MINUTES

ASMR NEC ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, June 14, 2012 0800-1200
Tupelo, MS

Attendees:
Bruce Buchanan (presiding)
Pete Stahl
Eddie Bearden
Jim Luther
Jenifer Franklin
Michele Coleman
Jarvis Harper
Dick Barnhisel
Bob Nairn
Len Ballek

Guests:
Lee Daniels (Financial Investments Committee)
Carl Zipper (Financial Investments Committee)

1. Financial Investments (Luther, Daniels, Zipper)
   1.1. ASMR currently holds ~20 or more CDs
   1.2. ASMR maintains ~$500K assets
   1.3. Question: Where should we invest? Discussion followed:
       1.3.1. Consensus: too conservative currently (~2% return)
       1.3.2. Suggest mixed investment - bonds, stocks, cash, CDs
       1.3.3. Internal accounting can be used to handle specific donations/expenses for particular accounts
       1.3.4. Therefore, when current CDs come due, invest elsewhere
       1.3.5. Barnhisel - suggest more in bonds
       1.3.6. Luther - stocks or bonds funds (Vanguard, Fidelity, etc.), immediately reinvest when CDs come due
       1.3.7. Harper - consider financial advisor?; use an expert to help us
       1.3.8. Luther - with some funds, invest so much, get free help
       1.3.9. Yields must pay scholarships, operations, etc. so need set amount that must be available (e.g., in case of conference failure, etc.)
   1.4. SUMMARY: Evaluate current investments, consider and recommend new strategy, simplify investments overall, maximize return relative to risk; authorize committee (Daniels, Zipper, Fred Brenner) to discuss/interview investment strategist.
1.5. **ACTION:** Barnhisel needs to send Financial Investments Committee the interest rate percentages for CDs (range from 1.75%--5%)

1.6. **ACTION:** Discuss again in August (October at latest) NEC call.

2. 2015 Conference

2.1. Appalachian Research Initiative for Environmental Science (ARIES) is co-sponsoring technical meeting "Environmental Considerations in Energy Production" in Charleston, WV, April 14-18, 2013; wants another meeting in 2015

2.2. Possible 2015 Joint ARIES/ASMR/perhaps ARRI meeting in spring/summer 2015 in Lexington, KY

2.3. Contact: John Craynon, ARIES Project Director, Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research, Virginia Tech, 540-231-9462, jcraynon@vt.edu

2.4. Zipper - no one from Appalachian coal industry at Tupelo meeting; these people are the roots of ASMR and this is the way to reconnect

2.5. How to move forward?

2.5.1. Craynon reports to Mike Karmis (Director, Virginia Tech Institute for Coal and Energy Research); Karmis, Gerald Luttrell and Lee Daniels must approve first, then proposal goes to corporate sponsors for approval

2.6. **MOTION** (Stahl), **SECOND** (Bearden): Welcome opportunity to investigate possibility of joint meeting with ARIES in Lexington, 2015. Passed unanimously.

2.7. **ACTION:** Make 2015 meeting an August conference call agenda item - invite John Craynon to call; Daniels will talk to him

3. Committees

3.1. Buchanan suggests ASMR begins to work from a committee framework - delegate responsibilities, get more members involved, remove central control; see items 5-9 below

4. Executive Secretary Position

4.1. Committee: Buchanan, Bearden, Luther (chair), Stahl, Schuman, Daniels (dropped)

4.2. Luther - four individuals applied

4.2.1. Phone screening - two dropped out due to financial considerations

4.2.2. Chris Howell interviewed

4.2.2.1. Assertive, enthusiastic

4.2.2.2. Concerns - has business managing small associations, ASMR would be #4

4.2.2.3. Since not member, is there a legal perspective to be considered - do we need contract?

4.2.2.4. Luther reports Daniels feedback that from other experiences: people like this are more receptionist that Executive Secretary, lack of passion, so more leadership at NEC needed

4.2.3. Bob Darmody interviewed

4.2.3.1. Relatively subdued personality
4.2.3.2. Confounded due to issues with his retirement at Illinois; but was committed to ASMR

4.3. Recommendation from committee
   4.3.1. Hire Darmody as ASMR Executive Secretary beginning January 1, 2013 at a salary of $15,000/year for an initial three-year appointment
   4.3.2. Keep Barnhisel until September 30, 2013 (providing a 9-month overlap) at which time all compensation from ASMR would cease

4.4. Discussion
   4.4.1. Harper - why not keep looking? Darmody lack of enthusiasm of concern
   4.4.2. Nairn - have we done due diligence in searching?
   4.4.3. Buchanan - exhausted ASMR possibilities; would be looking for someone like Howell; could advertise for professional
   4.4.4. Ballek - Bob solid choice
   4.4.5. Overall consensus - Why extend process?
   4.4.6. **MOTION** (Luther), **SECOND** (Coleman): Offer Bob Darmody position as Executive Secretary beginning January 1, 2013 at $15,000/year for initial three-year appointment on calendar year basis; continue to provide compensation to Dick Barnhisel until September 30, 2013 and cease all financial compensation at that time. **Passed unanimously.**

4.5. **ACTION:** Buchanan will make offer to Darmody

5. Member Survey
   5.1. Buchanan - What does ASMR membership want? Not just NEC, but society membership. Suggestion to form Committee of young ASMR members to survey membership.
   5.2. Chair has accepted - Cody "Buck" Neely (BioMost, Inc.; 814-221-4844, 724-776-0161, bmi@biomost.com) - and was tasked with following:
      5.2.1. Form committee of any size needed
      5.2.2. All members must be < 30 years of age
      5.2.3. Draft survey by December 2012
      5.2.4. Possible suggestions from NEC members - Chris Johnston, Lisa Cox
   5.3. Discussion - target survey to current members, past members, conference attendees
   5.4. Barnhisel - make conference registration rates better for members
   5.5. **ACTION:** Nairn - will check on possible use of services provided by University of Oklahoma Public Opinion Learning Laboratory (OU POLL) to conduct and evaluate survey
   5.6. **ACTION:** Nairn and/or Buchanan will discuss survey with Neely

6. Conference locations
   6.1. Future
      6.1.1. Laramie, WY 2013
      6.1.2. Oklahoma City, OK 2014
6.1.3. Lexington, KY 2015 (based on results of August conference call)

6.2. Considerations: Near mines, easy access from throughout US and Canada, other issues

6.3. **ACTION:** Buchanan will ask to add questions regarding conference locations to survey from Neely Member Survey Committee

7. New members committee
7.1. Committee to determine how to get new members for ASMR
7.2. Possible chairs: Jenise Bauman (The Wilds, 740-638-5030 x2301, jbauman@thewilds.org) and Shannon Byrd (The Wilds)
7.3. **ACTION:** Buchanan will contact Bauman to discuss

8. Past members committee
8.1. Committee to develop strategy to bring lapsed members back into ASMR
8.2. **ACTION:** Buchanan will lead this effort

9. Publicity/Web Page committee
9.1. Must publicize society better than we are right now!
9.2. Possible venues: Newspapers, press releases, contact with other societies, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Reclamation Matters, ASMR www page, etc.
9.3. Nairn: ASMR "branding" is needed
9.4. **ACTION:** Form publicity committee
   9.4.1. Bearden will contact Jamie Pitchford to serve as chair
   9.4.2. NEC suggested members:
   9.4.2.1. Abbey Wick
   9.4.2.2. Joe Friedlander
   9.4.2.3. Bill Strosnider
   9.4.2.4. Jim Burger
   9.4.2.5. Shaun Busler
   9.4.2.6. Cliff Denholm
   9.4.2.7. Henry Austin
   9.4.2.8. Nick Grant

10. Certification in Reclamation
10.1. Buchanan supports this idea; Skousen has expressed concerns re: workload
10.2. Stahl - ASMR must focus on society name, etc. first before this
10.3. Ballek - Both good (recognition) and bad (work) points with certification
10.4. Franklin - why not offer continuing education credits?
10.5. Luther - what about SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis first?
10.6. **ACTION:** Idea tabled but to be revisited January/February 2013

11. Society Name/Journal Name
11.1. Should ASMR change society name?
   11.1.1. **ACTION:** Buchanan to ask to add questions to survey regarding this topic
11.2. New journal name
11.2.1. Currently "Journal of ASMR"
11.2.2. If society changes name, obviously not appropriate so need more generalized and suitable name
11.2.3. **ACTION:** All NEC members send three suggested names for journal to all of NEC by July 1; return selected journal names to NEC by July 15; Decision in next conference call in August

12. Student member on NEC
12.1. **MOTION** (Stahl), **SECOND** (Luther): Place both student member and early career professional (<10 years in profession) on NEC with full voting rights, elected by society membership.
12.2. Discussion
   12.2.1. Luther - first member selected by NEC then that person may run for election
12.3. Suggestions
12.4. First appointments:
   12.4.1. **ACTION:** Buchanan - Hannah Angel as student rep. **Passed unanimously.**
   12.4.2. **ACTION:** Buchanan - Lisa Cox as early career. **Passed unanimously.**
   12.4.3. Both serve three year terms
   12.4.4. **ACTION:** Stahl will contact both.

13. Upcoming NEC conference calls
13.1. Wednesday August 15 0900-1000 MST
13.2. Wednesday October 10 0900-1000 MST

14. Session Moderators
14.1. Who selects? Conference program committee
14.2. Buchanan suggests early career/student moderators in Laramie
14.3. **ACTION:** Vance/Schumann will handle this issue

15. Transition Issues
15.1. Spending - need to form Committee on Spending in addition to Financial Investments Committee
15.2. ASMR award presentations - winners should be photographed with nominators and award committee chairs
15.3. Scholarship award presentations- winners should be photographed with committee chair
15.4. Emails to society as a whole - from ASMR President or President-Elect not Executive Secretary

16. Tupelo meeting initial summary
16.1. Registration: 175-180 attendees
16.2. Finances
   16.2.1. No final billing yet
   16.2.2. Food costs including gratuities $41K
   16.2.3. Should receive $1500 back on facility
16.2.4. Should receive money back on AV
16.3. Recordings: Camtasia issues, bitmap problems, need new cables
17. ADJOURN