

MINING AND RECLAMATION ADVISORY BOARD (MRAB)

**Tuesday, August 24, 2004
Rachel Carson State Office Building
10th Floor Conference Room
11:00 a.m.**

Members/Alternates in attendance: Mark Snyder (Vice-Chair), Jack Chamberlin (Member), Sue Wilson (Alternate), David Strong (Member), Stan Geary (Alternate), George Ellis (Alternate), Sue Germanio (Alternate), Steve Shrawder (Member), Bruce Tetkoskie (Alternate), Duane Feagley (Alternate), David Mankamyer (Member), David Osikowicz (Member), and Janis Dean (Alternate).

Others in attendance: Joe Pizarchik (DEP), Nevin Strock (DEP), Bill Allen (DEP), John Meehan (DEP), Mike Steiner (DEP), Mick McCommons (DEP), Jeff Kost (Pa. Game Commission), Marc Roda (DEP), Eric Isenhardt (DEP) and Lara Logan (DEP).

Meeting Called to Order

MRAB Vice-Chairman Mark Snyder called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Vice-Chairman Snyder welcomed everyone and asked that all present introduce themselves.

The *Regulation, Legislation and Technical Committee* (Dave Osikowicz, Committee Chair):

Mr. Osikowicz discussed the Committee meeting earlier in the day. The Committee discussed changes to the draft Land Maintenance Financial Guarantees (LMFG) technical guidance document (TGD), and the revisions to the draft Conventional Bonding TGD. The significant changes/suggestions regarding the LMFG TGD are as follows:

- Remove the language providing for termination of the LMFG if the permittee fails to make timely application for final Stage 3 bond release.
- The fees charged for administration must be used for administering the program ONLY.
- If the operator does the completion report, the fee charged with initial application should be credited to a future LMFG application.

Dave Osikowicz moved to recommend to DEP to publish the LMFG TGD for public review with the changes suggested by the Committee. Jack Chamberlin seconded the motion, and the Board passed it.

The changes/suggestions regarding the Conventional Bonding TGD are as follows:

- Bond Rate Guidelines: The DEP should attempt to reduce the \$500 maintenance fee on Stage 3 bonds, and possibly take a prorated approach.

- Change the worksheets to a more uniform administration when it comes to pit size, ramp area, benches, etc.

Dave Osikowicz moved that DEP use the comments/suggestions of the Committee and publish the TGD for public review. After receiving public comments and prior to finalizing the TGD, DEP will bring the final draft back to the Board. Jack Chamberlin seconded the motion, and the Board passed it.

The Annual Report Committee (Richard Fox, Committee Chair):

Vice-Chairman Snyder gave his suggestions to the Committee before the meeting. Sue Wilson suggested that the Report recognize Fred Wolf for his service as Chairman of the Board. Sue Germanio moved that the Board adopt the report with the suggested changes and the additional language recognizing Fred Wolf. Bruce Tetkoskie seconded the motion and the Board approved it.

Key Obligation: Nevin Strock should draft a document to be included in the Annual Report, recognizing Fred Wolf's service as Chairman.

The Nominating Committee (George Ellis, Committee Chair):

George Ellis reported as Chair of the Nominating Committee for new Board officers. The Committee offered David Osikowicz as the new Board Chair, with Burt Waite serving as his Vice-Chair. David Strong moved to accept the nominations, with Jack Chamberlin seconding the motion. The Board approved the motion.

Grayfields Legislation

Joe Pizarchik gave a short summary of the draft Grayfields Legislation and its current status. He asked for comments/suggestions from Board members. David Mankamyler suggested that DEP create a database of Grayfield areas and conservation districts that could be of assistance regarding the legislation. Bruce Tetkoskie suggested that DEP contact the Pennsylvania Environmental Council for help. Chairman Snyder asked the Board members to get any comments/suggestions to Mr. Pizarchik by September 7.

New Business

Chairman Snyder opened discussion regarding the October Board meeting. David Mankamyler moved that the full Board meet on October 27 instead of October 28 and the Reclamation Committee meet at 9:00 a.m. on October 2 to discuss issues coming up in the near future. David Strong seconded the motion and the Board approved it.

Joe Pizarchik briefed the Board on water supply replacement issues. Dave Snyder asked Mr. Pizarchik to distribute a packet of information regarding the outreach meetings that were held in

May and June. He also suggested that DEP staff that held the meetings come to the next Board meeting and discuss the issue.

Key Obligation: Put together packets of information on water supply replacement outreach meetings and send to Board members.

The motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved by the Board.