

Ciner Mine, Green River, WY
Executive Board Room
June 9, 2017
9:00am

- I. Call to Order Don Stauffenberg
 - Meeting was called to order at 9:00am
 - Roll Call and those attending on behalf of the Board of Directors were Terry Donaldson, Rick Magstadt, Jeff Harrington. Elwood Birch, John Hastert, Don Dorn, Don Stauffenberg.
 - Other attendees were Mary Ellen Young, Ronda Strother.
 - Member absent: Jamie LaValley, Tonya Allee and Helen Jerome
 - Those representing Ciner were Kevin O'Dell, Jeremy Spicer, Paul Morman, John Lewis

- II. Welcome new member Senator John Hastert
 - John is a Wyoming State Senator and has worked in the mining industry for almost 40 years. Introductions of the Board were made.

- III. Approval of the March 10th Board Meeting minutes: Don Stauffenberg
 - Rick Magstadt moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Terry Donaldson seconded the motion. Motion approved.

- IV. Approval of the most recent Financials: Don Stauffenberg
 - Mary Ellen explained the financials and stated that the budget prediction is approximately \$1M shortfall. She discussed the option of going through the process to ask for approval for additional funds to be released. She explained that there has been a significant increase in miner's reaching their maximum benefit of \$5K by the end of May. She feels that the higher increase in deductibles is a major cause of this increase.
 - Terry Donaldson moved to approve the May financials Don Dorn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- V. Old Business: Mary Ellen Young
 - A. Executive Director's Report/Programs
 - Mary Ellen reviewed the process of updating our records and thereby terminating members when information is not received. The number of claims has increased to almost double. The hearing claims have held consistent as have the prescription. Mary Ellen will review the forecast as she is predicting a shortfall but not as great as our financial analyst.

 - B. Financial forecast; projected budget shortfall
 - Mary Ellen explained that we do have the funds; however, it is past the timeframe to submit for supplemental money to the budget. A discussion was had regarding our own resources and the best avenue to pursue to add additional funds for the protection of the miner's claims. There was a suggestion to run the statistics on the funds for the programs along with the claims per year. This would provide the buffer to properly ensure that the program is fully funded without shortfall. The process will be handled differently in the future; however, a discussion was had on the best way to handle the projected shortfall immediately. Another concern is that if we continue paying out

claims at the rate we have, we will exhaust the 5% allowance. A discussion was had on the best way to address the parameters of the program should we need to make a change. A tiered coverage program was discussed and the possible changes to the program were debated. The historical EBMS data collected and analyticals needs to be reviewed which would help us address projected shortfalls and get ahead of the curve. The statute was reviewed for the proper terminology for legislative approval. Don Stauffenberg asked that we take a hard look at a projected tiered system. We can run the numbers on those insured with a maximum benefit of \$2,500 and those uninsured, Medicare and Social Security maxing at \$5,000 level as a model and review the outcome. Mary Ellen will present this information at the next Board Meeting.

- VI. New Business: Don Stauffenberg
- Don expressed concern about Misha’s interpretation of some wording in our Statute. WS 30-6-102 Section 2 (a) The question arose concerning “pulmonary/respiratory, cardiac, hearing loss and musculoskeletal conditions of miner which are due to labor in the mining industry.....” Misha’s interpretation was that **all** pulmonary/respiratory, cardiac and hearing loss conditions were eligible for benefits and only musculoskeletal conditions were subject to “due to labor in the mining industry”. Don and Misha discussed it and Misha researched this wording and she agrees that the legislative intent does include all of the four conditions that we have already listed and are inclusive in their interpretation of what is applied. The AG office feels that the wording is correct, and the email from Misha will be included as part of these minutes for future reference.
- VII. Hearing Aid Survey Results: Mary Ellen Young
- Mary Ellen shared the Hearing Aid survey results as we would like to post on the website. This includes the average cost and satisfaction with the hearing aid provider/audiologist. It was explained that new data is being compiled and all results will need to be approved by Misha at the AG office before anything can be posted to the website.
- VIII. Next Meeting: Don Stauffenberg
- A. Terry Donaldson made the motion to adjourn Don Dorn seconded the motion. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 11:42am
 - B. The next meeting will be held August 25th at 9:00am in Jackson, WY. The exact location is to be determined.
- IX. Underground Tour Jeremy Spicer, Ciner
- An optional underground tour was conducted after the Board Meeting. A full safety video and instruction was provided to those that opted to stay for the tour.