

# Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Monday, December 30, 2024

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams Web Application

Attendees: **Bill Brab**, Tim Blackburn, **Tim Crumby**, Ben Currens, **Austin Dilla**, **Daniel Draper**, John Popp, **Richard Smath**.

## Welcome and Call to Order

Bill Brab called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm in Austin Dilla's absence. He welcomed Tim Blackburn to the meeting and gave him an opportunity to introduce himself. Tim indicated that his background in coal geology and that he has worked in coal bed methane, oil and gas, mine related hydrology and environmental. He currently works for a company named ARQ that reprocesses coal refuse from an old plant and makes precursors for activated carbon.

## President's Report

No report

## President Elect's Report

Ben Currens reported that he doesn't have a lot to add at this point in the meeting. He reported that he has the draft layout of the new website completed to his satisfaction and hopes to have it ready to view by the time of the next meeting. He added that the Darwin Lecture is approaching and that we want to make sure that the respective geology departments are aware of the KY-AIPG scholarship deadlines.

## Vice President's Report

No report.

## Secretary's Report

Tim Crumby reported that he emailed the draft version of the minutes from the November 25, 2024 meeting to the Executive Committee on December 26, 2024. The minutes were approved by majority vote on December, 28, 2024 and the final version was circulated to the Executive Committee earlier today.

## Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab shared the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 30, 2024. A summary of the report is provided below:

Total Operating Funds as of October 31, 2024	\$26,670.04
Checking Account Balance as of November 30, 2024	\$26,580.32
<b>Total Operating Funds as of November 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$26,580.32</b>
Net Change from previous report	-\$89.72

Ben made a motion to approve the report dated November 30, 2024 and Richard Smath seconded. The motion carried.

### Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that he has updated the website to reflect the 2025 Executive Committee and will upload the minutes from our last meeting soon.

### Past President's Report

Donnie Lumm emailed notes to be presented during the meeting in his absence, a summary of which is provided below:

#### **BAHAMAS Short Course**

The one-page BAHAMAS short course advertisement flyer was emailed to National in late November and was posted as a hotlink on their "EVENTS" link December 9, 2025. The flyer states that the course is from March 15-March 22, 2025 but does not include a registration link, which is on the KY-AIPG website. Dr. Ettensohn and Charlie Mason will be the instructors. Frank has indicated that he knows of "several people who were interested." The Treasurer will need to monitor the registration links, incoming trip deposits, and the mailbox for incoming registration forms and \$200 trip deposits, which are due by January 15, 2025.

#### **REGISTRATION DEPOSIT:**

**A \$200.00 deposit must be received prior to Jan. 15, 2025,**

**Make check payable to "Kentucky Section-AIPG",**

**The balance due for the trip must be received by February 15, 2025**

#### **MAIL REGISTRATION DEPOSIT AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:**

**Kentucky Section - AIPG: Bahamas Short Course**

**KY AIPG**

**P.O. Box 22521**

**Lexington, KY 40522**

#### **DARWIN LECTURE**

The Darwin Lecture is scheduled for February 20, 2025. The set up begins at 6:00 pm and the lecture begins at 7:00 pm. The lecture will be held in the Conference Room (Room 101) of the MMRB, UK campus. The speaker will be Dr. Loren Babcock, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. Donnie will reserve Dr. Babcock's overnight hotel room in Lexington, KY and will get the title of his presentation to provide to Ben by email within two weeks. Ben will need to get a copy of the 2024 PowerPoint presentation template from Austin Dilla and updated it to use during the for the speaker introduction and presentation. Someone will need to help Ben set up the livestream recording on the night of the event. Daniel reported that he will make a flier for the event.

#### **NEW OR ONGOING BUSINESS**

##### 2025 Bahamas Short Course

Bill reported that he checked the mailbox and there were no registrations or deposits for the trip. No other new information concerning potential participants or the research facility was available at this time.

##### 2025 Darwin Lecture

Bill said that the plans for the event seem to be moving along well. He followed up on his request for general information about the speaker and the topic of discussion because the KGS has agreed to promote and advertise the event. He added that Dr. McGlue, KGS Director, indicated that they are interested in incorporating the Darwin Lecture in the KGS lecture series which may increase exposure and help boost attendance. Bill indicated that it will be important to know the topic so potential attendees can determine

if they want to attend. Richard shared that he has templates for various announcements for the events that KY-AIPG has hosted over the past ten (10) years if anyone is interested. The lecture will be held on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the Mines and Mineral Resources Building (MMRB) at UK with a setup time of 6:00 pm and a lecture start time of 7:00pm.

#### Recap of Meeting with Dr. McGlue

Bill reported that he had an excellent meeting with Dr. McGlue, who is also a proponent of AIPG's mission and interested in re-igniting the relationships between KGS other geology related organizations. Below are some of excerpts from Bill's summary of the discussion:

1. Dr McGlue has committed to supporting our endeavors in whatever way he can, specifically allowing scheduling and use of KGS facilities. He has agreed to allow use of MMRB 102 for the Darwin Lecture, as long as is no scheduling conflict.
2. Dr McGlue shares our concerns as we see the number of geologists decreasing at a rate that is not being repopulated. We both agreed that there are many systemic and cultural issues that are in their own way contributing to and persisting in the rate of decay. I'm excited having spoken to him, he seems to be motivated to do what he can with support from the outside (KY-AIPG/GSK, state government, private industry, etc.) to work on this multi-headed problem.
3. Dr. McGlue is interested in keeping the doors of communication between KGS and UK EES open and clear. He also let me know that he recently hired Dr Sarah Johnson, formerly with NKU, and one of her roles will be to keep the channels of communication between the two entities open.

Bill elaborated that the meeting led to the opportunity for KY-AIPG to host the Darwin Lecture at the MMRB and that KGS has committed to assist with advertising the event. They also discussed the potential for hosting events future together. Bill added that Dr. McGlue is also interested in obtaining input from AIPG on how to bolster the professional population and address the declining numbers of geologists, whether it is the result of retirement or changes in professional focus.

Richard reminded everyone that Parking Structure #2 has historically been the place to park for on-campus events so that no one gets ticketed for attending the event. Bill reported that this topic was also discussed during his meeting with Dr. McGlue. Austin added that the rebuilding of the relationship with KGS is huge for KY AIPG and the profession in general, moving forward.

Ben asked if there is an IT contact at UK that could help with the AV setup during the lecture and to help stream it online. Bill responded that we already have the capability to stream directly to YouTube from within the Google Meets app. He suggested that we run a beta test about three (3) weeks out to make sure it works. Ben mentioned that the speaker will need to give permission to agree to have the event streamed online. Bill asked Ben to discuss this matter with Donnie and Dr. Babcock while they are in the final stages of planning for the event.

#### Election Results

Tim reported that the results of the 2024 Officer Elections for the 2025 calendar year were as follows:

Ben Currens - President

Daniel Draper – President Elect

Tim Blackburn – Vice President

Bill Brab – Treasurer

Tim Crumbie – Secretary

Richard Smath – Communications Coordinator

Tim indicated that he would provide this information to AIPG National in the near future.

### **Other Discussion Topics**

#### **Board of Registration Update**

Bill reported that the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is still trying to fill the vacancy for the ‘At Large’ position. They currently have a quorum, so they are able to conduct business but need to get the position filled and are therefore soliciting assistance. The next Board meeting is scheduled on February 10, 2025 at 1:00pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Bill added that there were ten (10) new Geologist In-Training (GIT) approvals, four (4) Registered Professional Geologists (RPGs) by comity and eight (8) RPGs by application.

A general discussion was held about the time and date of the next meeting, and the possibility of changing the time if needed. Austin thanked everyone for electing him as President and said he enjoyed it and is looking forward to what 2025 will look like. Bill concurred and added that he feels good about the potential to do some ‘cool’ things this year. Several other people thanked Austin for his leadership as President during 2024.

Daniel suggested that we consider an in-person opportunity to meet Tim Blackburn in person. He was open to suggestions. Tim Blackburn indicated that he is in Corbin but comes to Lexington about once or twice a week and would like to meet everyone. Bill suggested that we schedule an informal opportunity to meet and if it doesn’t work, we can reschedule as needed. Tim B. added that he’s been thinking about how to get younger people interested in geology for some time. Bill asked Tim B. to ‘reply to all’ on one of the group emails to suggest some times that would be convenient for him and we can accommodate. John Popp added that he is looking forward to meeting him.

Ben made a motion to adjourn and Tim Blackburn seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:47pm.

#### **Next Meeting**

Ben Currens recommended having the next meeting at 4:00 pm on January 20, 2025 remotely. Bill made a motion and Tim seconded. The motion passed