

Oregon OSHA
Construction Advisory Council
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Aaron Colmone	Eden Berestoff	Milton Stamp
Al Lee-Lennar	Eric Bongen	Nathan Taylor
Alta Schafer	Eric Elkins	Nicolas Gardner
Amanda Davies	Eric Fullan	Phillip Wade
Andrew Johnson	Greig Lowell	Rachel Madjlesi
Angelica Valdivieso	Hailey Sorensen	Robert Miller
Anmarie Earl	Holt Andron	Roy Shawgo
Barbara Hanley	Jamey Goodman	Russ Goodwin
Bash Mumuni	Jason Dunton	Ryan Leffell
Blake Reichel	Jeff Wilson	Sean Tinker
Bob Henderson	Joaquin Diaz	Shane Tercelo
Brad Nanke	Joe Mullens	Stephanie Baird
Brett Warming	John Frank	Stephen Cannon
Bryan Davis	John Mastromonaco	Stephen Heaven
Bryon Snapp	Josh Schwabauer	Steve Barrett
Chris Dahl	Julie Love	Steve Huson
Cindy Booker	Justin Wall	Tammi Stevens
Connie Graybeal	Kirsten Adams	Ted Bunch
Craig Ley	Kyan Bartel	Thomas Price
Dale Lindstrom	Laird Blanchard	Tim Moore
Dave McLaughlin	Lynn Craig	Tony Harbison
David Davidson	Maggie Gerlicher	Troy Stroud
David Smiley	Mark Spring	Ursula Lande
David Stanton	Mars Gracida	
Donnie Chandler	Mary Lou Wilson	
Doug Biron	Mike Brunenkant	

The meeting was called to order by Nathan Taylor.

Thank you all for joining the hybrid meeting. Introductions of people in person were made.

Previous Meeting Minutes.

The September meeting minutes were approved.

Lessons Learned & Safety Suggestions:

A company had a near miss in a shop. The employee was using a miter saw cutting copper pipe; The employee had been making repetitive cuts and the pipe flew up and hit their face shield. After review it was found that a wood blade had infiltrated their stock. They didn't check the blade when it was installed. They had all their PPE on, so they were not injured.

Lesson learned is to double check that the proper equipment is being used for the job.

A company is making sure telehandlers in the field use 3 points of contact and are aware of surrounds when exiting.

A company shared that at job at PDX years ago, the equipment being used, a two-point suspended scaffold platform with caster wheels mounted under it, tipped over and employee fell out; It easily tips over if not suspended by the hoisting lines. The company worked with ANSI to get notification stickers added to the equipment on the dangers of tip over when it is supported by the transport wheels.

When there is a tragedy/fatality happens, think about what went wrong, and

-people get distracted- with things happening in life. Know your partner, co-workers so you can see the signs when something is off.

New hire/ onboarding of employees, but what about hiring foreman. It is a different role, and the training involved for the duties might have issues with new duties. -Training for the job.

Oregon OSHA does have an online and in person course for training the supervisor, for the bigger picture in safety. It is free.

Contractor Spotlight:

David: Port of Portland

[Updating the PDX airport.](#)

Built the 9 acre timber roof on the ground, 18 feet in the air, and not 85 feet up in the air.

This was a serious project and wanted to do it safely. Incidents and near misses were happening, they investigated each one, and they decided to slow the project down.

Mammoet systems, based out of the Netherlands, was contracted to move each of the massive pre-constructed timber sections of the roof from the assembly area out near the runways to their final destinations at the terminal where they were lifted into place. The Mammoet system moves at approximately 1mph, and controlled by 1 person with a belly box.

The timber roofing sections were built on the runway and broke it up into 14 sections and then moved individually to their final location.

There are still 4 more panel sections to move for phase 2.

Started this project 4 years ago. They did share with all the employees throughout for training.

Expanded airport 140 feet for phase 1

There was no way to slope or bench the excavations for the new utilities. Instead, they froze the soil, drilled a well 3-feet at a time and filled with a super cooled salt brine, and excavated the frozen soil. This was new excavation safety technology

Phase 2 is demolition this week. We hope in the spring to bring the other 4 timber panels over to the terminal. There are 80 live trees in there.

Sustainability: built to last, 20 new concessions.

Economic- meet regional growth demand for air travel.

We considered total life cycle costs in new building infrastructure while providing strong project cost controls.

Environmental- increase efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint through energy efficient building design.

Social- ensure robust outreach to minority, women-owned and emerging small business to create business opportunity in design, construction, and ongoing operations.

Skylights are strong enough to walk on. We did a lot of testing to ensure they are sturdy and worked with Oregon OSHA consultation. It meets the equivalent of a skylight cover.

-the Port of Portland bought 600 safety helmets and gave out to the small construction company employees for free for them to be safer.

Engagement- think working in a hospital.

-minimize noise, dust, odors, and other nuisances.

-every member of the construction team at the airport is an unofficial airport employee;

Engaging public, assisting passengers, communication between airport operations.

Construction workers are fully aware of potential impacts on airport operations.

They gave a map of where the crews would be working each day and what interruptions might come up to the airport officials.

They set aside a portion of the money to help the small business out during this project.

David: When we had a near miss, we stopped work.

Jason: We always tried to learn from the incident/ near miss to help prevent from happening again. There is stigma of “slow down” in the construction industry and it could be viewed as a red flag of a company having issues. But this was a good opportunity to slow down to prevent putting workers at more risk. We wanted everyone to be safe and not have a serious injury or fatality.

Bryon: Applauded the slow down you took. You did the right thing.

Question on skylights- years from now, how will they (workers) on the roof know these sky lights are rated as ‘covers’.

David- We have them in a report, but we do not have them labeled. We will get them labeled.

Renee: Thank you for the presentation. And the opportunity to hear about all the lessons learned. You have recognized what it could have been, and you took the time to stop and learn, and correct.

Steve: Slow down of the job stood out. How can we get this message out to other GC’s and owners? For most people it is not an attractive options, because it could cost more.

David: Three workers died in the parking garage project and that stuck with everyone and we couldn't let that happen again. So they took the pressure off the workers to get the job done right.

Jason- Most people look at cost and time, and not safety. They don't want to hear that it will take longer, they will start billing you if you go over the deadline in the contract.

David- Maybe keep them, the owner, more involved in the whole process and maybe they would be a little more understanding and willing.

Jason-Communicate all the near misses, or incidents, throughout the project.

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 [Oregon OSHA](#).

Oregon Standards and Improvement Process: minor corrections and updates of spelling and grammar. There are 63 rules that were modified but nothing substantial and nothing new added.

HAZCOM: 1910.1200 standard. Federal OSHA updated and we have updated ours to be at least as effective as. We will be proposing soon.

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. September 28th Brookings

Employee called co-worker stating he needed to be brought to the emergency room. On the way to the emergency room the ill employee vomited up blood the co-worker called 911 and they were escorted to the hospital by police. The employee was hospitalized with a bleeding gastrointestinal ulcer.

2. September 28th Ontario

Employee/Music Teacher was sitting in a student chair. The back legs of the chair broke. Employee fell backwards in chair, striking their head on a shelf and then the floor. The employee did not lose consciousness. Employee taken to hospital and kept overnight for observation. Employee released the next morning with no restrictions.

3. September 24th, Albany

Victim was on the bean slab when he collapsed. He was still conscious but disoriented, and attended to by co-workers. A co-worker called 911 and he was taken by ambulance to Samaritan in Albany, then transferred to Corvallis Samaritan

Hospital where they installed a stent. He will remain in the hospital for additional stents.

4. September 19th, Ochoco Forest

The origin of the injury at the time of intake is unknown. Symptoms of the injured were in and out of consciousness, seizures and difficulty breathing. The employee was medevac'd out of the scene and was transferred to St. Charles in Bend.

5. September 15th, Vale

An employee standing on a ladder stocking the top shelf approximately 64 inches to 72 inches above the ground, fell off a step ladder and hit head.

6. September 13th, Hermiston

At approximately 8:05am on 09/13/2024, a food safety employee was walking the line looking for food safety related problems. The employee stated they thought they saw foreign material stuck in a chain and sprocket located on the line. The employee walked up and stood on a catwalk near a guard rail in front of the equipment and reached out to touch the sprocket to see and remove the foreign material. The equipment/line was energized/powerd on and running at the time of injury. The employee's left hand-(index finger) was amputated at the top. (employer states no bone loss).

7. September 14th, Corvallis

A direct care worker was helping with a resident when the resident struck her in the head with their hand. a short time later (employer is unsure of time) the employee was found in the hall way unresponsive to verbal and physical commands. She was transported to Good Samaritan Hospital.

8. September 12th, LaPine

Employee awoke with a swelling on the head, over day of eyes shut and admitted into the hospital diagnosed infection.

9. September 11th, White City

The employee was in the process of priming a transfer pump when the employee's right middle finger was sucked into the pump inlet. The employee lost the tip of finger possibly including cartilage under nail of finger. The employee was driven to Providence ER where he was treated and returned to work.

10. September 11th, Madras

An employee reached into a machine, by-passing a guard, when his right index and middle finger contacted a side cutting head on a moulder resulting in two finger amputations to the first knuckle. It was reported that a board got jammed in the moulder. The employee opened the guard while the machine was running and reached into the machine to attempt to unjam the board when his fingers contacted the inside side cutting head. the employee was initially transported to the Madras St. Charles hospital and then later the same day was transported to Bend St. Charles for surgery.

11. September 10th, Boardman

Employee working along conveyor belt, employee fell into conveyor and got stuck. Employee taken to hospital with broken ribs, collar bone and injured ear.

12. September 10th, Eugene

Employee was operating school bus, contacted employer and asked for a another bus to finish the route. The employee was taking the bus back to the bus barn and struck a vehicle. Employee was transported to hospital and admitted as inpatient. Unknown injuries.

13. September 6th, Albany

The employee had been working with a crew installing, and subsequently tearing down, scaffolding when she began to feel nauseous. The employee was evaluated by onsite medical services, who advised she should be taken to a hospital for treatment. The supervisor, transported the employee to Samaritan Albany General Hospital, where she was, and remains, hospitalized. At the time of the accident report, the employee was diagnosed with a condition, which may have been aggravated by heat. The employer reported they had begun an accident investigation.

14. September 6th, Creswell

While working at a charity event, the employee was riding on an open tailgate of a side-by-side vehicle. The employee fell from the tailgate, striking her head on asphalt. Emergency services were called, and an ambulance arrived providing treatment and transport to Riverbend Hospital in Eugene, OR. The employee was admitted to the hospital for treatment and evaluation, being discharged the morning of 9/7/2024. The employee was diagnosed with having a skull fracture.

15. September 4th, Corvallis

EE was shearing sheep that had fecal matter on their wool both 4 days and 10 days prior to the date of illness; Initial onset of illness 8/31/24, with hospitalization reported on 9/6/24. A biosafety review follow-up will occur on Monday September 9th with the director of livestock operations to review PPE and protocols. Infection with Cryptosporidium is suspected.

16. September 25th Sandy

The employee, a Sheriff's Deputy, was serving an eviction notice to a private resident and became involved in an altercation with the resident and injured the employees lower right leg. The employee went to the hospital 9/25/24 and was sent home to rest the leg. The employee woke up in excruciating pain that night and went to the emergency room and was hospitalized from 9/26/24-9/29/24.

17. September 12th, Portland

The employee was working on a 3 ft work platform and slipped on some bolts and fell off the platform onto his side. This resulted in ankle, foot, hip, and back injuries.

Originally the victim was told by the doctor to go home and keep the weight off of his foot. 15 days later the employee returned to the hospital and was told that he had an infection in his foot that had spread to his lungs and is now hospitalized.

18. September 19th, Salem

Employee driving a truck loaded with 10 yards of concrete down the hill when the truck rolled over on a curve resulting in broken bones.

19. September 24th, Tualatin

Engineering Technician was testing/troubleshooting a battery storage system to determine why the system was losing power. The test was a surge test. The testing mechanism was installed by the facility electrician for the use by the Engineering Technician. The injured employee had the tester unit in his left hand and then touched a metal door handle when an electrical circuit was complete. The injured employee was exposed to an estimated 1000 volts of current. The employee suffered a minor burn to the hand. The clinic did an EKG and determined that the heart rhythm was abnormal.

20. September 13th, Portland

Employee began having chest pain while at home during a call with a manager on 9/13/2024, called 911 and was admitted to OHSU on 9/13/2024 and diagnosed with Myocardial infarction takotsubo syndrome.

21. September 13th, Portland

Injured employee started experiencing symptoms of vomiting and severe gastrointestinal distress after using a closed off restroom in the basement at work and may have been exposed to sewage. Employee sought care in the hospital and was released same day on 9/13/24. The symptoms returned so the employee returned to the hospital on 9/22/24, and was admitted overnight and released next day on 9/23/24. Employee was diagnosed with hypokalemia (low potassium) and gastroenteritis (stomach flu).

22. September 21st, Woodburn

EE was loading a food truck that was backed up to the loading dock then reached around the corner of the truck and stepped off the edge of the truck and fell.

23. September 18th Portland

Employee was climbing stairs, approximately six risers to the office when the employee fell. Employee was laying at the bottom of the stairs. Employee suffered neck injuries and is awaiting surgery. The employee also suffered a laceration to their forehead and received approximately 4-5 stitches to close up the laceration. It is not known at this time if the employee had lost consciousness but when employees arrived to render aid the employee was conscious and speaking.

24. September 18th, Milwaulkie

A machine operator was taking machine parts and to retrieve buckets to the dish room. A witness to the incident said the employee had a shaking episode and fell to the floor striking his head on the ground surface t. The employee was taking to Kaiser Permanente Sunnybrook hospital for his injuries.

25. September 13th, Lake Oswego

Employee was coming back from break on the way to the meat department. At the walk-in cooler door, another employee was exiting the walk-in cooler causing the injured employee to back up and trip over items located behind him. Right ankle was fractured after tripping.

26. September 12th, Estacada

Employer does not have details of the incident. Employee was working with 3 other workers who may have been performing tree removal. The employee was located under a tree with a broken femur and was life flighted and hospitalized and is awaiting surgery at Legacy Emanuel Medical Center at this time.

27. September 11th, Portland

The employee was working on a two story roof, the employee fell off. The employee had a harness on, but was not connected to the rope.

28. September 9th, Seaside

Employees were driving to job site when truck in oncoming lane struck their vehicle. One employee, admitted to Providence Seaside for observation for fracture, laceration, and concussion. Second employee was transferred from Providence Seaside to OHSU for multiple leg fractures, hand fracture, and internal injuries.

29. September 10th, Beaverton

Employee found in stock room with shortness of breath. Other employees called EMS, who transported to hospital. Employee admitted for observation.

30. September 6th, St.Helens

During morning roll out, A employee was behind a bus when the breaks appeared to failed, the bus then rolled backwards pinning her to a pole. Driver April Tunnel was in the bus and attempted to apply the breaks. Local police and 911 were called.

31. September 3rd, Portland

Employees were moving a pallet that was wrapped and banded inside of a Conex. The load shifted and fell from the forklift pinning the victim between the load and the inside wall.

Fatalities –

1. September 24th, Hillsboro

Worker was crushed by a pre-casted concrete manhole section when the suspended load came free from the rigging and fell approximately 9 feet onto the

worker who was working within a pre-casted concrete manhole section that was previously installed into the excavation. 30 year old male.

2. September 13th, Portland

Employee died of an apparent heart attack. 55 year old male

3. September 12th, Albany

Employee committed suicide by hanging. Sheriff's department and medical examiner responded to the scene. Employee was pronounced deceased on site. 33 year old male.

4. September 10th, Hillsboro

The victim was picking up his tools at the location to go to the another site. The employee collapsed. It is suspected that the employee suffered a fatal heart attack. The victim was found by an electrician, an employee of a subcontractor. 58 year old male.

5. September 5th, Portland

The employee was working alone moving vinyl plank flooring in boxes from the sidewalk where it was dropped off on a pallet to the maintenance storage room/basement nearby. He was found by a worker from a separate building, and a tenant who called 911. At the time of the 911 call, the tenant believed the worker to be deceased. The police department, paramedics, and medical examiner responded to the scene. Due to the 100 degree heat index when the employee was found, the ME believes heat illness may have been a factor. The employer was notified and also responded to the scene. 58 year old male.

6. September 3rd, Bend

An employee was helping carry a heavy battery upstairs when he suffered a heart attack. 66 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.

Nothing shared.

Round table:

Oregon OSHA Spanish Language Conference will be November 5, 2024 in Hillsboro.

Southern Oregon Safety and Health Conference next week.

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:

November 12, 2024