

Mine and Quarry
Quarterly Performance Review
6th floor CR, Old Revenue Building
May 7, 2015 at 2:00 PM

Attendees: Art Britt, Phil Hooper and William Gerringer
Scribe: Charity Locklear

Reviewed Performance Charts for April, 2015 Mine and Quarry YTD Quarterly Monthly Statistics.
Note the performance review charts and minutes are posted on the intranet.

Standards

Mine and Quarry has met all standards for performance year 2014-2015.

Public Relations

Nicole with WSHA radio station proposed that the NC Aggregates Association do more education and training to the public. William – There is no cost involved. William has not heard back from Nicole, N.C. Aggregates or Dolores Quesenberry about the proposal.

Mine and Quarry Conference

The Annual Mine and Quarry Conference was held in Asheville this year. The conference was very successful.

Injury Rate for 2014

The injury rate for the mineral industry increased to 1.95 for 2014.

Mine Safety and Health Law School

1 MAQB staff employee attended the Morganton, NC Mine Safety and Health Law School. There were 34 people in attendance. Art – How does the attendance number compare to other Mine Safety and Health Law Schools. William – 34 attendees is about normal. 30 attendees at one time is an ideal number.

Term Miner

Art – What does the term miner mean? William - Operators are miners and are required to have miner training. An office worker at a mine site is not considered a miner because they are not exposed to the mine site. Unless, the company uses administrative people to do training and regulations.

Injury Investigations

Phil – Does the State investigate injuries or does MSHA. William – MSHA will investigate all injuries minor or not. Sometimes the State M&Q representatives will help investigate a fatality. M&Q doesn't go out on minor injury reports. MSHA investigates and reports all injuries.

Rate of Injury to workers in the mineral industry

2013 rate was 1.73 and the 2014 rate was 1.95. The rate increased due to the decrease in employees and an increase in man hours. North Carolina is well below the Federal average of 2.7. The Federal

government posts worker's injury reports for metal non-metal, coal and underground mining on their web site. 2014 –There were no fatalities reported at mine or quarry sites in N.C. for 2014. N.C.'s mining properties are 2 points below federal number; however, N.C. doesn't have underground mining or any coal mines. All mines in NC are non-metal operations.

Technical Assistance

Mine and Quarry representatives try to provide technical assistance for companies before training picks up when time allows. Phil – Do they have to make a request? William – The first priority for technical assistance is for mines. A date can be scheduled for a representative to go to the mine and cover a specific topic relevant to the operation. The company can send the representative photos and use as a tool for training if time allows. Mine and Quarry does a lot of contractor training as well. Training is slow this time of year.

Abandoned Mines

Some data was lost when IT did an update to the server. An abandoned mine was lost and then the data was recovered. The abandoned mine was inspected before the end of the evaluation year. William is going to update the Evaluation report color from red to green. Mine and Quarry may pick up two additional abandoned mines to be inspected in the future.

Phil – Charity and Phil are going to discuss changing the YTD Status color from "red" to another color that shows the objective is on target to be met by the end of the performance year.

Performance Year

Mine and Quarry's performance year starts April 1st and ends March 30th. William would prefer if the performance year was based on the State Fiscal Year. William – Is the new VIP system going to change our performance year to the same as the State Fiscal Year? William would prefer that because he has to keep up with 3 different reporting times during the year. Phil – Human Resources handling that. We are just waiting on Human Resources to let us know.

Activity Reports

Every time a Mine and Quarry representative goes out to a company or meets with a contractor, they will write a memo or narrative about the visit.

Commissioner Berry

Art – Are there any opportunities for the Commissioner to visit with your representatives and visit operations? If there are any opportunities, whether it is training or meetings, call Art and he will get it on the Commissioner's schedule. William may have an opportunity coming up that the Commissioner can attend.

Legal Seminars

Phil would like to attend one of the Legal Seminars and the Commissioner could also attend. William – Two of the four M&Q representatives attend along with William. William usually kicks the Seminar off.

Law School

The next law school will be held in August or September and will be in Rocky Mount or Wilson. MAQB has an Instructor course scheduled for the week of August 17, 2015 at Western Piedmont Community College in Morganton.

State Grant Funding

William attended a Federal conference with IMCC (Interstate Mining Compact Commission) in Baltimore, Maryland. The Fed's worked with William on State funding issues with the upcoming grant money. William found out that the Federal government is going to cut funding by \$14,000 this year. The Fed's base the funding strictly on mine IDs and number of miners trained. However, contractors are considered miner's in the Mine Act and are not considered when grant money is allocated. Greg Conrad, IMCC Executive Chairman, is going to go back and talk to Jeff Duncan, Director of Education Policy and Development with MSHA, to see if there is some potential for more grant money or if there is any extra money available we may receive. Congress is looking at opening up the Robert Byrd Act again and that would double state grant money.

Training

Phil – Have you ever split out miner's training and contractor's training? William – Yes. MSHA has asked William to do a presentation on "Contractor Safety and Responsibilities" at the Annual Joint Holmes Seminar at Virginia Beach in June. Allen Greene will be conducting day 3 of the Instructor Course in Spruce Pine on June 24, 2015.

VIP

William is currently working on M&Q's VIP.

Staff Meeting

William may have a Skype call conference with the M&Q staff in July or August. Phil – Suggested that William have his staff come in for All Employee's week to have their meeting and also, give them their physicals that week. Physicals cost between 8 and 10 thousand dollars.

Staff

There may be one retirement coming up within a year.

Next Mine and Quarry Quarterly Performance Review meeting will be held on July 28, 2015 at 2:00 P.M., 6th floor CR, ORB.