

Best Western Ramkota Hotel
800 N. Poplar Street
Casper, WY 82601
307-266-6000
November 8, 2013 8:30 AM

Don Stauffenberg, Wyoming Miners Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were:

Don Stauffenberg – Riverton	Jamie LaValley - Gillette
Bill Rice – Gillette	David Hornbeck - Casper
Rose Moseby – Rock Springs	Donald Dorn - Newcastle
Rick Magstadt – Greybull	Bill Korhonen – Rock Springs

Not Present:

Gary Wolfe – Green River

Others Present were:

Mary Ellen Young – Executive Director
Helen Jerome – Gillette Administrative Assistant
Judi Jarnagin – Green River Administrative Assistant
Kelly Roseberry – AG Representative

Don Stauffenberg made a determination that there was a quorum and that the meeting could proceed.

I. Approval of August 23, 2013 minutes

Don Stauffenberg

Rose Moseby made the motion to approve the August minutes as presented. Bill Rice seconded the motion. Motion carried.

II. Approval of October Financials

Don Stauffenberg

- Mary Ellen capped some of the different cost codes. Office supplies are going to be higher because of the fact that we do more mailings, etc. since we have been doing registrations in order to get good copies of drivers licenses, etc. Travel expenses are short because it was not broken down to separate board travel and office travel. It appears if costs average the same for the rest of the 2014 budget year; we may have about \$700K left over in the department code that pays our Miner's programs. If we have 700K left over in the Contract Cost Code, we can move that money to areas that will be short of funds. Lease of offices are paid once a year for both locations \$6,600 for Green River and \$7,800 for Gillette.
- It was decided that Mary Ellen would provide a report that shows an update of the monies left (by percentage and dollars) in each cost code and send out to board members.
- Bill Rice made the motion to approve the October Financials. Rose Moseby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Old Business:

A. Executive Director's Report/Programs

Mary Ellen

- a. The number of phone calls to Gillette is higher because the toll free number routes the calls to Gillette. It has been shown by increasing numbers of phone calls and people visiting the office that it is really valuable that we have someone in the office in Green River.
- b. We have had a couple of large claims that have been confusing and being paid late and Mary Ellen has turned them over to our EBMS claims processor and she is helping them straighten everything out.
- c. The Wyoming MHB offices are using Google Docs to keep all the miner's documents as they update or initially sign up. Mary Ellen has been informed by the State ITD department that Google Docs are secure and backed up to the State server.
- d. Mary Ellen attended a meeting in Denver with National Jewish. The meeting was very informative. National Jewish can help with Black Lung testing and can treat the member as well since they are a DOL approved treatment facility. Mary Ellen will get the number of how many cases of Black Lung we have in Wyoming. It

does exist in surface miners. NIOSH is trying to get better numbers regarding surface mining and black lung. NOWCAP in Sheridan has the federal grant for Wyoming, Utah, and Northern New Mexico. National Jewish drafted a letter for the purpose of obtaining more Federal Funding that they shows they outreach to more than just Colorado Miners. They requested we endorse the letter for them. The board read the letter and agreed to endorse National Jewish. A letter was sent out to our uranium members for National Jewish for testing that was done in August in Casper and some of them went to the testing. Helen/Mary Ellen developed a division for coal/uranium so that we can distinguish the coal miners that also worked in uranium.

e. Mary Ellen sent a letter out to all Hearing Aid providers, HR Contacts and others etc. to explain the steps on how to process a claim for hearing aids and that effective December 1st, 2013 hearing aids claims must first be sent to the miner's primary insurance. If the miner only has Medicare, the hearing aid claim does not need to be submitted to Medicare since they do not pay at all on hearing aids. An EOB from the primary insurance will need to be sent in to EBMS when filing a hearing aid claim for MHB. Bill Rice feels that perhaps we need some income guidelines to pay so much on HA in connection with income, etc. We need to shift the HA program to be like the medical program that the miner has exhausted all avenues of resource before we pay. Perhaps EBMS needs to set up a criteria for the WMHB for the HA program. The letter that Mary Ellen sent out will go onto the web site. Bill made the motion that Mary Ellen set up with EBMS an established criteria and process for all hearing aids whether they be first or additional ones. Motion was seconded by Donald Dorn. Motion carried.

B. Management Audit Committee Results

a. Don and Mary Ellen met with the Joint Appropriation Committee and the JAC is willing to sponsor a committee bill if we can get the wording worked out.

IV. New Business

Mary Ellen

A. 2015/2016 Budget

The budget is the same as what was submitted. It does not have the governor's signature as Mary Ellen will meet with him in December to do this. He was very complimentary on how we are handling our monies.

B. Miners electing to go "out of network" to receive treatment

a. All cases of when a miner elects to go out of their insurance network resulting in their primary insurance not paying and expecting the MHB to pay the bill will go to the Review Board for consideration of payment.

C. Statute and/or Rule changes

a. Senator John Hastert, who is a member of the JAC, spoke to the board about the wording changes we would like to see in our Statute. Senator Hastert and the MHB went through a proposed wording change line by line. This Statute change will be presented to the JAC at the November 19 meeting to discuss the proposed bill. Changes can be made until the bill is numbered by the house.

V. Public Sounding: None

VI. Adjournment & Next Meeting

- a. Feb 14th for Cheyenne for Meeting with a legislative breakfast. Mary Ellen will check to see when the Legislative Dinner with the WY Mine Assoc. is so that we can change our meeting date to coincide with the dinner.
- b. Bill Korhonen made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jamie LaValley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Update: The next board meeting is now scheduled for February 19, 2014 at 10:00am in the Casper room at Little America. There will not be a legislative invite breakfast.