Compton made the motion to approve the minutes as written.
- Kim McCarter seconded the motion.
- The minutes were approved by a unanimous 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. He visited every coal mine in the state during the quarter and met with their respective safety departments. He gave an overview of the mining industry and coal mine safety in the state. He attended the Sevier County and Carbon County LEPC meetings. The Safe Operator of the Year Underground Coal Mine Award was awarded to

the SUFCO mine. The safe Operator of the Year Underground Small Coal Mine Award was awarded to the Lila Canyon mine. He attended a training sessions at the USU Eastern mining department.

3. **Old Business** – Thomas Hethmon’s proposals on the Coal Mine Safety Commission Recommendations were brought forward from the last meeting for discussion by the members. The recommendation that the University of Utah, Center for Mine Safety and Health Excellence (The Center) be designated the Utah Research Center for Mine Safety and Productivity, the Center develop a safety roundtable for government agencies and the Center conduct a symposium on ‘mine bumps’ in coal mines and improve mine safety in coordination with the MSTAC and BLM was motioned by Thomas Hethmon to be a recommendation by the MSTAC to the Legislature and Governors office on the annual report.
  - Thomas Hethmon made the motion to adopt the proposal and seek funding.
  - Kim McCarter seconded the motion.
  - The motion was put to a vote and passed by a majority voice vote.
  - Mark Wheatley will do some research with the legislature to determine the best way to proceed with the motion and will get back with Kent Houghton.
  
4. **New Business** – There as some discussion that every coal mine should have a member on the council even as a non voting member, Kent Houghton will research this further as to the statutes or requirements and it will be brought forth for discussion at the next meeting.
  
5. **Adjourn** – There was no further business to discuss and there were no objections.
  - Kent Houghton declared the meeting adjourned at 10:05 A.M.
  
6. **Next Meeting** – The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, December 15, 2014 at 9:30 A.M. This will be at the Carbon County Events Center and members can join by Century Link webinar or phone link.