WMTD members attending:

Gwen Geidel, Co-chair
Michele Coleman, NEC liaison
Bob Kleinmann,
BT Thomas
Tom Wildeman
Paul Behum
Bryan (BJ) Page
Ryan Mahony
Cody (Buck) Neely
Margaret Dunn
Tim Danehy
Bob Nairn
Bill Strosnider
Art Rose
Terry Schmidt
Plus 4 others
Unable to attend: Louis McDonald – Co-chair

Discussion Items:

1) Welcome by Gwen Geidel and introduction of NEC Laison, Michele Coleman
2) Function of WMTD:
   a) ASMR MEETINGS: Historically function to recommend sessions or symposia within ASMR meeting to advance areas of research and new developments and to review papers submitted for presentation at ASMR meetings. New ASMR format requiring only an abstract submission for consideration to present paper, has lightened the work load of the TD with regard to peer review of papers. However, papers from the meetings are still important and intent was to publish papers from the meeting in the Journal of the American Society for Mining and Reclamation (JASMR).
   b) JASMR:
      2 major issues with regard to JASMR 1) lack of papers being submitted and 2) formatting of papers within journal.
      1- A discussion on the number of papers and what that means for ASMR. If papers are not submitted for the meeting, the number that are submitted later to JASMR has been less than expected. The information previously published in the Proceedings was very useful and advanced the field; this information dissemination needs to continue. Suggestion that NEC review the abstract vs paper decision for presentation.
      2- Authors of presentations at this 2014 meeting are encouraged to submit a paper.
      3- Discussion on format of JASM- concern that the look of the journal is not as polished as other journals and that may impact an author’s decision to publish in the journal.
Nairn and Danehy suggest appearance / format be revisited and revised. Also the lack of a deadline (such as for prior conference proceeding) may be an issue.

Combination of more articles and revised format needed to improve JASMR.

3) Suggestions for Sessions/ Symposium at Lexington 2015 ASMR meeting:

Send ideas to Robert Darmody or Gwen Geidel; also ask people for specific topics

- Coleman/Kleinmann - Impact on groundwater by shale gas development or well/drilling issues related to water quality management, saline water and mine water treatment
- Thomas - future & history of coal
- Thomas – Selenium standards and the coal industry
- Danehy -cost of additional monitoring for mine permits
- Wildeman-fly ash pond dam failure (B. Hopkins, P. Birch may be interested)
- Behum- coal refuse impoundments, Illinois basin, Kim Vories might be able to get contacts

4) Issues Presented by Michelle Coleman from NEC and issues for her to take to NEC

- Papers for JASMR - quality of papers and journal format an issue
- Website needs major upgrade. Money should be spent on website. This was considered a MAJOR issue of concern.
- Papers also needed for Reclamation Matters
- Recruitment and student involvement is an ongoing issue – invited speakers at special sessions and symposia may help with recruitment and numbers
- Student scholarships and travel awards – need to get the word out better – maybe send out directly to faculty
- Award nominations – send in ideas at any time!