Meeting called to order at 9:00 by President Vern Pfannenstiel Claire Dunne recording Minutes

General Announcement: Lola Plass and family sent a note thanking ASMR for endowment in the name of Bill Plass, one of the founders of the Society. Dennis will announce baskets at door for donations to the Endowment fund.

Agenda Item #1: Minutes of Richmond 2008 were approved by email earlier. Vern thanked Dick for handling finances for this year’s meeting, a method which seems to be working well.

Agenda Item #2: Reclamation Matters magazine: Jeff Skousen manages articles and is much happier with our new publisher, Dell. Dick maintains mailing list. Jeff waived any revenue due ASMR to help get the first issue printed, but Dick will follow up with Dell to see if we are due any money from second issue, based on ad revenue.

Agenda Item #3: Young professionals and students: Abbey Wick volunteered to get with Jeff Skousen to set up a column in Reclamation Matters for students as well as new industry professionals (within five years of entering the profession), to talk about scholarships and travel grants available, how they can help with a meeting even though not presenting a paper, how to get involved with planning committee, perhaps a blog. Abbey also is willing to plan a social event with part of the tab covered by the Society. Dick suggested a structured social, perhaps
bringing in someone with many years in the field to give advice. Motion passed: For the Pittsburgh meeting Abbey will organize a specific social and networking event to promote student and young professionals, as a meeting expense. The question of underage students needs to be resolved. Check the distance limit for the Radisson Hotel van.

Agenda Item #4: FTP site: Dennis suggests an FTP site be set up next year so papers and biographies are sent in advance; FTP site can take Powerpoints too large to email. **Motion passed**: Dr. Barnhisel will contact UK to set up our website to upload to the server the following: abstracts, draft and final papers, Powerpoint presentations, and reviews, with login and password to protect review confidentiality. This will enable attendees and reviewers to get better access to abstracts and papers for review; perhaps even nonattendees will be permitted to access some pages. Dick will check with UK to see if this service can be provided for ASMR website. We bought Frontpage software for editing our webpage, and though Frontpage is becoming obsolete, it is simple to use compared to the newer webpage programs. Still, need more current software capable of making web page look better and have more utility and functionality.

Agenda Item #5: Future Annual Meetings: Pittsburgh, PA June 5-11, 2010. Lois Uranowski, Jack Felbinger and Jeff Trump with OSM, Office of Surface Mining, handed out the First Announcement and Request for Abstracts for next annual meeting, titled "Bridging Reclamation, Science & the Community," which can be accessed at www.PghMiningReclamationConf.com or www.asmr.us. Vern and Dennis explained the Billings meeting has a popular industry session as well as a community session. Technical abstracts and papers can go to Dick (or be uploaded to the UK server), while Science, Community, and Reclamation abstracts can go to a watershed person at our discretion. CD of presentations is sent to ASMR members when they renew their dues; we don’t want papers available to everyone since there would be no reason to attend meetings, which are our source of income. We have an option called extended abstract, which only one person took advantage of this year. Projected tours: Mountaintop mining in WV, longwall mining, riverboat dinners, acid mine treatment, Flight 93 memorial, The Scenic Wilds of PA (old mining problems plus wildlife), Frank Lloyd Wright’s Hanging Water house, and a pub tour. Lois asks us to supply a library of email addresses to avoid $5000 cost of paper mailing. Dick says out of 4500 people receiving Reclamation Matters by mail (non ASMR members), only 1 supplied their email address to Dick. Abbey says an effort was made at Breckenridge meeting, and Dennis says Dawn Majors struggled to obtain updated email addresses for this meeting. Lois offers to send out notices to thousands of emails.

Agenda Item #6: Bismarck, ND, June 5-8, 2011, Dick Barnhisel and Steve Schroeder will meet with Canadian Land Reclamation Association, CLRA, regarding joint meeting. **Motion passed**.

Agenda Item #7: Jackson, Mississippi, June 16-21, 2012: David Lang will coordinate. He and Dick passed out a detailed working draft, in the form of a Powerpoint bid to ICARD
(International Conference on Acid Rock Drainage). Dick will complete the presentation and provide to Terry Chatwin to pass to Chris Wolkersdorfer with ICARD. **Motion passed.**

Agenda Item #8: Dick summarized the meeting statistics and other relevant information as known by Sunday’s NEC meeting.

Agenda Item #9: IRS Requirement. Have Dick check and report to board what percentage of money we must give away to maintain our status as 501C3. The Society has built up sufficient funds and assets that this may be a concern. Jeff Skousen is signatory to all the ASMR accounts, along with Dick Barnhisel. **Motion passed:**

Agenda Item #10: Executive Director’s salary: **Motion passed** to raise Richard Barnhisel’s salary to $12,000, and to take Lela out to dinner with flowers, or otherwise pamper her, with thanks and appreciation to them both.

Agenda Item #11: Dick reported on the award winners for 2009. The names and their corresponding awards are presented in the Sunday NEC meeting agenda.

Agenda Item #12: The 2009 financial reports and supporting documents were handed out by Dick and reviewed by the NEC. No major concerns. Vern asked about Dick providing a summary of our assets and all accounts that shows the Society’s net worth in one report.

Agenda Item #13: Budget accepted by unanimous vote. Dues: Were raised from $25 to $50 in 1999-2000, with life members being ten times that amount. With $400,000 net worth, we see no reason to raise dues now. We have three new life members this year. We have about 50 who paid $250 in the early days, whose endowment is not keeping pace with rising costs. Dick reported our 5-year CDs are at 5%, one out of five coming up for renewal each year, and he just bought two new 2-year CDs at 2.5%, which was a better rate than a 5-year today.

Agenda Item #14: Student scholarships: How do we get more students to apply? Jack Nawrot suggested we tell them there is a job available which pays $1000 for an hour’s work with a likely 50/50 chance of winning. Nawrot will ask Bob Nairn, scholarship committee, to try this approach. Dick thinks we need to raise the student travel grants from $250, perhaps double next year, and to consider giving the comp room to two students rather than giving the room to a board member who would have his room paid by his/her company. Assign some task for the students to complete that contributes to the meeting.

Agenda Item #15: New Student Grant Program: **Motion passed:** We propose a Student Research grant program for undergrad and graduate students, and ask the Scholarship Student Grant committee to consider such a program and report their decision to the board. Wayne, Dave and Abbey will facilitate.

Agenda Item #16: Student travel fund: We agreed to donate all or part of the profit from this annual meeting to the student travel fund.
Agenda Item #17: Coordinating with other groups and agencies: Kim reports there are few funds for agency people to attend meetings like ours during tough economic times. Dick suggests we allow related organizations have one article per year in our magazine *Reclamation Matters*.

Agenda Item #18: Suggested future joint meeting: National Association of AML Programs, NAAMLP, comprised of all 24 coal states, seems to be well funded; Dennis will set up a conference call for 3 pm Thursday during the NEC meeting, to talk about a joint meeting.

Agenda Item #19: Technical Divisions: A board member volunteered to attend each TD meeting and report to board on Thursday. They are: Dennis – Tailings Paul – Water Jack – Forestry and wildlife Kim – Ecology Dick – Geotechnical Engineering Dave – Land use design and planning Eddie – Soils and overburden

Talking points for the TD meetings:

1 - Web page: We need to update site and identify young techies who can help.

2 - Canvas for ideas to get more young professionals and students involved.

3 – Talk up the student travel grants and scholarships available; make $1000 per hour promotion!

4 – Young professional and student networking social planned for Pittsburgh.

Agenda Item #20: Mission statement will be discussed under new business on Thursday.

NEC meeting Thursday June 4, 2009

New President Dennis Neumann congratulated Dick Barnhisel on receiving the William Plass award

Agenda Item #1: Abbey Wick and Matt Owens presented a proposal for a new Young Professionals group within ASMR, summarized as follows: 1) Goals: to provide insight on career advancement and benefits of membership with ASMR, 2) create networking opportunities, 3) host professional development workshops, and 4) recruit and retain new members. Insight: A column in *Reclamation Matters* will appear, the first written by Abbey. Networking: A social event will occur in Pittsburgh 2010 for the first night of the conference. The following people will be contacted to attend: Bob Nairn (student resources), Henry Austin (Regulatory), Dave Chenowith (consulting), Lee Daniels (academia) and Vern Pfannenstiel (Industry). Professional Development: A possible pre-conference workshop for 2011 covering grant proposal writing, research and technical writing, publishing, field methods, database development, and other tech tools. Recruit and Retain Members: set up student chapters at
universities with reclamation programs. Abbey has contacted the only ASMR student chapter, at U of Wisconsin, Platteville, to see how theirs operates. Tom Hunt’s students at UWisc need to have an internship to finish the program; Jack Narwot suggested Abbey devise a list of internship positions available. For Pittsburgh 2010, Abbey will devise a budget for the young professionals social (to which the students are invited) and submit to NEC by Email. She will advertise in fall Reclamation Matters, supply notices to Dick to email blind and to post on website. Wayne offered to do a “How to choose a career” presentation as a preconference event in Bismarck 2011.

Agenda Item #2: ASMR website: Matt Owens suggested finding a virtual domain. Dick was instructed to register “reclamationsociety.org” for up to $20 and to maintain yearly if appropriate. Univ of Kentucky gives us up to 20 terabytes for website. Cost for ISP is $150 year, $35 to register name. Using PDFs cuts down the cost. In general, update the page for aesthetics, suggests paying a professional to maintain it, update weekly with so many job postings. Abbey has a volunteer student webmaster in her lab that could be used as a resource only if necessary. “Scholar One” external service can handle papers, reviews, access; Matt will report the cost to Abbey for the board. Wayne asked Matt to pursue the cost of our own fast server, since UK’s is archaic. Abbey showed a website mockup they have started. The board thanked the two for such quick and thorough response.

Agenda Item #3: Reclamation Matters: Jeff Skousen, editor, is glad to continue as editor and is happy working with Dell. He plans to solicit more international articles. Dick gave Dell 130 potential advertisers, and they got enough to publish first issue.

Agenda Item #4: Conference call with Steve Herbert and Mike Garner, incoming president NAAMLP, about having a joint conference in the future. Kim Vories started off by saying we realize state employees have trouble getting funding for travel to conferences. Mike responded favorably. NAAMLP will meet in Harrisburg, PA in 2010, but in the fall. Mike says our two associations seem to overlap, and plans to attend our ASMR meeting in Pittsburgh. Kim responded we don’t have a specific AML session so far, with AML papers falling within our established categories. Mike will propose to their full membership; Kim and David will represent ASMR at NAAMLP fall conference in September 27-30, 2009, in Rogers, Arkansas. They have three levels of memberships. 1. Voting members: state and tribes. 2. Nonvoting: states and tribes who do not receive money from OSM but have AML problems. BLM has been invited as an observing member. AML has 26 members and two annual meetings: a winter business meeting, and a fall conference in Sept or October for technical papers, 3.5 days plus pre and post conference tours, with attendance 130-350, with western meetings better attended than eastern. They have a business meeting on last day, with Kim Vories now on agenda with Powerpoint. We could share tour leaders, etc. OSM is asking for technology transfer ideas. He asked for statement of benefits of joining forces, and description of AMSR to distribute to NAAMLP members. After end of conference call, our board expressed some concern about the political lobbying nature of NAAMLP.
Agenda Item #5: Board voted that ASMR sign on to support the Appalachian Regional Restoration Initiative, for planting trees on active and abandoned coal mined lands, without financial obligation.

Agenda Item #6: ASMR name change: discussion centered on broadening our title to include more than mining, and perhaps expanding from American to International. Should we have an international division? ARS American Reclamation Society, was proposed though it would have the same acronym as Agricultural Research Service. What is our vision for the future? Jack volunteered to look at the mission statement and pass a draft copy of it around NEC by email. Once we get our mission statement, the name will be obvious. Discussion to change name of ASMR was tabled. NEC asked Jack Narwot to revise mission statement.

Agenda Item #7: TECHNICAL DIVISIONS Reports

International Tailings: Dennis Neumann, 3 attended: felt they had a good half day session. They committed to one article in Reclamation Matters. Peter Beckett was asked to plan a session on subaqueous disposal of tailings for Pittsburgh meeting.

Forestry & wildlife: Jack Nawrot, 19 attended, felt ARRI moving forward to Pittsburgh meeting. Suggestion that students able to participate without a refereed, polished paper. ASMR doesn’t copyright the papers, so student can submit completed paper to another conference. This is their first introduction to the professional community: have them do the full paper. Or do a poster if don’t have complete data.

Land Use and Planning: 2, David wasn’t able to assess status since the only two attendees were new to the TD. Enthusiastic about increased student grants.

Soils and overburden: 12, Eddie. Chris Johnson will be responsible for western papers, Lee Daniels eastern papers. Suggestion that a section in Reclamation Matters on universities that have reclamation divisions. We have a glossary of reclamation terms, not updated since wrote book Reclamation of Drastically Disturbed Lands. Dick and Abbey will put link on website.

Ecology: 20, Kim reported. Peter Stahl chair. Impacts of wind power on wildlife. Because we alternated east and west, the western folks plan the western meeting and vice versa. Suggest a subgroup to plan for two years in advance, and develop a western working group and eastern working group to contact each other by email during the year. Directory costs $2500 for 500 copies, Dick reported.

Geotechnical: 3, plus 2 from other divisions. Dick. Suzette Burckhard tried to unsuccessfully get enough papers for a session. She will try for Pittsburgh and Bismarck.

Eddie got requests to have more field techniques presentations. Dennis suggests identifying practitioners doing interesting work and asking operators to submit abstract and present a PowerPoint show.
Paul was not present to report on the business meeting for the Water Management session

Agenda Item #8: **Motion passed**: NEC will have a conference call on a second Wednesday, at 10am Central time, in even-numbered months with agenda by first of month. Kim offered his conference phone number.

Agenda Item #9: Claire and Anne Wagner are on a committee with Vern to find pres elect. Kim is now president elect.

Cheerfully submitted, by Claire Dunne. Have a fine summer, y’all.

Final Edits were made by NEC board members and incorporated into the Minutes by Executive Secretary Richard Barnhisel