

**Oregon OSHA
Construction Advisory Council
Tuesday, September 10, 2024
Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Al Lee-Lennar	David Douglas	Maggie Gerlicher
Alex Garcia	David Rekdahl	Mars Gracida
Alta Schafer	David Smiley	Mary Lou Wilson
Amme Standing	Eric Elkins	Mike Brunenkant
Andy Kavanaugh	Eric Fullan	Nathan Taylor
Annmarie Earl	Greig Lowell	Phillip Wade
Antonio Gonzales	George Lundberg	Robert Miller
Barbra Anderson	Haily Sorenson	Roy Shawgo
Bash Mumuni	Heather	Ryan Leffell
Blake Reichel	Holt Andron	Sean Tinker
Bob Henderson	Jake Errico	Shane Tercek
Bryan Davis	Jamey Goodman	Stephanie Baird
Bryan Ortiz	Jason Ophus	Stephen Cannon
Bryon Snapp	Jeff Wilson	Stephen Heaven
Caleb Harris	Jeremy Lawson	Tammi Stevens
Chris Dahl	Joaquin Diaz	Thomas Price
Cindy Booker	John Frank	Tim Moore
Connie Graybeal	Josh Schwabauer	Travis Stone
Craig Tweedy	Julie Love	Troy Stroud
Dale Lindstrom	Justin Wall	Ursula Lande
Dave McLaughlin	Kyan Bartel	
David Davidson	Lynn Craig	

The meeting was called to order by Rick McMurry
Thank you all for joining the hybrid meeting. Introductions of people in person were made.

Previous Meeting Minutes.

The August meeting minutes were approved.

Lessons Learned & Safety Suggestions:

A company had an employee trying to open a bucket of glue and the tub broke off. They used a knife, cutting toward themselves, and the employee received a laceration.

The [GOSH conference](#) is next spring. Nominations are open for workplace safety and health heroes; they are due October 25th.

An employee was reaching with new equipment, and they ended up dumping the load. There were no injuries. They were using equipment that had not been used before and were unfamiliar with the controls.

Companies are seeing a trend of eye injuries with safety glasses. Speaking with the companies asking if the proper eye protection was used. Employees are not wearing the proper eye protection for the task at hand. Make sure you look at what is required: goggles, glasses, etc.

Oregon OSHA does require the employer to do an [assessment](#) before the job. Look at each job task and assign the correct PPE.

One company developed an overhead policy that any work being done overhead needs to be full head safety helmets and full eye protection.

The group talked about the safety helmets that have drop down visors; Need to make sure they have the ANSI Z87+ symbol on it (material tested for impact of speed and size).

Oregon OSHA is looking at making the safety helmets apart of our safety equipment for the compliance officers.

One company shared they have had a few employees have medical events and fall; Their safety helmet stayed on when they hit the ground preventing a head injury.

National Suicide Awareness Month in Construction:

What are companies doing for awareness for the month and year round?

One company took a moment of silence nationwide on Monday. There were discussions on resources and shared the 9-8-8 help line. They are also having toolbox talks throughout this month to focus on it. The union has assistance program to them and the company has extended that service to everyone.

One company goes to each individual and has conversations with them about how they are personally, and really listens.

Another company is holding toolbox talks creating a supportive culture, providing resources and support, promoting awareness, and encouraging peer support.

List of Suicide and Mental Health Resources:

Culture of Care: Mandi Kime... [Culture of CARE | Associated General Contractors of America \(agc.org\)](#)

Construction Industry Alliance for the Prevention of Suicide
[Construction Suicide Prevention Partnership – reducing suicide and promoting mental well-being in the construction industry \(suicide-stops-here.org\)](#)

Lines for Life/Construction Suicide Prevention Partnership:
[Construction Industry Suicide Prevention Partnership - Lines For Life](#)

National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention
Cal Beyer... [Home Page | National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention \(theactionalliance.org\)](#)

QPR training:
[QPR Institute | Practical and Proven Suicide Prevention Training QPR Institute \(en-US\)](#)

CSSP is offering a free class next week.

One company has “You Matter” stickers in English and Spanish. They have them in 1500 porta potties, and they have another 2000 going into more.

Oregon OSHA Updates:

Renee- a couple months ago we talked about strategic planning. We are going to be holding a virtual listening session on where you think Oregon OSHA should focus, and how we do things. Are we missing industries, are we getting to the right outreach events? There is always room for improvement. The listening session is September 30, 2024, and a link will be sent to everyone.

Rebranding committees: The groups we have are not officially committees because we don't appoint members. The group discussed options for the language to use for this group. It has been decided the C.A.C. will be Construction Advisory Council.

Rule Update:

[Oregon OSHA proposed the ALH rule.](#) We have been working for a number of years with different rule advisory groups. Public comment is open until November 3rd.

If there are questions you can reach out to Matt Kaiser or Dave McLaughlin.

[Federal and Oregon OSHA Minor Corrections:](#) minor corrections and updates of spelling and grammar. There are 63 rules being modified but nothing substantial and nothing new added.

[HAZCOM:](#) Federal OSHA updated their rule and we have updated ours to be at least as effective as. We will be proposing soon.

Lead rule making has been on hold while we worked on the other rules.

[Federal OSHA: worker walk around-](#) Oregon OSHA already had this in place. We are not doing anything right now as the federal OSHA rule is in litigation.

-allowing workers to delegate a representative to be in the walkaround inspection. Ours in statute already when the created it in the 70s.

Monthly Accidents and Fatalities Report:

If there is an accident or a fatal 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. August 12th, Halfway

An employee on horseback was corralling calves when his boot spur became caught on the calf and as the horse he was riding, turned his leg became twisted causing his leg to break.

2. August 12th, Pendelton

While loading and unloading materials an employee was injured when metal fence panels slipped off the forks of a forklift while they were being unloaded by hand. Six of the 225# metal panels fell on to him, pinning him down and resulting in a broken right leg.

3. August 30th, Clatskanie

Employee was cutting a large piece of equipment (called a hood) from an elevated surface while wearing fall protection. The equipment was loaded and being held by a crane. The crane was removing the pieces of equipment out of the building. The rigging failed and the equipment fell. The employee was caught by the fall protection at the time of the accident, but the rigged piece of equipment struck the employees leg or the employees leg was caught in the equipment or fall protection, resulting in a break to the employees right leg. The employee was transported via ambulance and admitted to the hospital on the morning of 8/30/2024.

4. August 5th, Hillsboro

A Sheet Metal Installer was descending a 6-foot Lean Safe Ladder miss-stepped from the 2nd to the 1st rung of the ladder and lost their balance falling approximately 1-3 feet to the floor. Employee sustained injuries to their (fractured) right leg and (possibly fractured) right wrist.

5. August 30th, Damascus

A dump truck operated by owner of the company and an employee went over an embankment. The driver was severely injured and passenger trapped in the crushed cab fifty (50) down the embankment. Both employees were transported to the hospital. The driver was hospitalized and the passenger was treated and released from ER. Per deputy responder and owner, the Driver / owner of the company experienced three broken ribs, some road rash on his left side (he jumped out of the vehicle while it was crashing), two dislocated shoulders, and a broken femur. The owner stayed overnight at the hospital twice, but was discharged after first night. The passenger (who did not jump out of the vehicle and careened down the embankment with the vehicle) experienced a shoulder injury and was discharged the same day.

6. August 8th, Hillsboro

The employee was working on a three story roof and fell off, striking the ground below.

7. August 7th, Portland

The injured employee was in the back of a dump truck where a sheet of plywood (debris) came down the debris shoot and struck the employee in the back.

8. August 7th, Kaiser

The employee was cutting a thin piece of wood on a panel saw using a push stick to feed the wood through the saw and past the blade. As the wood piece came past the saw blade the employee grabbed the piece with his hand and was nicked by the blade. The employee lost approximately 1/4 inch of their fingertip. The employee was treated at Silverton Hospital and released the same day.

Fatalities –

Medical events, MVAs, and Falls were the biggest.

1. August 2024, Bend

The employee (Apartment Manager) told his son that he was going to go down into the basement. Son found his father. It appears that the employee slipped and fell downstairs. 52 year old male.

2. August 27th, Baker City

Semi-truck travelling in "A" lane, a second semi-truck began merging into the "A" lane from the shoulder moving slow. First semi-truck delayed slowing, Lane "B" was taken up with other semi-trucks and when first semi-truck finally was able to change into the "B" lane they clipped the second semi-trucks trailer. The collision caused the first semi-truck to flip onto its side, the driver who was not belted was thrown out of the vehicle landing in front of their semi-truck and pushed down the highway.
27 year old male

3. August 28th, Eugene

The employee was performing general paint prep on a jobsite for approximately two and a half hours. Upon completion the employee was dispatched to another site to perform general cleanup. The company owner talked on the phone to the victim at 11:13 am They were discovered in a portable toilet by another employee. The door was open, and the employee was found unresponsive. Emergency services and the medical examiner responded; the employee was declared deceased at the scene by the medical examiner. Employee was not exposed to hazardous chemicals or high temperatures prior to the event. Per employer the employee experienced a suspected personal medical event (cardiac). 64 year old male.

4. August 28th, Central Point

On Wednesday 08/28/2024 at about 1150 am an employee suffered an apparent heart attack while in the parking lot of the Country Store, located at 2015 Hanley Rd in Central Point OR. The employee was complaining of heart burn, went to the above location to purchase some antacids. Mark exited the truck, took a drink of water and fell to the ground. 61 year old male.

5. August 24th Portland

An employee was trimming a tree with more landscape co-workers, when he climbed back up the ladder to cut one last branch from the top of the tree, he did not notice that the branch was touching an electrical wire and when he came into contact with the branch, he was electrocuted and died on site. 21 year old male.

6. August 21st, Dufur

While driving from Dufur back to the office, in a company vehicle, a head on collision occurred between the employee and a private party. Limited details have been provided to the employer, but it appears that the employee died at the scene. 45 year old male.

7. August 21st, Gilchrist

Caller reported that a gentleman was believed to have had a heart attack; Co-workers found the man unconscious on the work floor with blood coming from his mouth; 911 was dialed and CPR was performed by colleagues while awaiting first responders. Upon arrival first responders continued CPR for approximately one hour where the gentleman was presumably pronounced dead at the scene and was taken to the local fire station. 61 year old male.

8. August 15th, Portland

A driver was backing up a semi-truck through a gate and was being guided in by another employee, (victim) outside the trailer at the back of the trailer. First the victim was on the passenger side guiding the driver and as the victim was moving to the drivers side, he got pinned between the trailer and the wall of another building.

The victim was transported by AMR to Legacy Emanuel in Portland and passed away approximately 20 minutes after arriving at the emergency room. 59 year old male.

9. August 12th, Newberg

An employee was working alone sitting in his air conditioned vehicle doing paper work and checking emails. They did not return home and his spouse went to the work site and found him deceased. Employees normal work hours were 5:30 AM to 2:00 PM. 67 year old male.

10. August 11th, Portland

The employee had returned from lunchroom and walked into the maintenance shop, checked his phone, and then appeared to collapse per video footage. From approximately 12:00 to 12:08 it appeared he was gasping for air, and was found by employees at approximately 12:15, where it did not appear he had a pulse, they started chest compressions, used the AED, and called 911. EMS arrived onsite at approximately 12:28PM and treated the employee until approximately 12:44PM when the employee's pulse returned. He was then taken to the hospital and received open heart surgery that evening. Employee passed away on 8/14/2024. Exact time of death is unknown. 58 year old male.

11. August 10th, Oregon City

The company owner and the deceased were applying a water based asphalt sealer manufactured by Seal Master while The owners son was holding the applicator hose. Both were with the deceased when the deceased collapsed. Clackamas County Medical Examiner pronounced the victim deceased at the scene. 58 year old male.

12. August 16th, Eugene

Employee was performing office work in an air-conditioned room from 12:17 PM to 3:28 PM. The employee left the office and was attempting to leave the site in a company vehicle. The employee had a medical event, lost control of the vehicle and impacted two other employee personal vehicles. Fellow employees removed the employee from the vehicle and started performing CPR until medical services arrived on scene. The employee was transported, admitted to the hospital and is still in hospital care. The employee did not have any known chemical exposure prior to the event. Employee passed away in the hospital. 66 year old male.

13. August 8th, West Linn

Worker fell from approximately 30 feet to concrete steps below. Other workers heard a noise and realized the victim had fallen. West Linn PD responded and victim was transported via Life Flight to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center where he later passed away. 33 year old male.

14. August 7th, Sherwood

Employee was found by either the homeowner or a co-worker and one of them called 911. The employee had been working on a roof at heights of approximately 10 - 15 feet. The employee was transported via Life Flight to OHSU. The employee later passed away. Exact time of death unknown. 46 year old male.

15. August 6th, Antelope

A summer staff employee was ejected from an ATV at a summer camp. Employee was riding as a passenger on the Mule ATV which was coming down a hill from a zip line tower. The ATV rolled over on top of the employee fatally injuring her. 911 was called and an ambulance transported the victim to the employer's air strip. An in-house physician pronounced the victim dead. Life Flight was canceled. 19 year old female.

16. August 4th, Pendelton

Employee went into walk-in refrigerator to get a box of produce. Co-worker went to check on them after they did not return. Victim found laying on the floor with injury to the side of their head. Employee taken to hospital where they later passed away on 8/09/2024. Possible heart attack. 57 year old female.

17. August 2nd, Bend

Employee was not feeling well and went to vehicle to take a break. A coworker went to check on him and found him non-responsive. Employee was taken out of vehicle and CPR was attempted unsuccessfully. 61 year old male.

Anonymous Questions:

If you have anything you would like to bring up at the meetings and would like to stay anonymous, let Rick McMurry, or Dale Lindstrom know, and they will bring it up for you.

None shared this month.

Round table:

CSS: topics are to be determined for the rest of the year, and the coming year.

SafeBuild: innovations event coming up: Kennedy school.

Working prototype for cameras on job sites to track data for fall protection. Smart safety solutions: Oregon State University partnership looking at ladder safety.

COSHO Conference next week in Bend.

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

Next Meeting:

October 8, 2024