

BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS

SUMMARY OF MEETING

May 5, 2015

The following is a summary of the May 5, 2015 Meeting:

- I. Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Randy Moore, Chairman. Members present were Randy Moore, Phillip Hale, Douglas Deel and Ricky O'Quinn. Also present were Mary Gibson, Regulatory Boards Administrator and Patty Varner, DMME Administrative Specialist. Member Bennie Johnson, Jr. was absent.**
- II. Opening statement delivered by Randy Moore, Chairman.**
- III. Motion made and seconded to accept May 5, 2015, meeting agenda and approve April 7, 2015, meeting summary. All members were in favor to approve.**
- IV. Review of Virginia Substance Abuse Cases (Closed Session)**

Of the cases that resulted in hearings, evidence was taken by the Board in closed session, pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-3711(A)(4) and 45.1-11.35(E). In the closed session, the Board worked out agreements, allowing individuals to return to work conditionally, and took other disciplinary actions including revocation of all certifications held by miners.

V. Open Agenda

Mary Gibson reported that there still is no resolution on obtaining services at an alternate facility for substance abuse screening due to a significant fee increase from Clinch Valley Medical Center for the 11 panel drug screen. Ms. Gibson will inform the Board if changes are made.

The Board continued discussion from previous meeting on expanding Virginia's surface blasters renewal requirements. Board members agreed that additional training would be beneficial. The Board reviewed the detailed renewal process required by West Virginia. Board members suggested that also the Division of Mineral Mining's renewal process be examined in order to possibly use their information. Chairman Moore recommended development of a continuing education program which could be endorsed and taught by Board of Coal Mining Examiners Instructors. Division of Mines personnel could in part use existing training materials which are currently used in surface foreman continuing education. The Board discussed the five-year renewal period on surface blasters and the complications presented due to the annual renewals.

The Board agreed that any changes should be slated for 2017 to coincide with the next surface foreman continuing education cycle. Ms. Gibson will discuss the Board's suggestions with the Certification Update Committee.

The Board discussed change and extension of expiration dates of the advanced first aid certification renewals. Mr. Moore stated that he and Carroll Green will explore the ramifications and needed requirements to make changes.

VI. Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2015.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.