

Oregon OSHA
Construction Advisory Committee
Tuesday, June 2, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Al Lee	Eric Elkins	Mary Lou Wilson
Alta Schafer	Eric Fullan	Michael Wood
Averie Foster	Jake Errico	Nathan Taylor
Barb Epstien	Jamey Goodman	Nevin Mclain
Barry Moreland	Jeff Hooper	Paul Magrone
Bill Haskins	Jeff Wilson	Renée Stapleton
Brad Nanke	Jeremy Lawson	Rick McMurry
Bryan Ortiz	Joaquin Diaz	Robert Miller
Bryon Snapp	Julie Love	Ryan Leffel
Chris Grover	Kimberly Gamble	Sean Tinker
David Davidson	Laird Blanchard	Soren Bjerregaard
Dave McLaughlin	Lane Ellison	Stephen Heaven
Dede Montgomery	Lisa Pickert	Steve Huson
Dennis Barlow	Lisa Wisler	Timothy Moore
Dennis Cox	Lynn Craig	Tony Howard
Emily Crews	Mark Tobiasson	

The meeting was called to order by Nathan Taylor.

The March meeting minutes were approved.

Lessons Learned:

There were none shared.

Continuing Business:

Status of Rule Making:

Most rulemaking has been put on hold do to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Employer Knowledge and **Penalty Updates-**

These have been re-proposed for later dates. The public hearings have been moved to August and September 2020.

Oregon OSHA has created a [temporary rule for Agriculture](#). The temporary rule addresses the COVID-19 emergency in employer-provided housing, labor-intensive agricultural operations, and agricultural transportation.

Transportation: Section 3: Disease prevention in employer-provided transportation

(a) During the current emergency and for activities covered by Section 1 of this rule, employers must ensure that the following disease prevention measures are implemented, at a minimum, when transportation is provided to and from the workplace or used to move individuals between workplaces:

(A) The vehicle operator and any passengers must be separated by at least 3 feet during the operation of the vehicle. Seats that do not allow for such separation cannot be used, regardless of the vehicle's normal capacity.

(B) The vehicle operator and any passengers must wear cloth facial coverings that cover their nose and mouth.

(C) All high-contact surfaces (door handles, seatbelt buckles, armrests, steering wheel, etc.) must be sanitized before each trip, or at least twice each day when in continuous use.

(b) For workers who may commute to and from the worksite with individuals outside their household, the employer must advise them of the risks presented by close contact and encourage them to employ practices similar to those described in subsection (1) above.

Monthly Accidents and Fatalities Report:

The following is preliminary information as reported at the time of the accident intake.

Accidents

1. May 19th Madras

An employee's right middle finger was amputated after the employee by passed two guards and made contact with the first bottom cutting head of a moulder.

2. May 6th North Bend

Accident occurred on land: The employees were lifting concrete slabs with 70 ton crane, they set it (a slab) down to leave it and unhook it. When they went to pick it up the injured employee was between the slab and the outrigger and it crushed his leg. Offloading onto a pier from the barge. Employee was hospitalized.

3. May 19th Portland

Employee was removing moss and gutter cleaning at this location and had been accessing upper roof via ladders, lower portion of the home where employee was reportedly working at the time of the accident did not appear to have had work started on it. Employee was discovered unconscious at the bottom of the ladder by homeowners after they heard a noise and investigated and called 911. Upper roof had anchor and rope still attached. Lower roof did not have an anchor and a rope attached. Employee was wearing fall protection harness at time of incident and was cut off by EMS and taken with them. Employee was working around single story off the back of the single family home.

4. May 20th Vancouver, Wa.

Employee was repairing a roof on a complex condo. The employee slipped off the roof and fell approximately 6 to 10 feet landing on the ground. Employee was not tied in to the anchor when he slipped off the roof. The employees that were on site did not witness the fall. Not Oregon OSHA'S jurisdiction.

5. May 11th, Salem

EE was descending a stepladder when she lost her footing and fell approx 2' to the floor fracturing her leg. The EE was hospitalized for surgery.

6. May 7th, Salem

Worker was picking up wood scraps on the roof of the facility when he picked up a sheet of plywood that was covering a hole in the roof; he then stepped through the hole and fell about 20 to 24 feet to the surface below. A co-worker called EMS and he was transported to Salem Hospital for further treatment.

7. May 3rd, Portland

Employee was on makeshift scaffolding, with no guardrails, at a height of between 8-10 ft masking and taping/prepping for paint. The employee allegedly reached the center of the make-shift scaffolding and fell 8-10ft to the concrete surface below, fracturing and spraining both his their right and left ankles.

8. May 28th Arlington

An employee is believed to have fallen over a guardrail, from a catwalk, while trying to de-tarp a semi-trailer. The employee sustained a fractured hip, fractured clavicle, two broken ribs and a possible punctured lung.

Fatalities

1. May 14th, North Bend

The employee was driving the chip truck on Highway 101, when he drove off the road. The coroner ruled that the driver had a heart attack. 53-year-old male.

2. May 14th Portland

An employee pulled a trailer away from loading dock while the victim was working at the door of the trailer. The victim fell to the ground between the dock and the trailer; when the employee moving the trailer realized he had moved the wrong trailer, he attempted to back the trailer to the dock, crushing the victim. 49-year-old female

3. May 13th Toledo

Two employees were driving back to the shop at the end of the day. The driver went towards the shoulder and over corrected and crossed traffic, and ended up in a small body of water. The driver was passed out from the car crash and was trapped in the vehicle. The passenger tried to free the driver, but couldn't and had to get out for his own sake. Driver was unable to exit the vehicle and as a result drowned. 23-year-old male.

4. May 28th, Pendleton

After having a conversation in the log yard with a fellow employee, the victim turned and started to walk back to the building where he worked as a filer. Shortly after they separated, the other employee heard yelling and went to see. The victim was laying on the ground unresponsive. Employees started CPR and EMS was called. They were not able to revive him. Suspected heart attack. 58-year-old male.

Oregon OSHA Updates on COVID-19-

Federal OSHA has been asked to do a rulemaking that stemmed from a lawsuit. Oregon OSHA is interested in what Fed OSHA decides on this petition.

- Oregon OSHA has been informally asked to do a rule making on infectious diseases.
- Oregon OSHA has received about 4,700 complaints to date, the majority of them have been COVID related. We normally receive about 2,000 in a year. Some citations have been issued. Our staff our practicing good social distancing on the inspections that we go out on.
- Oregon OSHA is updating our documents as soon as possible as more information becomes available.

Questions:

As Counties open by phase, how is Oregon OSHA handling it and keeping spot checking?

-We are able to focus on the Counties separately because our field offices are divided by County. We are still getting complaints from people who feel a business should be closed,

but is able to be open. At this moment, all Counties in Oregon are in Phase 1 of the reopening, except Multnomah County.

If we cannot keep the 6-foot distance on a construction site, do we have to wear a face mask?

-Yes, the use of a face mask is for source control and reducing the spread of COVID. They are not PPE. There is a task force that has been made up of a few agencies and employer representatives that are working on this subject to give guidance to everyone. When you can't keep 6-foot distance, then you do need to wear a mask.

What about the heat element while wearing a mask?

-We will accept the use of a face shield in place of the mask, but it does not provide near the same level as a mask. You will want to make sure that you are properly sanitizing the face shields between use.

Heat Stress:

Oregon OSHA has a [Program Directive on Heat Stress \(A-299\)](#). The season is June 15th through October 1st, and every inspection that is done between those dates will have an element focused on heat and what the companies plan is on the subject.

We have spent a lot of time on educating employers and employees on this topic. We know it will be exemplified during this COVID time. A few steps you can do is have lots of water available for everyone, take extra breaks, stagger the work: do some things earlier in the day when it is cooler.

At this time, working 6 – feet is still the preferred method to minimize the spread of the virus. Working less than 6-feet apart should be a last resort.

Before COVID hit, there was an [Executive Order](#) on greenhouse gas emissions and part of it requires Oregon OSHA to develop a proposal on about excessive heat and wildfire smoke.

AIHA Construction Committee is working on a COVID-19 resource guide for construction. One of the tough topics is face coverings. They are debating on how to cover them, given the limitations and challenges/questions about the protection they may actually provide.

OSHA/NIOSH has an app available for working in the heat. It is a great resource to use.

https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/heat_index/heat_app.html

The Safety Trained Supervisor -Construction or STS-C training will be at the AGC office in Wilsonville. The reschedule date is yet to be determined.

Anonymous Questions:

If you have anything you would like to bring up at the meetings and would like to stay anonymous, let Mark Tobiasson or Nathan Taylor know and they will bring it up for you.

Round table:

AGC:

AGC received the Susan Harwood grant for Crane Hazards in Construction. Their day long training at Great Wolf Lodge in Washington on Crane Management Training, was postponed and they are now looking at holding it November 16 and 17th.

[ASSP Santiam Section meeting](#) will have Oregon OSHA's Craig Hamelund, and he will be talking about the Heat Stress Program Directive.

Dede shared that as people are going to come back to work bullying can increase.

link to the recorded webinar here: <https://www.ohsu.edu/oregon-institute-occupational-health-sciences/workplace-aggression-preventing-relational-aggression>

Additional article:

<https://diversityq.com/workplace-bullying-on-the-rise-due-to-coronavirus-fears-1509112/>

Oregon OSHA is always looking for people to highlight in our Resource publication. If you have you would like to nominate, please contact [Renée Stapleton](#).

If you have any topics that you would like Oregon OSHA to talk about to the group, please let [Alta Schafer](#) or [Mark Tobiasson](#) know.

Next Meeting:

July 7, 2020
Zoom Meeting