The 2019 Spring Joint Meeting of the West Virginia Coal Mining Institute and West Virginia Coal Association was held on March 20-21 at the Embassy Suites, Charleston, W.Va.

The meeting began on Wednesday March 20 with Registration held 2:00-6:30 pm and then the Reception before the WV Coal Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction. Master of Ceremonies was Bill Raney, President, WVCA.

On Thursday morning after Breakfast, Technical Session I took place. Session Co-Chairs were Mark Stowers, Contura Energy and Tom Sloan, Quaker Chemical. The following presentations took place:


2. Logan Hall, Contura, “Constructing Contura Energy’s Road Fork 52 Mine”

3. Larry Kabat, KMC Manager Smart Solutions - AMNO Underground Komatsu Mining Corp, “Use of Data Mining for the Improvement of Productivity and Total Cost Per Ton”
4. Bill Raney, WV Coal Association, “Wrap Up of Legislative Session”
5. Chris Hamilton, WV Coal Association, “Cooperative Efforts Between BIC and Coal’s Agenda”
7. Bill Reid, President, Coal News, Inc., “West Virginia Coal Mining Institute History Project”

After Lunch, Technical Session II took place with the same Co-Chairs as in the morning. The following presentations being made:

1. Dr. Vladislav Kecojevic, Robert E. Murray Chair and Professor, WVU Mining Engineering, “Current State of the WVU Mining Engineering Department”
2. Isaac Knolte and Nate Waters, Leer South Project Manager and Senior Underground Mine Engineer respectively, Arch Coal, Inc. “New Leer South Mine – Plans and Impacts”
4. Dr. Quingqing Huang, Assistant Professor, WVU Mining Engineering, “Evaluation Study on the Separation of Radioactive Elements from Rare Earths”
5. Dr. R.J. Matetic, Director, NIOSH Pittsburgh, “Overview of Current Research Agenda at NIOSH”

6. Dr. Brianna Eiter, Behavioral Research Scientist, NIOSH, “Search Like an EXAMiner Using NIOSH Hazard Recognition Tools”

7. Conner Brown, NIOSH, “Lab and Large-Scale Investigation of Two-Part Foam Rock Dust”

8. Dr. Khaled Mohamed, NIOSH, “The Coal Pillar Rib Rating (CPRR) Technique”

President of the WVCMI is Ryan A. Toler and Secretary is James M. Dean. Vice Presidents are: Joe Pugh, Vlad Kecojevic, Rudy “RJ” Matetic, Edwin “Pat” Brady, Thomas Sloan, and Mark Stowers.

President of WVCA is Bill Raney, Senior VP is Chris Hamilton, and Vice President is Jason Bostic. Office Manager is Sandi Davison. Chairman of the Board is Jesse Parrish, Blackhawk Mining.

Arrangements for the meeting were by Patricia Huggens and AV arrangements by Josh Murphy.