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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1968

AT THE CASTLE HARBOUR BEACH AND GOLF CLUB, BERMUDA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1968

Present:

Messrs:	W.W. Oughtred	C.B. Burnett	R. Hennebach
	K.V. Lindell	I.C. Campbell	J.R.M. Hutcheson
	R.S. Coleman	D.T. Colton	D. Poirier
	J.A. Main	J.D. Christian	D. Poutistine
	R.J. Merrill	R. Dodds-Habron	P.H. Riordon
	M.J. Messel	J.W. Duncan	G.W. Smith
	P.A. Meyer	J.O. Eby	W.J.W. Smith
	F.P. Smith	W.H. Foster	G. Robinson
	A.H. Sagenstose	R.P. Gagnon	I. Sabourin
	R.D. Bradford	N.W. Hendry	P.A. Filteau

The President, Mr. W.W. Oughtred was in the chair. In his opening remarks, the President extended a cordial welcome to all those present and more specifically to Messrs. Christian and Hennebach, the latter attending a meeting of the Association for the first time.

Approval of minutes of the meeting of July 30, 1968 was deferred to next regular meeting, so as to allow directors to verify their content.

The President then called on the Chairmen of the various standing committees to present their reports. Copies of these reports were distributed in a consolidated format and therefore need not be repeated in the minutes.

3.

The Industrial Relations Committee is getting ready for the next negotiations. A wage survey is being made, etc. The C.N.T.U. pattern for their next demands is influenced by present disputes elsewhere in the Province (Domtar, G.L.B., etc.).

The Casier situation with the Steelworkers (C.W.S) representing the employees was also briefly discussed by Mr. Christian.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

In his report the Chairman of the Committee brought to the attention of the meeting the negotiations presently under way concerning the following items:

1. N.H.B. Top Wharfage Charges
2. Middle Atlantic Truck Rates
3. Inter-American Freight Conference
4. Canadian Continental Conference

The terms of the negotiations should be finalized before next meeting.

LEGISLATION AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

In the first part of his remarks, the Chairman explained briefly the recent orders-in-council enacted by the Government, namely:

Order-in-council number 2126 re Diesel Oil used in explosives

Order-in-council number 2525 re Electricity used in the transforming of a product

Bill 37, re increased paid-up capital tax

Order-in-council number 2124 re Deduction of charitable contributions

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Chairman indicated that all his sub-committees are progressing in their work quite satisfactorily; recommendations will be forthcoming in due course.

UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION AND GRADING COMMITTEE

The Chairman reviewed briefly the work in progress at the Sherbrooke Laboratory, as well as the status of the Random Q.S. Production Sampling Program.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Chairman pointed out that the Q.A.M.A. Workmen's Compensation experience is good, with an average rate of \$1.85 per \$100.00 (1.85/100) for last year. However, an increasing number of industrial disease claims is expected, as a result of many employees filing a claim for industrial disease impairment upon retirement.

A review of recent labour contracts showed that in the case of Lake Asbestos the agreement contains an opening clause on wages and holidays for April 1969. As for Bell Mines a two year contract was signed with a 5.5% wage increase effective July 1st, 1969. If wages in the area are higher at that time, the difference will be compensated retroactive to January 1st, 1969. Pension age has been reduced from 68 to 66. The steelworkers representing the Bell employees insist that the latter take their annual holidays -and no payment in lieu of holidays not taken- the objective being to place more people on company payrolls. Increases in fringe benefits do not seem to be justified. The unions are more militant, with the steelworkers resuming activity in the Thetford area.

In ending the Chairman emphasized that price and wage stability would no doubt be major subjects of discussion at all levels in the coming months.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

After reading the report submitted by Editas on the political situation in the Province of Quebec, a report which dwells primarily on the use of the French language in business and industry, the Chairman tabled a draft of a new fact booklet and the text of a first basic talk, on the need to export fibre, as part of a speech kit to be used by representatives of the industry. Comments are requested and should be forwarded to the Chairman of the Committee.

In the same vein, the General Manager added that during the recent Mines Ministers' Conference in Quebec City, a good deal of time was devoted to a discussion on ways and means to improve the image of the mining industry through a concerted public relations program.

To this effect, the Mining Association of Canada has solicited the assistance of the various mining associations and institutes.

The moving of the asbestos block from "Terre des Hommes" to Laval University will take place after the closing of the Montreal Expo, i.e. around October the 15th.

DUST ABATEMENT COMMITTEE

According to the report read by the Chairman, three (3) specific projects are presently being tested at various plants within the industry.

A) Dryer Stack Control

Experimental measures under test are:

1. Bag Collectors
2. Rotoclone Collector
3. Electrostatic Precipitator

B) Miscellaneous Equipment

Two types of units are presently studied:

1. Pulsaire Collector
2. Aerodyne Collector

C) Stabilization of Tailings Piles

The Director of the Sherbrooke Laboratory has made a preliminary study to define the problems involved. Feasibility studies are planned.

The Chairman will attend a private industry conference on pollution control in the mining industry on October 17th, in Toronto. He will give a paper on the work done by the industry in regards to the suppression of waste into the air.

As a last item, the Chairman suggested that the name of his committee be changed from Dust Abatement to Environmental Control Committee. Opinions were aired by the directors and counsel, following which it was proposed and seconded to make the suggested change. CARRIED.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

At this point the General Manager reported briefly on the presentation of the briefs on Diesel Oil Tax and Exploration to the Minister of Natural Resources. Judging from the comments of the Minister and his staff, favorable recommendations on these two points are expected to be submitted to the cabinet.

The Department of Natural Resources is also ready to finalize the transfer of the property and equipment of the Thetford Mine Rescue Station, pending an official resolution of transfer of property and rights of occupation on the part of our Association.

The General Manager attended the recent Mines Ministers' Conference and the Joint Meeting of the Provincial Mining Associations held in Quebec City, September 15th to 19th. Two items of interest on the agenda were:

- 1.- Effects of noise on mine workers health.
- 2.- Pollution control and mining land reclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer

The Meeting was advised of the transfer of the Treasurer's office from Thetford Mines to Montreal, and in this connection on motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED:

THAT the Meeting approve the transfer of the Treasurer's office from Thetford Mines, Que., to the office of the Association located in Suite 1210, IBM Building, 5 Place Ville Marie, Montreal, Que.;

THAT the Association's Bank account, presently with The Royal Bank of Canada in Thetford Mines, Que., be transferred to The Royal Bank of Canada, 1 Place Ville Marie, Montreal, Que.;

AND THAT the Secretary and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized and directed to do, sign and execute all things, deeds and documents necessary or desirable for the due carrying out of the foregoing.

ADOPTED.

Budget forms for 1969 estimates are about to be distributed to various Committee Chairmen.

Request from Laval University

In reply to a request for financial assistance towards the cost of erecting a geological garden at Laval, the directors proposed that the Association pay the moving of the asbestos rock from Montreal to Laval University, for a maximum contribution of \$2,000.00 ADOPTED.

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GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Generally speaking the construction industry is expected to show a decisive up-swing in 1968 and 69. If housing starts in U.S.A. stood at 1,600,000 to 1,700,000, the industry's welfare would indeed benefit. Mobile housing is looming up as a possible charge steadying factor in the face of ever rising costs in said connection.

Some lines of asbestos products are down, such as asbestos-cement pipe, roofing, flat and corrugated sheets; others, however, seem to improve, such as flooring and insulation.

As a whole, business has been good in the first 8 months of this year, but should level off in the next 6 months. A small increase in volume is expected in 1969.

Industry is quite concerned with increased wages in the construction industry. In this respect, the Government has been urging the unions to ease off a little on their demands.

In Canada the situation follows somewhat the same trend. A small increase in business volume is expected in 1969. In brief industry is modestly optimistic for 1969 and more so for 1970.

HISTORY OF BELL ASBESTOS MINES

Mr. Geo. W. Smith has just completed after many months of hard work the detailed history of Bell Asbestos Mines. Mr. Smith has graciously proposed to make copies available to members of the Asbestos Mining fraternity.

FUTURE SPECIAL MEETINGS

The dates of the 1969 Special Spring Meeting have been changed to April 17th-20th.

Since the Cloister cannot offer space during the 3rd week of March for the 1972 Winter Meeting, the General Manager has been asked to contact an other location.

NEXT MEETING

It has been suggested that a reception for Government officials and other mining body officials be offered by the Association sometimes during the Fall. A possibility would be to hold such a reception in Quebec together with the next regular meeting of the Association scheduled for November 26. If, for instance, the reception was held on Sunday evening, November 24, the meeting could be on Monday morning November 25; or alternatively, the reception could be on November 25 and the meeting either November 25 or 26. Directors will be advised as soon as date can be confirmed with the Department of Natural Resources.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Paul-A. Filtsau,
General Manager
&
Secretary.

.../ September 21st.