

Oregon OSHA
Construction Advisory Committee
Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Al Lee	Diana Lowe	Mark Tobiasson
Alta Schafer	Doug Pettyjohn	Mary Lou Wilson
Andy Haymart	Eden Berestoff	Matt Kaiser
Barb Epstien	Emily Crews	Michael Wood
Barbara Hanley	Eric Bongen	Mike Jacobs
Bill Haskins	Eric Fullan	Nathan Taylor
Brad Nanke	George Goodman	Nevin McClain
Bryan Ortiz	Hailey Latherow	Nicholas Naramore
Bryon Snapp	Holt Andron	Paul Magrone
Caleb Harris	Jacob Errocp	Renee Stapleton
Chris Ottoson	Jared Ottinger	Robert Miller
Clark Vermillion	Jason Lorentzen	Robirda Lee
Connie Graybeal	Jeff Hooper	Roy Shwago
Dale Henningsen	Jeremy Lawson	Ryan Leffel
Dale Lindstrom	Joaquin Diaz	Sean Tinker
David Davidson	Julie Love	Steve Huson
Dave McLaughlin	Kirsten Adams	Ted Bunch
David Davidson	Lane Ellison	Tosha Gilpin
Dede Montgomery	Lisa Pickert	Tyler Robinson
Denis Bonin	Lisa Wisler	
Dennis Cox	Lynn Craig	

The meeting was called to order by Nathan Taylor.

The November meeting minutes were approved.

Lessons Learned:

Clark Vermillion shared an experience he had recently with a large supported scaffold on 12" casters that had a significant cantilever. Due to the configuration some casters had a lot of weight on them and did not easily turn themselves in the direction the workers wanted to take the scaffold when moving it. While the condition did not result in any injury, two casters were damaged while trying to force the scaffold in a direction. To address the issue, they relieved the weight on the casters by jacking the scaffold up a bit, then easily turned the caster in the direction they wanted the scaffold to go, resolving the issue. Clark emphasized the importance of slowing down and thinking through issues as they happen.

Monthly Accidents and Fatalities Report:

If there is an accident or fatality incident that you would like more information on let Nathan and Jeff know so we can track it and can discuss once the case is able to be discussed.

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

Accidents

1. November 3rd, Elgin

Employee was working from a 10-foot self-supporting ladder and installing wood fascia on the gable end of a single-story home. While working up near the ridge, the

ladder tipped over sending them to the ground. The employee received lacerations and fractures.

2. November 18th, Myrtle Point

Employees driving back from a job site in Coquille, OR to Roseburg, OR when the Company owned Ford F350 left the road about 10 East of Coquille. Pickup crossed over West bound lane went into a ravine and nosedived there. 2019 Ford F350 Crew cab with 3 employees. Seat belts in use. Employer stated they also have alerts system on the company vehicles for tracking purposes. All Three employees transported to Bay Area Hospital and then one employee transferred to OHSU for evaluation and surgery. Employees suffered broken bones, lacerations, and contusions Driver and other employee discharged with injuries. No other vehicles involved.

3. November 11th, Sutherlin

Employee was moving up a ladder and fell approximately 8 to 9 foot when his foot slipped. Employee transported to hospital via ambulance with broken leg.

4. November 6th, Grants Pass

Employee was removing a pin from shoring and the bar fell and landed on employee foot breaking bones in his foot. Employee transported by Ambulance to Three Rivers Hospital. Hospitalized over the weekend and surgery on 11/9/2020 to fix 19 bones broken in the arch of the foot.

5. November 3rd, Salem

Employee was cutting a plastic part to size with a radial arm saw while inappropriately wearing an oversized "hot glove." The glove was caught by the saw and his left hand was pulled into the saw amputating all 5 fingers.

Fatalities

1. November 19th, Bend

Victim was a technician that had completed their last job at a customer location and was headed home southbound on Hwy 97 in Bend when a northbound vehicle crossed over the median and collided head on with the victim's vehicle. The victim died on the scene of the accident. 37-year-old male

2. November 3rd, The Dalles

The victim was working conducting quality control activities. The victim took a break in an outdoor break area. Approximately five minutes later a supervisor had a staff member check on the victim. The victim was discovered struggling to use an inhaler. The staff member returned to the supervisor to report this, both returned to the victim who was found on the ground struggling to breath. 911 was called and Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue responded. The victim was transported to Mid-Columbia Hospital via ambulance where he died in the ER. The death certificate listed heart attack secondary to an Asthma attack as the cause of death. 60-year-old male.

3. November 15th, Ontario

Employee was a long-haul driver living in his truck, stopped at the Love's Travel Stop around 3pm on 11/14/20. Solo truck driver had dinner with co-worker's and returned to their trucks around 9pm. The driver was found following morning slumped over inside his truck, unresponsive. 61-year-old male.

4. November 12th, Pendleton
Employee who was a batch plant operator was found on top of the whey hopper at the batch plant unresponsive. A coworker noticed his truck at the office and went to look for the batch plant operator. When the coworker found him, he called 911 and began CPR. 50-year-old male.
5. November 10th, Portland
Employer described as Suicide with a note. Employee was off duty. Last day to report to work was November 1 and texted manger to call off duty November 9th & 10th, 2020 due to a family emergency. 53-year-old female.
6. November 8th, Boardman
Employee was working on a semi-truck and cut their finger. After bandaging the finger, the employee went back to work. While the employee was sitting on a stool repairing a hose they fainted/passed out. The employee fell off the stool and struck their head. EMS was called, employee taken to hospital where they were placed on life support. Employee removed from life support the next day, deceased. 37-year-old male.
7. November 5th, Tigard
Temporary employee found first thing in the morning by witness. Employee tasks were to wash equipment, no exhaust fume, no chemicals on site, degreaser/soap. Deceased was found in a position that appeared to be collapsed from standing position next to a countertop and cabinet. Unknown if employee left work at end of his shift on the 4th or came into work early on the 5th. Police detective and ME on site, presumed natural causes. 58-year-old male.

Continuing Business:

Status of Rule Making:

Ted Bunch was introduced. Ted has been hired on a rotation to work in the Technical Section of Oregon OSHA. He will be conducting rulemaking for Wildfire Smoke as well as Heat Stress. Ted comes to Oregon OSHA from the Department of Agriculture where he utilized his education in biology and toxicology from a human health and environmental perspective. Ted can be contacted at Theodore.bunch@oregon.gov or at 503-947-7392.

In addition, Oregon OSHA has hired a new Rules Coordinator, Lisa Appel. Lisa is scheduled to begin her new position on Monday.

Employer Knowledge and Penalty Updates-

Infectious Disease Rule Making:

We just adopted the temporary rule for COVID-19.

A question was asked about the number of inspections have been conducted and citations issued as a result of the new rule.

-The Temporary infectious Disease rule is very new as rules go. Inspections and citation issuance can take some time, so it was hard to answer the question. Parts of the rule have effective dates that have not happened yet. Approximately 90% if the many complaints Oregon OSHA has received and evaluated relate to facial coverings and social distancing, and since the pandemic many inspections have been conducted and citations issued

pointing to the OHA guidance. Moving forward Oregon OSHA's inspection activities will focus on the new rule when issuing citations. Oregon OSHA is about ready to cite a non-construction employer under the new rule.

It was asked if signage in office needed to be posted in every room.

-The signage would need to be in the main entrance, and in every building that has employees. You don't have to post in every room.

In a closed office with only a handful of employees are face coverings required at an open office environment if social distancing is maintained?

-Yes, unless in an office with the door closed and only 1 person.

Court house gyms: there are 4 inspections that are separate locations. There is a willful for being open during the freeze, and we hung a red tag and they continued to operate. They were a large employer and not a small employer.

Are recent IH inspections seeing any concerns with masks/face coverings over respirators that have exhalation valves?

-A face covering can be used as COVID-19 source control over a respirator with exhalation valves as long as the face covering does not adversely affect the face-to-respirator seal. A face covering that is too tight may introduce the possibility of deforming the respirator.

To be clear, Cubicles are NOT private office space and masks would be required 100%? Any consideration given to occupancy count for the overall office space?

- they are not a private workspace. The number of people is not in the equation. If there are multiple people in a single room, they have to be wearing facial coverings, no matter how big the room is.

Joaquin: PAPRs that have the ultra-low filters, HEPA filters in respirators.

-if you have a mix of people with facial coverings and respirators you have to figure source control. If everyone is wearing respirators, you don't have to do source control.

-when we say respirators, needs to be the correct type, N, R, P 95, 99, 100 or better that are meant for COVID-19.

How are facial coverings being enforced for outdoors? I have heard full time and also heard only when distancing cannot be maintained. What is it and is it different during the governor mandated freeze versus the rule itself?

-OHA guidance, it eliminated the if 6 feet cannot be maintained. We don't know if it will be a permanent change. If you are working outdoors on a construction site, everyone needs to be wearing a facial covering.

Isn't there a square foot exception? 35 square feet or greater per individual?

-There was in the early draft rule, but it has been taken out due to OHA guidance.

Synopsis:

Renee reviewed a fatality in March 2020. 3-story apartment complex working on gutters next to high voltage powerlines, electrocuted. Employer was cited.

Q- can you clarify - is a "cover" that some of the Utilities are willing to provide a safe alternative? Or does the power have to be disconnected?

-the cover is an awareness barrier. The safe method is to cut the power and re-rout it.

Q- what was their solution for fall protection, and the ladder not extending 3feet above.

What was their fall protection plan?

-They had a fall arrest system with anchors. From the information available remotely, we are not certain what the ladder plan was.

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:

Construction Safety Summit: There will not be a December meeting.

January 2021 is the Oregon OSHA update with Michael Wood.

CSS leadership has decided to make a change, Steve Spurlock and Clark Vermillion are sunsetting being the chairs. There will be elections to pick the new chairs. There will be 3 new chairs and the 4th position will be chair elect.

Dede shared If you missed our November symposium but wanted to listen to recordings they are all now posted: <https://www.ohsu.edu/oregon-institute-occupational-health-sciences/worker-health-work-social-determinant-health>

ASSP Columbia Willamette Dec meeting: <https://cwc.assp.org/events/assp-cwc-december-membership-meeting-2020-no-cost-webinar/> by Dr. Emily Wong

Oregon COVID-19 construction task force, there will be a survey about knowledge on resources that have been put out, and please fill out.

OHSU needs to be .docx, they will no longer be accepting .doc due to cyber-attacks.

Steve Huson, Mill Plain Electrical

Does anyone have any training material that they use to train Situational Awareness that they would be willing to share? thinks it would be extremely beneficial to the construction industry.

-Eugene electric board was doing work on this and might be able to help.

-Eric Fullan at city of Hillsboro might be able to help. Eric.Fullan@hillsboro-oregon.gov

From Dale Lindstrom - DeWitt Construction

RIMS (Risk and Insurance Management Society) virtual meeting topic on 12/17 is "Medical Marijuana and Workers' Compensation". If interested contact me (dale@dewittconst.com) for additional details.

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:

January 5, 2021

Zoom Meeting