

**Oregon OSHA**  
**Construction Advisory Committee**  
Tuesday March 3, 2015

**Meeting Minutes**

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**Attendees:**

Alta Schafer	Eliot Lapidus	Nathan Taylor
Bob Hall	Gary Beck	Pat Brunson
Chris Ottoson	Ian Chase	Paul Johnston Jr.
Chuck Stahl	Jeff Wilson	Roger Dale-Moore
Clark Vermillion	Jim Gibson	Russell Nicolai
Dawn Morse	Kevin Wheatcroft	Scott Peabody
Dede Montgomery	Mark Tobiasson	Tony Howard
Demetra Star	Melissa Diede	
Doug Rodgers	Mike Lavella	

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The meeting was called to order by Nathan Taylor, chair.  
Self introductions were made.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved by the group with a few changes.

**Lessons Learned:**

A boom lift ran over a can of spray adhesive and at the same time an employee was welding on an open floor above the boom lift. There was a spark from the welding and it ignited the vapor from the spray adhesive can and it created a fire. There was a fire watchman on site and was able to extinguish the fire. The lesson learned is to ensure the work area is clean of all debris and materials, especially when there is machinery being driven around on the job site.

A truck was delivering materials in a designated drop off spot. Two employees were unloading the truck and they were walking back to the truck and a boom lift ran into the back of the delivery truck. The lesson learned is communication. Everyone needs to communicate with everyone on site and maybe place a barricade if there are vehicles being used.

Iron workers had plugged a welder into a spider box. Down the line there was a fire coming out of a cord. They found that someone had modified the 3 phase cord to a single cord. It was not clear if the machine came to the employees in that state or if they had modified it.

On a jobsite walk around, they were inspecting a harness from a roofer and the tag had been cut off so it was not clear when the harness had been inspected. A discussion was had regarding harnesses not being worn properly and being worn in poor condition and the life span of a harness. A company has recently replaced their policy on inspecting

harnesses, and they moved to an electronic system. They install a chip into the harness and they are able to scan the chip with an I-phone to enter data and check the inspection history.

A vehicle parked next to an auger. A foreman didn't do a walk around of the vehicle prior to entering the vehicle and as the foreman was moving the vehicle out he hit the auger putting a large hole in the truck.

A loader operator received a concussion when he fell, or tripped coming off the step. The metal rails did not have any non-slip grip on them. One company has used non slip adhesive tape on all metal rails so employees can't slide their hands down them risking a fall. They have to use a hand over hand motion.

## **Rules:**

OSHA submitted a [proposal for recordkeeping and reporting](#) rule change to Federal OSHA on Friday January 30, 2015.

There are 3 hearings set up for recordkeeping and reporting.

1. February 26, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Portland
2. March 3, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in Bend
3. March 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Eugene

\* More information can be found at the link above

The Confined Space rule became effective March 1, 2015 for the Construction Industry.

Rulemaking for Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution is still ongoing.

Oregon OSHA held three public hearings in November and December of 2014 receiving many written comments and oral testimony at the hearings before the comment period closed on December 12, 2014. However, Oregon OSHA has decided not to adopt the rule as proposed, but instead to develop a new proposal.

Oregon OSHA is contemplating replacing the federal general industry and construction rules with Oregon-initiated rules that cover both industries. Oregon OSHA will reconvene an advisory group to present a draft of the consolidated rule and provide insight to proposed rule revisions based on the comments and testimony received.

Our work with an advisory group will be happening soon with new rulemaking to be proposed mid-2015.

## **Continuing Business:**

The committee discussed further on two accidents that occurred in Gresham & Corvallis the previous month regarding an electrocution from an arc flash and a severe arm injury from setting a sewer system.

# Monthly Overnight Hospitalizations and Fatalities Report:

## Accidents

1. February 24<sup>th</sup> PDX  
Employee reported to the lead worker that he was experiencing shortness of breath and numbness in the arm. 911 was called and he was transported to the Willamette Falls Hospital.
2. February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015 PDX  
The employee was rolling an 800 lb 4 feet in diameter fork lift tire. He tripped and fell down, and the tire fell on the top of his stomach, resulting in stomach and pelvis injuries.
3. February 4<sup>th</sup> 2015  
An apprentice climbed a ladder and fell. Local 290
4. February 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 Milwaukie  
Employee was working on the roof performing flashing work. He was not hooked up to his fall protection and fell 18-20 feet.  
  
Employee was putting flashing on and was doing so without being attached to his fall protection. Employee was told several times by his supervisor to hook up. Eventually the supervisor told the employee if he did not hook up he would have to leave the jobsite. The employee refused and was told to leave. Employee refused to leave and continued to work on the roof. About 30 minutes after he fell to the ground striking the fence and wall of the building.
5. February 3<sup>rd</sup> Wilsonville  
Approximately 8:00am Tuesday February 3, 2015. The employee was disassembling a rectangular steel form. His hand was caught between a steel wall and the concrete product, amputating the middle finger just below the knuckle nearest the fingertip.
6. February 16<sup>th</sup> Rickreall  
The employee was taking a measurement from an extension ladder of an eave for an overhang. He over balanced and fell to the ground approximately 5 to 6 feet below.
7. February 9<sup>th</sup>,2015 Woodburn  
Employee fell approx. 12' - 15' to asphalt below from a man lift, Possible fractured right leg / hip.
8. February 3<sup>rd</sup> Blodgett  
The employee was adjusting his load when the low bed trailer collapsed and landed on both of his feet.
9. February 11<sup>th</sup> Springfield  
The employee walked into a painting area. She had an asthma attack and was hospitalized for three nights. She returned to work on February 20, 2015.

Respiratory therapist walking down hall to nurses station turned the corner and encountered a painter with open paint can doing wall touch up paint at nurses station. She immediately had coughing fit and returned to her office area on another floor and used a nebulizer. Was having asthma attack. Her supervisor wheeled her to emergency room where she was treated and admitted to ICU.

10. February 19<sup>th</sup> Bend

One employee was working in a trench that was about 24 feet in depth. The employee was working in a trench shield box with an open end. A 3 foot rock dislodged from near the top of the trench causing the rock to roll down into the open end trench box hitting the employee's legs.

11. February 4<sup>th</sup> Canyon City

Injured employee was standing on a roof approximately 15' above the ground installing a rubberized membrane on a roof. The injured employee was not wearing any fall protection, although it was available on site. The injured employee walked across the roof, slipped and fell off the roof on top of the owner of his company, who stopped his fall. Injured employee broke both legs.

## **Fatalities**

1. February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Cottage Grove

While driving a 14 person Passenger Van the victim (an 82 year old male) veered off the street striking a parked vehicle and then a pole. He was pronounced dead at the scene. A medical condition is believed to be the cause of death.

2. February 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 Beaverton

The employee (71 year old male) was found in the back office/vault room. Paramedics declared the employee dead at the scene.

3. February 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 PDX

A crane operator was struck in the head when a steel I beam fell from the vibrating hammer crane attachment.

4. February 19<sup>th</sup> 2015 Cornelius

The employee collapsed while doing general labor.(moving, trimming, and separating plants) The employee died on the scene of apparent natural causes.

5. February 20<sup>th</sup> North Bend

The employee was sitting at her desk in the lab where she worked. She apparently had a heart attack and was transported to the hospital. She had a DNR (Do not Resuscitate) order.

6. February 24<sup>th</sup> Columbia City

Employee was found by a coworker in the kitchen of a group home. EMS was called. The employee died the following day.

## **Round table:**

1. Kevin thanked Tony Howard for coming to the AGC NECA class and speaking.
2. The GOSH conference is March 9-13, and Tony Howard (Chairperson for the Volunteer Committee for GOSH) made a request for volunteers to help out at the Governor's Conference.
3. Kevin thanked Pat, Paul, Tony, Dawn, and Jeff for being speakers at his class.
4. The committee discussed the process of citations and appeals.
5. The Construction safety summit is March 24, 2015. The subject is MEWP scaffolding and the high point.  
They will have quizzes and prizes at the GOSH conference.

**Next Meeting:** April 7, 2015 at 9:00 am, AGC Building, Wilsonville