

**Oregon OSHA**  
**Construction Advisory Committee**  
Tuesday, February 5, 2019

**Meeting Minutes**

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**Attendees:**

Alta Schafer	Chris Grover	Mark Hillyard
Barb Epstien	Dale Lindstrom	Mike Riffe
Barry Moreland	Dennis Barlow	Nathan Taylor
Brad Wolf	Dennis Cox	Renee Stapleton
Bryan Ortiz	Ian Chase	Soren Bjerregaard
Bryon Snapp	Lane Ellison	Stephen Heaven

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The meeting was called to order by Bryon Snapp.  
Self-introductions were made.

The January meeting minutes were approved with minor updates.

**Lessons Learned:**

The Mid-Oregon Construction Safety Summit in Bend was a great conference, a great facility, and the speakers were great. The key note speaker was outstanding. The classes were appropriate and lots of information to take home.

-Bryon Snapp added that the key note speaker, [Russ Youngstrom](#), was interviewed and will be in Oregon OSHA's new online Fall Protection Training when released.

The boom of an 85' manlift (JLG) contacted a 115KV (115,000 volt) power line that was near a new apartment complex under construction in SW Portland. The jobsite was surrounded with self-standing chain-link fence panels secured together by overlapping the upright fence posts and tying them together with bailing-type wire. In addition to the asphalt blowing out from below the machine the wire securing the fence panels together were welded to the posts up 30 feet away from the manlift due to electrical step potential on the ground created by the manlift contacting the power line. The manlift was not touching any of the fence panels. An employee standing on the ground near the manlift reportedly lost feeling in his legs and fell to the ground due to the step potential. Fortunately, he did not sustain any serious injury and was able to get up and leave the area. The employee in the manlift was not injured.

Barry Moreland shared that Work Force BC has training available on overhead line contact. He stated there is one issue with the video, when the boom hits the line the sparks fly but then it breaks contact. If it were in real life, once you break contact there is no current in the boom.

Mike Riffe added that the age old saying "electricity take the path of least resistance", is not accurate, in fact, it takes all paths and any difference in voltage between paths can create a shock hazard.

Always assume a line is energized and don't touch anything in the area. Also, power lines don't always jump around, spark, and arc like they do in the movies. Stay at least 50 feet away from any downed power line.

Does Oregon OSHA have data on silica violations from the new rule that the group can take back for training? Renee will get the information to the group. It will be emailed once we gather it since there is not a meeting in March.

AGC mentioned that the lab, SGS Galson has their data available on their website. The group discussed testing and the variables in the work, the tools, the weather, etc. One person has been running into people not having the correct SDS for the product they are using.

OR-FACE was reviewing a fatality case at a farm mechanical shop that was using a plasma torch to cut the lids of drums, and the bottom blew out hitting an employee. The drum had been sitting for about 15 years.

Work Force BC has a great training video on this scenario as well.

Defensive Driving Strategies for Central Oregon (Ice and Snow conditions) training from Deschutes County Sheriff Sergeant Kevin Dizney. It was a great training with useful information on driving in inclement weather. AGC is going to see if they can host a training at their office.

The Oregon OSHA Bend Field Office was without power for 6 hours because a company cut a gas line a block away with a saw.

## **Continuing Business:**

### **Status of Rule Making:**

#### **PEL's-**

Oregon OSHA is hoping to have drafts out in the next couple of months with a tentative plan to be complete by the end of the year. Then they will start working on the next couple of PEL's to update.

#### **Cranes-**

Oregon OSHA are looking at adopting the Federal OSHA rule, the effective dates will be pushed out but they are not sure when those dates will be. There will be a public hearing in March or April of this year.

#### **Penalties-**

Federal OSHA requires state plan states to monitor and adjust penalties to ensure that the penalties are still effective as theirs. This adjustment should reflect such things as inflation to keep the penalties as effective as they were since the last rulemaking that adjusted the penalty structure in 2016.

Oregon OSHA is about 10% different than the Feds, and they will begin to update their penalty fees. This will not be a dramatic adjustment as the last one was.

#### **Recordkeeping-**

Federal OSHA didn't launch the portion for reporting all the forms they wanted. Now they are backing out of that portion so all that is needed is the 300 A's. You will also be required to enter your EIN. In response to revisions to electronic recordkeeping by OSHA, Oregon

OSHA will be considering similar changes to the rule. Click on the link to understand the changes Federal OSHA made.

<https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/trade/01242019>

### **Employer Knowledge-**

The small advisory group met and Oregon OSHA is hoping to have a draft to this group soon.

## **Monthly Accidents and Fatalities Report:**

### **Accidents**

1. January 2<sup>nd</sup> Portland  
Victim was moving a 4 foot by 2-foot step-up scaffold when a drywall router fell from the top of the scaffold. The 1/8-inch drill bit punctured his right foot and the metal broke off in his foot. Victim had surgery and is in the hospital.
2. January 15<sup>th</sup> Aurora  
Employee was mixing more mortar while on a 17ft high scaffold when his coworkers no longer heard him mixing and turned to see him face down on the ground. The accident resulted in a broken neck.
3. January 16<sup>th</sup> Milwaukie  
Worker was kneeling on ground with his foot behind him to mark something on the ground. An excavator was behind him being moved perpendicular to him while the operator had his back to the worker. The operator did not see him and the worker did not see or hear the excavator behind him. The track ran over his out stretched foot.
4. January 17<sup>th</sup> Sunriver  
The injured worker climbed a ladder to get onto the roof with no safety equipment provided. Putting roof to wall trim on, he kneeled down on his knees, putting a screw in at the back of the building. The roof was wet, and while pushing the screw in, his feet kicked out from under him. He started sliding down backwards and fell down the 20 ft. roof embankment. The employee sustained a broken tibia in three places on his left leg and a crushed right heel. The employee reported he was working on the roof of a pole barn at the time of the incident.
5. January 27<sup>th</sup> Medford  
An employee fell 7 feet to the floor below. The employee was knocked out of a personnel basket while elevated with a forklift. The employee was not wearing a harness for fall protection while using the personnel basket/forklift. The fall resulted in the employee fracturing his back.

### **Fatalities**

1. January 7<sup>th</sup> Newberg

Head on collision of two semi-trucks, both vehicles were incinerated killing both drivers. Icy road conditions may have been a factor.

2. January 16<sup>th</sup> Hillsboro

The employee left work and arrived at his vehicle at 11:30 pm (as observed on video recording). Another employee noticed the victim sitting in the vehicle shortly before 1:00 pm the following day (1/17/19) and called 911. Hillsboro Police and Medical Examiner were contacted. indications are that the victim died of natural causes. It was reported that the employee was not feeling well and had requested to see a doctor, his appointment was on 1/18.

3. January 24<sup>th</sup> Medford

Employee was transporting residents to the bank. She pulled the vehicle into parking space, opened door and stepped out. The vehicle began to move, employee reached in to stop vehicle, when she was pinned under wheel. Witnesses called 911, employee was transported to hospital where she passed away.

## Round table:

April's ASSP meeting will have Oregon OSHA's Trena VanDeHey presenting on the PEL updates.

GOSH is in March 2019.

AGC Safety and Health Forum: March 19, 2019 Adel Abrams is presenting. You don't have to be a member to attend. Please check the [event calendar](#) for more information.

Construction Safety Summit:

February 26, 2019 is on Distracted Driving, presented by Ian Chase. It will be at John's Incredible Pizza.

Oregon OSHA will be recruiting for the Technical and Standards Manager later this month.

OSHA Region 6 and OSHA Education Centers in Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas are offering a free video presentation on trenching and excavation safety. The one-hour video will be available for viewing starting on February 18, 2019. It will provide guidance on how to prevent fatalities and injuries from common hazards in trenching and excavation. Please [register here](#) if you are interested.

**Next Meeting:** *There will be no March meeting due to the GOSH Conference.*

April 2, 2019

AGC

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