

Oregon OSHA
Construction Advisory Committee
Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Angie Hannan
Barry Moreland
Brian Silbernagel
Bruce Roller
Chris Ottoson
Cindy Regier

Dave Davidson
Dave Kaiser
Dawn Morse
Demetra Star
Dennis Mahoney
Eliot Lapidus
Ellis Brasch

Gary Beck
Kyle Lewis
Marilyn Schuster
Melissa Diede
Paul McDonald
Ron Haverkost
Tony Howard

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Dave Davidson
Introductions were made

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made, second and minutes approved as submitted.

Posted Construction Advisory Committee minutes can be found at:

http://www.cbs.state.or.us/external/osha/standards/const_advise.html

Lessons Learned:

Tony Howard-

A hot work permit was issued, all necessary methods and precautions were taken and the process ran its course. Where was the room for improvement?

The company was welding handrail on a catwalk. Slag or embers fell to a scaffold platform below that was covered with a fire blanket. The assigned fire watch reportedly remained the required 30 minutes after work was complete then left for the day.

The slag burned through the fire blanket and went un-noticed. Plywood covering the scaffold planks ignited. Residents of the business smelled smoke and fortunately eliminated substantial damage. Because a fire watch was assigned, the process to close out the hot work permit could have been better, The process requires the fire watch to ensure that there was no possibility of a fire. Tony equated the process to putting out a camp fire and handing the situation over to the camp ranger.

Brian mentioned a situation that occurred relating to a job site elevator and a scissor lift that got entangled while the elevator was being tested for future operations on the project. Brian cited the communication of the individuals and the lack of training or familiarity of a newly hired temp-employee that was operating the scissor lift.

Dianna described a scenario relating to fall of approximately three stories. An employee was installing drywall when he lost his balance and attempted to grab a railing that was not adequately installed. Reportedly the guardrail system at the fall location was temporarily removed and replaced by an un-qualified individual. Fortunately the fall to a softer muddy surface allowed the employee to survive the fall.

Melissa ignited a conversation around the simple task of opening a barge hatch and taking samples from tank or a barge. She described a scenario that an employee was found in a barge, apparently overcome by atmospheric conditions that nearly immediately caused the employee to take a head first into the tanks access portal.

Continuing Business:

Status of rule making –

Rulemaking updates can be found at:

<http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/pdf/rules/2010development.pdf>.

Marilyn gave a brief update:

Confined space will re-propose next month with a public hearing date of May 2, 2012, 9:30 AM @ the L&I building, Salem, room F.

Penalties- Potentially will be proposed likely next month.

Welding rule is an ongoing project.

Federal OSHA is projected to publish the Globally Harmonized System for Hazard Communication in the next week or two.

Marilyn handed out a request from Federal OSHA to get input concerning vehicle backing operations and the use of hand signals. The committee members were given the survey and asked to answer three questions, the consensus of the group was as follows:

- 1) Should hand signals be standardized for backing vehicles or mobile equipment? No
- 2) Would allowing the driver and the spotter to establish their own signals be adequate? Yes
- 3) Are the signals shown on the chart commonly recognized? Some but not all

Marilyn also talked about green roofing systems. The administrator of the Landscape Contractors Board (LCB) recently issued a letter to companies involved in the construction of green roofs to make sure they know the current compliance requirements. The LCB has jurisdiction over the construction of the green roof system and the activity falls under landscaping administrative rules.

The question that came from the conversation is “ what does the landscaping process on a roof fall under for Oregon OSHA purposes”? Construction or general industry? Oregon OSHA considers this activity to

be general industry and would address any hazards through those standards.

Cindy provided Marilyn an article on “New Research Reveals the Safety Hazards of Green Building”. The article can be found at;

<http://hensonarchitect.com/new-research-reveals-the-safety-hazards-of-green-building/>

Dave K made the comparisons to the struggles of getting permanent anchors into the building process.

Overnight Hospital Report:

Dianna Gray gave a teleconference update.

Two heart attacks, a bus driver and a tool manager, a road worker hit by a car and a bouncer that was shot to death.

Overnight stays included an electrician fall from a ladder, an employee pinned against a tank by a crane, and a utility worker contacted a live system.

Roundtable:

Demetra questioned whether it is a good or bad practice to tie off in a scissor lift. Some general contractors are trying to mandate the practice. Tony mentioned that they do not require using a secondary system, however it is required to have the system on before operating the equipment. Gary mentioned that Oregon OSHA does not require a secondary fall protection system in a fully guard railed scissor lift.

Barry is going to look into what manufacturers require tying off when using a scissor lift.

Dawn asked when moving a trench box with an employee still in the box in the excavation can the ladder be removed and immediately replaced. Yes.

This federal letter speaks to the topic , however the scenario is somewhat different.

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=INTERPRETATIONS&p_id=27041

Oregon OSHA would consider removing the ladder in Dawn’s case a technical violation if the ladder was immediately replaced.

Brian mentioned that he is a member of the ANSI P-30 crane committee which is establishing lift plan criteria, which should be out for public comment soon, in hopes of publishing in 2013.

Ron reviewed the major issues that were discussed in the CAC crane subcommittee that met last month. Ron will send the minutes out with these minutes. He has also established some text to review on crane training requirements.

Planning for Agenda and for Next Meeting:

When: Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Where: L&I Salem Room F