

# Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Monday, April 29, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Application

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Tim Crumbie, Ben Currens, Austin Dilla, Daniel Draper, Frank Ettensohn, Donnie Lumm, John Popp, Richard Smath.**

## **Welcome and Call to Order**

President Austin Dilla called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

## President's Report

Austin deferred his comments until later in the meeting.

## President Elect's Report

Ben Currens reported that he has been looking into the website re-design and new ways to use Zoom or alternative platforms for remote meetings. He added that he will present more on these topics later in the meeting.

## Vice President's Report

Daniel Draper reported he has comments that he will save until later in the meeting.

## Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie indicated that he mailed out the draft minutes from the last meeting on Friday, April 26, 2024 but has not received enough responses for the minutes to be considered approved. He added we could vote on them now, or if anyone has any changes they can send them to him so the minutes can be updated accordingly.

## Treasurer's Reports

Bill Brab shared the Treasurer's Report for the month ending March 31, 2024 via the ZOOM application. The report is summarized it as follows:

<b>Total Operating Funds as of February 29, 2024</b>	<b>\$28,946.35</b>
Checking Account Credits as of March 31, 2024	\$10.73
Checking Account Debits as of March 31, 2024	\$1,357.01
<b>Checking Account Balance as of March 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$27,600.07</b>
<b>Total Operating Funds as of March 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$27,600.07</b>
Net Change from previous report	-\$1,346.28

Austin thanked Donnie and everyone else who assisted with the Darwin Lecture to make it a success. He made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and Daniel seconded. The motion passed.

## Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that everything is up to date, he is just waiting on the final version of the minutes from the last KY-AIPG to upload.

### Past President's Report

Donnie Lumm reported that someone anonymously recommended him for the National AIPG Section Award. He was thankful for the nomination. He deferred further comments until later in the meeting.

### **New/Ongoing Business**

#### Student Outreach

Austin indicated that he wanted to take this opportunity to review some of the outreach efforts that have been implemented so far, and to evaluate future opportunities. He reported that he had an opportunity to meet with the University of Kentucky (UK) graduate students but has not been able to connect with them. Donnie provided a brief summary of the trip he made to Western Kentucky University (WKU) and the visits that he and Daniel Draper made to Morehead State and Murray State Universities. Donnie reported that they visited Morehead on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and spoke to Dr. Jen O'Keefe's class, which consisted of eight (8) or nine (9) students. Donnie mentioned that he and Daniel were very well received. He reported that he and Daniel traveled to Murray State University on February 23, 2024 and spoke to a group of 18-20 students. He added that they were able to meet with the students in an informal setting, which he thought went very well. Donnie said that this was probably the best of the three (3) meetings. He said the students are more relaxed in informal interactions as compared to a classroom setting. Donnie indicated that the trip was worthwhile and advocated for doing it again in the future, but not necessarily every year. He suggested circling back around to meet with UK and Northern Kentucky University (NKU) in early September. Daniel said he thinks that KY-AIPG should try to reach out to a different faculty member (at NKU) given the lack of response recently. Ben Currens reported that he gave a presentation to students at UK on March 4, 2024. He asked if there is any value in trying to establish student chapters at the more distant colleges and universities. Perhaps KY-AIPG could reach them through a virtual presentation or workshop as opposed to traveling there. Donnie responded that it would be beneficial (and has been attempted) but he feels that there may be a disconnect between the students and the administration or staff.

Bill reported that he also visited UK on April 1, 2024 and spoke to the same class that Ben had. He discussed career path, professional licensure, and professional societies. He added that he, Ben and another young geologist went to Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) on February 23, 2024 and held a workshop with the students where they went over cover letters, resume writing and how to market themselves to employers. Ben added that he believes the trip went very well.

Austin asked for input as to what worked and what did not. Ben said having the students prepare resumes before the talks seemed to help with student participation. Donnie added that he displayed the KY-AIPG and National AIPG web pages so students could sign up for an AIPG membership free of charge but has not heard of anyone following up on this. He added that if he does this again, he will take physical 'cards' to collect the information and he will forward it to National AIPG or enter it himself, as one of the main purposes for the outreach activities is to build memberships.

#### Virtual Meeting Transition Away from Zoom

Austin suggested transitioning over to Zoom given that Edward Lo is moving away and requested that we consider using Microsoft TEAMS. He has had good luck using this platform. Daniel reported that National AIPG has a free ZOOM account that could be used. Ben reported that he has contacted National AIPG about utilizing their services and there seems to be limitations. He said KY-AIPG can set up a free ZOOM

account that will allow up to 100 people to participate in meetings lasting up to 40 minutes. If the meeting exceeds this time limit or if the number of attendees exceeds 400 then a non-free utility would be needed. He added that if KY-AIPG coordinates meetings through National's account, the number of participants increases to 500 with no time limit. National would have to schedule all meetings and start/stop them. Ben feels that this scenario might work for annual events like the Darwin Lecture, but probably not for monthly meetings as there may be scheduling conflicts. A general discussion was held about options and the associated costs. Austin said that to his knowledge, Microsoft TEAMS is free of charge. Bill added that there is a free option for a similar utility through Google Workspace. Bill suggested getting a cost comparison together so the options can be properly evaluated. Austin said he will investigate the options and list the pros and cons of each option to review for the next meeting. Frank said that he could host free ZOOM meetings through UK as long as he attends the meeting. Ben added that the only difference that he sees between the free ZOOM and TEAMS accounts is that the TEAMS platform offers 15 more minutes free (both have limits of 100 participants).

#### Annual AIPG Awards

Tim mentioned that two (2) nominations have been received for the Annual Student Award/Scholarship. Sydney Anderson from WKU was nominated by Dr. Michael May and Matthew Ritchie from ECU was nominated by Dr. Walter Borowski. Austin made a motion to approve both candidates and Ben seconded. The motion passed. Donnie made a motion to award both recipients \$500, Austin seconded. The motion passed. General discussion was held about how and when to present the awards. It was ultimately determined that KY-AIPG will have a banquet during which the awards will be presented. Donnie asked Tim to notify the students and (nominators) that they won and that they will be contacted later with the details for the event.

Tim reported that Dan Phelps nominated two (2) awardees for the Geologist of the Year, Ann Watson and Diana Rast. Donnie made a motion to recognize both nominees, and Richard seconded. The motion passed. Donnie reported that Tim was nominated for the Lifetime Achievement award. Donnie made a motion and Austin seconded. The motion passed.

Austin suggested that the Sedona House, where the event was held last year, be considered again because it was a good venue. General discussions were held about venue options, including West Sixth Brewery and the West Sixth Farm near Frankfort where it was held a couple of years ago. Donnie volunteered to research West Sixth Farm as the venue and report back in a couple of weeks. He added that there would likely be a minor cost associated with hosting the event at this location to cover food and drinks.

#### National AIPG Meeting (Durango, Colorado, August 10-13, 2024)

Austin indicated that he will not be able to attend the meeting because he has a previous commitment. He asked for input as to who can attend and Ben indicated that he has requested time off from work to attend the meeting. Donnie explained some of the duties that are required and that the largest portion of his expenses would be reimbursed to him. Ben said he will get back to the committee once he gets approval from his work. Donnie and John Popp are hoping to attend as Donnie is slated to receive the Section Leadership Award. Donnie suggested that the KY-AIPG support the annual meeting with a donation. All were in agreement. More to follow on this topic.

## **Other Discussion Topics**

### KGS Advisory Panel

John Popp reported that Drew Andrews, the acting State Geologist, ran the meeting. Alan Butterfield, Vice President at UK, opened the meeting and was complimentary of the relationship with his office has with Drew. A large portion of the meeting was spent discussing the three (3) candidates for the new Director of the Kentucky Geological Survey. The Board had been requested to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate, as opposed to making a recommendation. To date, no announcement has been made about whether a candidate has been chosen. Tim mentioned that KGS was interested in having the mock interviews for the Potter Interns again this year. Austin and Bill said they would love to participate with the mock interviews again this year. Tim indicated that he would notify KGS.

John added that there was considerable discussion about outreach opportunities and how to reach younger people, even before they get in high school. John suggested that KY-AIPG could support and participate in this effort.

### GSK Field Trip in the Fall of 2024

Donnie reported that he, Richard, Frank Ettensohn and John attended a GSK meeting in Morehead a couple of weeks ago. KGS is planning a field trip to look at road cuts along the Mountain Parkway in the Fall. The trip will be led by Dr. Steve Greb and Cortland Eble will lead the trip. When more details become available, they will be shared with the group.

### In- Person Meeting in May

Austin reported that he met with Daniel at his office to assess the possibility of holding meetings there in the future. Daniel invited KY-AIPG to attend the meeting at his office. Daniel volunteered to lay out rock core and provide food for those in attendance. Austin proposed and made a motion to hold the meeting on May 29, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Austin made a motion, Richard seconded. The motion passed.

### KY Board of Registration Update

Bill reported that the next meeting is on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:00 pm and is open to the public. All are invited to attend. Bill reported that there were 17 approved applications to take the FG portion of the exam and 11 approved by endorsement for the PG portion.

Frank requested approval from the Executive Committee to start planning for the semi-annual Bahamas Trip in March 15-22, 2025 (UK Spring Break). Charlie Mason has indicated that he has several people interested in attending. Austin made a motion to support the event and Richard seconded. Frank added that we need to set a deadline and determine the minimum number of people that are needed for the event to be profitable. Frank said he will need to wait until later in the year to get a better idea of the costs.

Tim mentioned that the winner of the High School Division of the Kentucky State Science Fair was Sophia Staples from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Lexington, KY. The abstract for her project, entitled Meteorite, or Meteor-wrong, will be distributed to the KY-AIPG Executive Committee. Faith Fiene delivered the awards to Ms. Staples, which included a personalized certificate, a check for \$50 and a book.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled on May 29, 2024 at 5:30 pm. This in-person meeting will be held at the S&ME office located at 2020 Liberty Road, Suite 105 in Lexington, KY. Bill made a motion to accept and Donnie seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.