Meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm. Fourteen were present.

November meeting minutes were reviewed.

The treasurers report: $600 in checking account. $12,017.90 was deposited into the High Plains Heritage scholarship account.

We will send out the scholarship information to KAPA/KCRMA to help with distribution of information to college bound students.

The underground salt museum is using W65’s from China. They are not MSHA approved.

Bob Small let us know:
- David Zatezalo is the new Assistant Secretary
- The Workplace Exam issue is still being reviewed.
- An explanation of Opening/closing forms: if doing maintenance, you are still open. MSHA likes to do inspections while you are in full operation. If the mine site is closed (crushing ceased), but they are still loading out, MSHA does not have jurisdiction. If the loader operator were to have an accident, MSHA may show up.
- Be sure to hit the “submit” button after filling out the quarterlies. Some operators are forgetting and then they are late.
- When testing part brakes, do not try to drive through them.

Leon Mueller informed us:
- Martin Marietta – Ft. Calhoun is going underground.
- They are using a GPS system that attaches to their hard hats. It is a proximity detector that will stop the machine if to close.
- 6 power haulage fatalities for 2017 and 13 total fatalities for 2017
Old Castle is testing a similar detection device. Their device monitors 60 vehicles/second. This helps keep their construction workers from being run into. It is available to anyone who inquires about it.

Jim Barta let us know about a blasters course on February 19-21, 2018.

Jim also needs help with safety topics for the Spring Thaw in March. Here are some that have been discussed. If you have any other suggestion, please let Jim know soon.

- Proximity Detectors
- Closed properties (MSHA vs OSHA)
- Bio-Diesel
- Work Comp Topics
- New Fall Protection Devices
- Westar’s Electrical Trailer

The meeting dates for the rest of the year are:

- March 15, 2018 in Emporia (Spring Thaw)
- May 15, 2018 in Topeka (MSHA)
- July 17, 2018 in Kansas City (APAC)
- September 14, 2018 (Fundraiser at Powder Creek Shooting Park in Lenexa, KS)
- November 13, 2018 in Manhattan (Bayer)

Safety awards were handed out to those that attended. The rest will be handed out during the Spring Thaw in March.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

PS – I would like to remind everyone of the awards that the National Holmes Association offers. Please review them at the link below and see if you have any deserving employees at your company. They hand them out at the National Conference in June. If you are unable to attend, I would be happy to bring any award back to you. Thank you.

http://www.holmessafety.org/home/award/