

# Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Zoom Remote Access Meeting

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Tim Crumbie, Ben Currens, Donald Lumm, John Popp, Donny Prater, Richard Smath,**

## Welcome and Call to Order

President Donny Prater called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

## President's Report

Donny indicated that he does not have much to report at this time and will defer any other comments until later in the meeting.

## President Elect's Report

Donnie Lumm said he has comments about Student Chapter outreach but he will share those later in the meeting. He asked how many of the sponsors for the recent Darwin Lecture actually provided financial support for the event and that he noticed that KY-AIPG has 47 organizations listed as sponsors on the Section website. Donnie recommended that the list be updated to reflect current donors.

## Vice President's Report

Ben Currens reported that he reached out to some former lab mates about outreach opportunities. One of them had completed their undergraduate studies at Murray State University but has since lost touch and could not provide any contact information.

## Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie reported that he emailed the draft copy minutes from the February 24, 2022 KY-AIPG Meeting to the Executive Committee on March 21, 2022. The minutes were approved on March 23, 2022 following minor revisions. Tim added that he has comments about the annual student award nominations but will defer them until later in the meeting.

## Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab shared the Treasurer's Report for the period ending February 28, 2022. The report is summarized below:

Total Operating Funds as of January 31, 2022	\$23,440.23
Checking Account Balance as of February 28, 2022	\$24,131.73
PayPal Account Balance as of February 28, 2022	\$0.00
<b>Total Operating Funds as of February 28, 2022</b>	<b>\$24,131.73</b>
Net Change from January 31, 2022 report	\$691.50

Donnie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report updated February 28, 2022 pending minor revision; Ben seconded. The motion passed.

#### Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that the website is up to date with the exception of the minutes from the February 24, 2022 meeting that were just distributed.

#### Past President's Report

No report

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### February DEI Speaker

No progress had been made on this front. Tim volunteered to speak for the April event if no other arrangements can be made. Bill made a motion to defer discussion concerning the next DEI speaker until April due to the short time frame. Donnie seconded. The motion passed.

#### Student Awards

Tim reported that he sent letters requesting nominations for the annual student awards to the colleges and universities in Kentucky on March 22, 2022. The letter for Western Kentucky University was sent later because the contact that had been used previously, Dr. Fred Siewers, had retired. Dr. Michael May subsequently gave the approval to send the request to his attention. A deadline date of April 15, 2022 was established for the responses.

Richard added that he will send out the requests for the Lifetime Achievement, Geologist of the Year and DEI awards referencing the April 15, 2022 deadline.

Bill suggested that the verbiage used in the body of the letters, specifically the number and amount of the awards, be left somewhat vague as they depend on the number and quality of the nominations received. Tim acknowledged that the letters were intentionally vague in those respects and emailed a copy of the letter to the Executive Committee for review.

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

#### In-Person Meeting Options

Donny opened the discussion on the possibility of having an in-person meeting soon. Donnie suggested that an informal location that doesn't require a reservation should be considered. General discussion was held about the subject and all were in agreement to strive to hold the annual awards ceremony/meeting around the end of May before people leave for vacation. Donny suggested that the meeting be scheduled after the April 15, 2022 voting deadline has passed, possibly on April 21, 2022, to discuss the arrangements further.

#### Student Outreach

Donnie reported that he contacted Dr. Michael May (WKU) on March 17, 2022 who will reach out to Madeline Brosky, the WKU student chapter President, to discuss scheduling a zoom meeting. This meeting will hopefully take place before the end of the semester. Bill reported that he and Megan Cleinmark

attended a class for geology majors at the University of Kentucky (UK) on March 21, 2022. They had been invited by Drs. Alan Fryar and Ed Woolery to discuss their geologic careers. They were specifically interested with he and Megan because of their involvement with AIPG and the Board of Registration. They spoke for about 45 minutes on their professional growth, experiences and involvement with professional societies. Bill added that there were two (2) faculty members and ten (10) students in attendance and two (2) additional students who attended remotely. Bill stated that he has spoken to this particular class of students three (3) times.

#### 2023 National Conference Update/Discussion

Donnie reported that there have been few new developments since the last meeting on the progress at the meeting. He said the conference will be held in Covington, Kentucky from September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 through September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Bill will be handling the technical sessions and Donnie will be helping with the field trips. He said the first thing he needs to do is arrange a virtual field trip for one of the professors from Metropolitan State University in Denver, Colorado who wants video of some of the field trip stops.

Bill said he attended the meeting on Thursday March 10, 2022 and was tasked with showing the attendees how to navigate and utilize the cloud-based system (Office 365) for collaborating and sharing files. He reported that they also discussed the hotel contact for remote delivery, the logo that will be used for any publications, and finalizing the 'save the date' announcement so it can be distributed as quickly as possible. They also talked with AIPG section representatives about state agency contacts, logos for marketing, field trips and questions about GSA relations.

Donnie reported that Donny Prater is eligible for and should consider attending the 2022 National AIPG Meeting in Marquette, Michigan which is scheduled for August 6-9, 2022. He added that his registration, hotel and travel expenses would be reimbursed by KY-AIPG. He explained that the section president or a designated representative typically gives a short five (5) to six (6) minute report on the Section's activities over the year. Donnie added that he and his wife are planning to attend.

#### Website Update

Donny reminded everyone about the proposition that Megan Cleinmark made at the prior meeting about having a contact that can build the new KY-AIPG web page for around \$1,000 while preserving the data that Richard has compiled and maintained over the years. Bill made a motion to table the topic until more specific information can be obtained from Megan. Ben seconded the motion. Richard agreed that a lot of questions still need to be answered.

#### Kentucky Board of Professional Registration Update

Bill reported that a special meeting was held on March 15, 2022 to discuss the budget shortfall and how to compensate for the aging/declining registration numbers. There is concern that up to 60 percent of the membership could be lost over the next 5-10 years. The data suggests that the current annual renewal rate of 1,300-1,400 professionals could drop to 800-900. To compensate, the Board is considering modifying the current fee structure which hasn't changed since 2001 when the rate went from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per year. The only other change that has occurred since that time was going from annual to biennial renewals. Within this timeframe the Board has seen increases in fees from the managing organization. The Board is considering increasing the renewal fee from around \$100 to \$300 to make up the difference (based on the

projected membership numbers). Before this change can be approved and implemented, the Board has to make sure they have enough data to justify the increase and the proposal has to go through the legislative process and get approved by the Legislative Research Commission (LRC).

Bill reported that the ASBOG exam was administered on Friday, March 18, 2022 and he proctored the exam with Tasha Stewart, Administrative Section Supervisor at the Department of Professional Licensing. Bill added that twelve (12) people took the FG portion of the exam and seven (7) took the PG portion. The test was administered in-person at the Department of Professional Licensing office in Frankfort, KY. There will be one (1) more in-person test offered before switching to computer-based testing (CBT) in the spring of 2023. The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2022.

Donnie asked if the registration fee increase could be imposed gradually instead of instantaneously, which would be a shock to the membership. Bill acknowledged that it could be something worth pursuing but wording would be critical. Bill said he will pose the idea to the Board when they meet again in April. Bill indicated that membership must be increased to help offset funds that will be lost by the declining trend. He added that there aren't enough new registrations to offset those that are retiring from the profession or simply not renewing and to remain solvent it will be necessary (under current conditions) to increase the registration fee. Bill added that if the Board is considering revising the regulation, he would like use the opportunity to revisit the possibility of implementing Continuing Education requirements. He added that Indiana recently implemented the requirement and that the requirement seems to be gaining popularity.

Donnie thanked Bill his patience and effort in keeping up with all of the regulatory information and developments that he shares with the Executive Committee. He added that as officers, we need to take this information to heart and realize that the professional demographics are changing.

John Popp mentioned that the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS) Advisory panel meeting will be held via Zoom on April 15, 2022. He added that he will be out of town during the meeting and possibly the next AIPG meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

The next KY-AIPG Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 3:00 pm and will be held remotely (online). Donnie made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bill seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm.