

**Oregon OSHA**  
**Construction Advisory Committee**  
Tuesday June 2, 2015

**Meeting Minutes**

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**Attendees:**

Alta Schafer	Demetra Star	Lisa Holland
Andy Collins	Doug Rodgers	Mark Tobiasson
Barry Moreland	Emily Nye	Mary Lou Wilson
Bob Hall	Gary Beck	Melissa Diede
Bret Taylor	Glenn Curry	Michelle Brunetto
Bruce Roller	Greg Heneveld	Mike Riffe
Clark Vermillion	Ian Chase	Nathan Taylor
Dana Townley	Jeff Wilson	Roger Dale-Moore
David Zagorodney	Joe Turner	Tony Howard
Dawn Morse	Lachelle Pierce	

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The meeting was called to order by Nathan Taylor, chair.

Self introductions were made.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved.

**Lessons Learned:**

[Joe Turner](#) discussed with the group a case that Cal-OSHA brought charges up against, a general contractor, U.S. Sino Investment Inc. [The company owner and a project manager were indicted on involuntary manslaughter charges in the cave-in death of a construction worker.](#)

There was a [rigging failure in New York City](#) where a heating and air conditioning unit fell 30 stories. 7 people were injured in this incident.

- It is very important to plan your rigging and take your time doing so to avoid accidents and injuries, and to do it right.

There was a near miss at a job site when some employees were checking for voltage and it came back negative, but the breaker was mislabeled. The crew did have a backup plan in place so no injuries occurred.

## Rules:

Dave McLaughlin is currently working on comparing the OR-OSHA Confined Space Rule to the Fed OSHA Confined Space Rule for any differences.

If you have any questions you may contact Dave via [email](#) or by phone at 503-947-7457. Power Transmission is holding the final stakeholders meeting on July 25, 2015 at the PGE building on Kale St. in Salem. The next stage is public hearings.

Michael and Jeff are meeting with Fed OSHA today to discuss the Fall Protection Rule.

## Continuing Business:

None

## Monthly Overnight Hospitalizations and Fatalities Report:

### Accidents

1. May 5<sup>th</sup> PDX

Worker exposed to electricity at intersection of runway B and E.

2. May 14<sup>th</sup> Tualatin

Employee was connecting a ground wire in the building switch gear. The wrench used to tighten the connection came in contact with live electrical buss that was not readily visible in the initial inspection of the job. They were not intentionally working on live parts; however the buss was near where the employee was tightening the connection. There was a dielectric barrier over the buss, but contact was made below the barrier. There was an arc flash and employee sustained burns on both arms and hands.

3. May 14<sup>th</sup> Tualatin

Employee was moving stone remnants to cut with the saw. 5 pieces of stone fell and broke both his legs.

4. May 15<sup>th</sup> Seaside Area

Employee was setting a chocker, he turned to see a chunk of wood rolling downhill toward him. He tried to run but it hit him in his backside. He suffered a cracked pelvis. Employer put him on a stretcher and he was carried to a pickup and drove to the Seaside hospital.

5. May 15<sup>th</sup> Happy Valley

Employees were installing trusses and fell 10 to 15 feet after collapse of trusses.

6. May 15<sup>th</sup>, Eugene

The employee received a welding burn on his left hand that became infected six days later which required an overnight stay in the hospital.

7. May 19<sup>th</sup> Oregon City

Employee was working under the eaves of a building installing ventilation from a ladder. The ladder kicked out and the employee fell to the ground. Resulted in fracture of pelvis.

8. May 21<sup>st</sup> Albany

The victim was using a radial arm dado saw. The employee was cutting a 5" piece of wood and had a hold of the piece. The saw blade grabbed the piece of wood and pulled his left hand (fingers) into the saw blade. The employee was transported to the hospital.

## Fatalities

1. May 15<sup>th</sup> Eugene  
Suicide

2. May 19<sup>th</sup> Eugene  
A delivery Driver was traveling westbound on HWY 126 when an oncoming car struck a deer. The deer flew up and into the driver's windshield, striking the driver. The driver died from head injuries.

3. May 19<sup>th</sup> Rouge River  
A school bus driver crossed over into oncoming traffic hitting a tractor trailer head on.

4. May 26<sup>th</sup> Portland  
Heart Attack

## Soil Classification and Water in Excavation:

There are some companies that feel the subject of water in the excavation is often over simplified by OR-OSHA officials, as it pertains to classifying the soil. [A 2012 issue of Resource Magazine](#) was sighted as a publication that also used this over simplification in the Q&A section. The group had a discussion about the types of situations that they encounter and what class of soil is present. Companies have come across OSHA compliance officers who remark about wrong soil classification type when there is a puddle in the excavation, but to their knowledge, no citations were issued for that specific issue. Jeff will look into the OSHA trench emphasis program to ensure the content is accurate and up to date. See the [Excavation Publication](#), starting at page 11, from the Oregon OSHA web page.

## Round table:

Companies should strengthen their orientation program. Some people may have done a certain job a hundred times, but there could be one person that has not. Do hands on training with equipment so everyone knows how to properly and safely use the equipment to prevent injuries.

Some contractors try to come up with their own process for shoring rather than something that has already been approved. The group discussed tabulated data, and that OSHA compliance officers are trained on tabulated data.

If anyone has any questions about shoring, excavation, trenches you may [contact Joe](#) and he will be happy to assist.

Mike Riffe was introduced to the group as one of the new OSHA Portland field office managers; Alba Johnston is the other new manager but did not attend the meeting.

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