A meeting of the Mine Families First Response and Communications Advisory Council was held on April 9, 2019, in the Westmoreland Room at the DEP New Stanton Office in New Stanton, PA.

Attendance:

Members Present:
- John Kline, United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), Chairperson
- Richard Fink, At-Large -Member - House
- Joseph Sbaffoni, At-Large-Member- House Alternate
- Philip Barker, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
- Mark Lepore, Mental Health Professional
- Will Dando, Pennsylvania Coal Alliance (PCA) via conference call

Others Present:
- Craig Carson, DEP-BMS
- Richard Wagner, DEP-BMS
- Dustin Mowery, DEP-BMS
- Margaret Scheloske, DEP-BMS
- Stephanie Doratio, DEP-BMS

Chairperson John Kline called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes from the April 10, 2018, meeting held in DEP New Stanton were reviewed.

A motion was made by Will Dando to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Richard Fink and all members accepted the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

Report of Bureau of Mine Safety Activities:

Bureau of Mine Safety Director Colvin Carson gave an overview of the Bureau’s activities since last year’s meeting.

Director Carson reported that there were two bituminous fatalities in 2018: One at the Kocjancic Mine where a miner was caught between the rib and a mobile bridge conveyor, and another at the North Fork Mine where a miner was caught between the rib and the bridge of a mobile bridge machine. A third fatality occurred at an anthracite site where the victim was struck in the forehead by a projectile caused by over pressurization of a hydraulic system. There were also two medical fatalities: A driver entered the Coral-Graceton Mine property and drowned in a
treatment pond, and a delivery driver at the Bailey Mine suffered some type of medical emergency that resulted in his death.

New Business

There was no new business.

Next Meeting Date and Location:

The Mine Families First Response and Communications Advisory Council would like to try to hold a meeting in conjunction with the PEMA conference in September. Otherwise, a meeting will be scheduled for April 7, 2020, at the DEP New Stanton office. Mr. Barker will let Chairman Kline know the details of the 2020 conference which will be shared with the members.

A motion was made by John Kline and seconded by Mark Lepore to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m.