

# Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Saturday, July 18, 2015

Kentucky Geological Survey

Room 102, Mining & Mineral Resources Building

Lexington, Kentucky

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Tim Crumbie**, Gil Cumbee, Jim DeCinque, Trent Garrison, Earl Hoover, **Donnie Lumm, Dan Phelps**, Larry Rhodes, Richard Smath (Executive Committee members in **bold**).

## Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Donnie Lumm.

## President's Report:

Donnie Lumm reported that 240 copies of the informational letters on the services of professional geologists and the Consumer Guide to Geologic Services were mailed to the County Judge Executives and County Commissioners in the state June 16, 2015.

Donnie reported that he has prepared a newsletter summarizing the Section's activities during the current year. The letter is posted on the Section's website.

Donnie reported that he has contacted the AIPG section presidents for Tennessee, Ohio and the Virginias sections as part of outreach activities. The Tennessee section replied indicating that their member participation has been sluggish. Donnie asked if he could attend one of their meetings and they said yes, but their meetings are usually scheduled on short notice. They had a field trip scheduled to visit at the Birdsong Formation in Western Tennessee but it has since been postponed.

Donnie asked if it would be appropriate to send the link to the Section website to National to distribute it to other AIPG sections. All agreed that it would be appropriate.

Richard Smath brought up the topic of obtaining advertising to include in our newsletter, stating that many other sections include them and likely receive income from them. Donnie acknowledged and stated that we should look into getting sponsors/advertisers in the near future.

Donnie reported that he is registered to attend the National Conference in Anchorage, Alaska which will be held September 19 – 22, 2015. He will provide a copy of his air fare booking receipt to the treasurer in the near future.

## President Elect Report

Dan reported that he is still attempting to locate a potential speaker for the next Darwin Lecture Series. He has not received any responses to his requests.

Dan also mentioned that the engineers in the Kentucky Department of Transportation recently received significant wage increases "in the attempt to retain" their employees and stem turnover. Dan and others got involved and the records to document the number of engineers leaving could not be produced. Dan reported that the ruling body eventually made a determination essentially stating that the state doesn't have to be fair.

Donnie recommended that the Kentucky Section of AIPG send a letter to the State personnel office to request information regarding the pay rates for the various classifications for state employed geologists. The request would be made under the Freedom of Information Act. Donnie will generate a draft letter and send it to selected members for review prior to sending to the state. Then the section may be able to use this information to take steps to make the pay between engineers and geologists more equal.

## Vice President's report

No report.

Past President's Report:

Bill Brab reported that he has submitted both the charter applications for the University of Kentucky (UK) and Northern Kentucky University (NKU) to AIPG National. UK's charter will likely be issued at end of July and NKU will likely receive theirs in mid to late August. Bill has also contacted Murray State University and Western Kentucky University (WKU) about establishing AIPG student chapters. Murray State University currently has three geology clubs: the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, Sigma Gamma Epsilon and GeoClub.

Bill has not yet received a response from Michael May or other faculty that he has attempted to reach at WKU. Trent Garrison recommended that Bill try to contact Leanne Bledsoe at WKU. Bill also said he needs contacts at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) and Morehead State University (MSU). Trent indicated that he should be able to assist making contacts at EKU. Bill will speak to Charlie Mason about establishing a student chapter at MSU.

Gil Cumbee asked if the universities will have any requirements to maintain their charters once they have been issued. Bill said there are a couple of requirements such as creating by-laws and attending meetings. Gil asked if these responsibilities need to be assigned to an individual (officer or chairperson) to ensure that the charters are maintained.

Donnie suggested having another social event for students at Sarah's Barbeque after UK receives their charter. Bill suggested that the Section could also do something similar at NKU. Trent recommended Ethereal Brewing on Manchester Street as another option for the Lexington social event.

Secretary's Report:

Tim Crumbie reported that the draft minutes from the June 6, 2015 meeting were emailed to Executive Committee members on July 15, 2015 and approved on July 17, 2015 after revisions had been made.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim DeCinque's provided Treasurer's reports for the month ending June 30, 2015. The following balances were reported for the AIPG interest bearing checking account on the referenced dates:

<u>Report dated June 30, 2015</u>	
Previous balance as of May 31, 2015	\$39,978.65
<b>Total Funds as of June 30, 2015</b>	<b>\$39, 230.92</b>
<b>Net change from previous report:</b>	<b>(\$747.73 )</b>

Bill made a motion to accept the June 2015 Treasurer's report and Dan seconded. The motion passed.

Editor's Report

Richard reported that the web site is now up to date. Access to the site had been blocked because National had changed servers. National apparently thought that Richard was with the Michigan Section of AIPG and directed him to their website. Richard was able to work through the issue with the help of UK IT personnel, who provided a temporary fix because it causes other issues. Richard is still trying to work out the technical issues with National.

**Discussion Points:**

Professional Geologist Exam Preparation Short Course (August 29, 2015)

Bill reported that the announcement for the upcoming event has already been sent out. Donnie will send an announcement to the Tennessee and Ohio Sections. Florida has scheduled their review session for August 22, 2015.

The early bird cost for the Kentucky review session is \$100 for non AIPG members, \$75 for AIPG members, \$85 government employees, \$20 for students, the session is free for student AIPG members. After August 8, 2015, these rates will increase to \$125 for non-AIPG members, \$100 for AIPG members

and \$110 for government employees. The student rates will not change. Donnie asked to be notified if they need assistance with food.

#### Fall Professional Development Conference - Shallow Subsurface Geophysical Methods:

Donnie indicated that the lead speaker will be Dr. Thomas Brackman with NKU/Cardno. Dr. Brackman indicated that he has a several potential presenters that he can bring to assist with the various aspects of geophysics. Bill also suggested that John Mundell with Mundell and Associates be contacted as a potential presenter. Gil suggested that the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS) may also have personnel capable of presenting on the topic. The short course could potentially be held in early October and the field portion could be held outside after 3:00 pm when the Core Barn has to be vacated. Donnie requested that short abstracts be provided by each presenter to document the event and its content. The abstracts could also be used to advertise the event.

#### Student Outreach Planning (WKU & MSU)

Donnie indicated that he and Bill would like everyone to be involved in getting the student chapters up and running. Trent said he could talk to the people at EKU to what they can get started there. Larry Rhodes indicated that he would be interested in attending the trip to Murray State University.

#### Proposed Amendment of Section Bill Bylaws:

Donnie indicated the Richard has proposed to change the title "Editor" to "Communications Chair" in consideration of technological advancements which include electronic communications and web page hosting. Richard said the bylaws only require the editor to do the newsletters. Technology has progressed beyond simply that. He has checked surrounding sections and noted that several have amended their titles accordingly.

General discussion was held about what title to use. The general consensus was that the title Communications Coordinator would be adopted to replace Editor. Dan made a motion to change the title in the section bylaws accordingly. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bill reminded everyone that once the vote has passed, the recommended changes need to be submitted to National for comment. He also mentioned that we had discussed delegating the duties of maintaining the student chapters to an officer, most likely the Past President. He also reminded us that we had discussed modifying the definition of a quorum. Currently the bylaws define a quorum as 15% of the membership, but in no event shall it be fewer than 12 members. The Kentucky Section has discussed changing this verbiage to "the majority of Executive Committee Members" in the past. Bill also asked about the need for position of President Elect because their duties essentially mirror those of the Vice President. Also, he asked about Section 4.1.2 of the section bylaws which indicates how meetings can be held. Currently, meetings can be hosted via Skype or other similar services. Finally, under Article 5, Bill indicated that some of the committees do not seem to be applicable on the local level. Bill asked that the Executive Committee review these issues and be ready to discuss in the future. Donnie asked Bill to send a list of these items to the Executive Committee members and allow a 2-4 week comment period before decisions are made.

Trent asked about the current annual dues. Students are not currently required to pay dues. Trent expressed concern that the 'sticker shock' that students might experience after transitioning to the professional rate might be a deterrent. Trent proposed that that an interim classification for recently graduated, young professionals be established. The National website was accessed during the meeting and there already exists a classification for young professionals that was established to address this issue.

#### ASBOG EXAM Results over the Past Few Years

Gil presented various spreadsheets that he is working on in response to a request that the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists had received, asking about the results of ASBOG exams that have been administered over the past few years. The spreadsheets show Kentucky ASBOG test results since March of 2013. The test is administered twice per year. Gil's summary compared various data sets including the results for Kentucky residents versus those that attended Kentucky schools, pass/fail rates by university attended, and distribution of test score ranges.

General discussion followed about what other potential data sets can be evaluated and how the information could be used. Ideally, AIPG could use this information to compare the results of those who have taken the review course against those who haven't taken the course. Gil reported that additional statistical information about the tests that can be obtained from the ASBOG web page.

**Other Items**

Board of Registration for Professional Geologists Update:

Larry reported that the next Board meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2015.

Bill reported that he and Gil have been investigating continuing education opportunities for professionals. Bill stated that Bluegrass Engineering and Survey, Incorporated presents professional development courses that are relatively inexpensive. Donnie said he would look at their website and discuss it later

The next meeting will be held on August 15, 2015. Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Richard seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm