

Construction Advisory Committee Minutes
March 5, 2003

Present: Stan Strickland, Chair, Pete De Luca, Barry Jones, Mike Murphy, Marilyn Schuster, Bob Harris, Joe Miller, Penny Wolf-McCormick, Bill Walden, Greg Nutt, Gary Camfield, Dave Tischer for Dan Frasier, Mike Mitchell

The February 5 minutes were approved.

Old Business

Warning Lines for Other Than Roofing: Joe Miller said OR-OSHA's letter of interpretation needs clarification. **Action: Barry Jones and Marilyn Schuster will review the letter prior to the next meeting.**

Scaffolding: The construction of scaffolding is well defined but the gray area is the fall protection issue of assembling and dismantling. Barry Jones discussed this with the enforcement managers. They will make sure this is being addressed. The options of feasibility need to be assessed by the workers on the job. **Issue resolved.**

GFCI: Barry discussed this with the enforcement managers and staff. The field offices will be getting the new equipment. **Issue resolved.**

Committee Membership: Stan Strickland said there are four employer representatives who want to participate on this committee. However, that would put the committee out of balance with labor, associations and OR-OSHA. Pete said he wants a mix of business and labor and doesn't want one group to dominate. Stan suggested adding one more labor representative. Bob Clerihew from the Ironworkers was suggested. Michelle Potter will be the new employer representative. There are three representatives from associations. Members serve a two-year term. The chair rotates annually. **Action items: Dave Tischer will contact Bob Clerihew. Marilyn Schuster will talk with John Killin at ABC about coming to these meetings.**

New Business

Legislative Update: Pete said he expects some legislation regarding the fall protection rule. Oregon-OSHA will be taking a neutral position on this legislation. The members of the Construction Committee asked for a copy of the bill when it is introduced. Pete said we would notify the committee of the bill number when it comes out, but tracking and other action is up to individual committee members.

We have not seen any bills that will significantly impact us. A bill has been introduced to have Building Codes Division become a part of BOLI.

Budget: OR-OSHA had its budget hearing before Ways & Means. We have asked for no more positions and, at this time, don't expect to lose any positions.

Cost Saving Measures: As part of the state's cost saving measures, the Governor has said there will be no state paid conferences. Since the GOSH conference is stakeholder supported and not state funded, it has gone on as scheduled. OR-OSHA provides staff support and planning for conferences. However, the conferences are self-supporting and used by Oregon employers for employee safety and health training. Pete feels that these conferences are mission critical and will urge their continuance.

What happens from here: Stan is concerned that people don't know this committee exists and that they can bring issues to the committee. Discussed how to share information. Suggestions:

- Construction Committee have a page on OR-OSHA's external web site
- OR-OSHA's Resource
- Articles in Construction Depot
- Articles in association and labor newsletters
- Safety Summit

Action: Stan Strickland will draft an article about the Committee which could be made available to groups for their own newsletters. He's going to bring the draft to the next meeting.

Silica: Penny Wolf-McCormick, Health Enforcement Manager for Portland, gave a presentation on silica. She explained when to sample for exposure to silica, distributed the formula used in determining exposure, gave examples of what construction activities are overexposed, explained that the OR-OSHA lab is entering its own data but they don't have a database yet. Discussed testing for silica.

JEP: Penny mentioned that JEP is working on ergonomics in construction. They need more labor representatives. Next meeting is March 21, 9:00 am, at the Portland Field Office.

Labor Pools: The trades have a responsibility to their members to have them ready to work before they go out on a job. They should be trained, fit tested, and have the necessary medical tests completed. The issue is who pays for it. Mike Murphy suggested an alliance be formed to deal with this issue.

OR-OSHA Org Chart: Oregon-OSHA's organization chart was distributed.

Next Meeting, April 2 - Agenda:

Letter of Interpretation for Warning Lines
Construction Depot
Draft Article for Newsletters
Program Directive - Falls in Construction
Health Issues in Construction