

**Oregon OSHA**  
**Construction Advisory Council**  
**Tuesday, May 13, 2025**

**Meeting Minutes**

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**Attendees:**

Alta Schafer	David Terry	Mike Brunenkant
Amanda Davies	Eden Berestoff	Penny Wolf-McCormick
Amee Standing	Eric Bongen	Phillip Wade
Angelica Valdivieso	Eric Fullan	Rick McMurry
Annmarie Earl	Greig Lowell	Robert Miller
Antonio Gonzales	Holt Andron	Roy Shawgo
Barbara Hanley	Jake Errico	Sean Gremer
Barbra Anderson	Jennifer Stewart	Sean Tinker
Brett Warming	Jeremy Lawson	Shane Tercek
Bryan Davis	Jim Hill	Stephen
Bryon Snapp	Joe Forest	Stephen Lund
Caleb Harris	Joe Mullens	Steve Barrett
Chris Dahl	John	Steve Huson
Connie Graybeal	Josh Schwabauer	Thomas Price
Craig Tweedy	K. Beuscher	Travis Stone
Dale Lindstrom	Kyan Bartel	Ursula Lande
David Rekdahl	Mark Spring	Will H.
David Smiley	Mary Lou Wilson	Will Schafer

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The meeting was called to order by Dale Lindstrom.

Thank you all for joining the hybrid meeting. Introductions of people in person were made. *Please make sure if you are joining the meeting virtually that you have your first and last name, along with your company. If there is no name listed, you will be removed from the meeting for security purposes.*

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

The March meeting minutes were approved.

**Lessons Learned & Safety Suggestions:**

The group had discussions around mental health and resources that are available if someone is struggling.

A company lost an employee to suicide recently. They are looking at ways to make trainings and information more meaningful. They are also looking at the ripple effect of going through tragic events and how to help all of your employees.

The small contractors might not have availability to full resources, so maybe the bigger contractors can help bridge these gaps in trainings.

Say something in the moment if you see someone struggling, it might help them.

EAP is a great resource for companies to utilize.

9-8-8 is the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

### **OSHA Discussion:**

Penny Wolf-McCormick, Statewide Health Enforcement Manager, shared a presentation on [Confined Spaces vs Alternate Entry](#). [Confined Spaces vs Alternate Entry presentation](#).

Confined Space: All three of the following criteria must be present:

1. Large enough to enter and perform work
2. Not designed for continuous occupancy
3. Limited access and egress

A permit is required if one or more of the following hazards are present

Engulfment hazard

Configuration hazard

Atmospheric hazard

Other recognized hazards

Alternate Entry:

**(a)** Permit spaces may be entered without a permit when:

**(A)** All hazards have been eliminated; or

**(B)** All physical hazards, if any, have been eliminated and all atmospheric hazards are controlled with continuous ventilation.

***(b) Exception:** Alternate entry cannot be used to enter a continuous system unless you can isolate the area to be entered from the rest of the space, can demonstrate that the conditions that caused the hazard or potential hazard no longer exist within the system during the entry, or can demonstrate that engulfment cannot occur and continuous ventilation in the area to be entered is sufficient to control atmospheric hazards.*

**Remember – It is still a permit required confined space** – but it is eligible for an **Alternate Entry**. You still need to document entry. You need to keep records for the duration of the entry – and keep records at the location of the entry.

**Definition of entry is when *any part of the body* crosses the plane of the opening to the confined space.**

The group asked for a comparison from [Oregon OSHA's rules vs. Federal OSHA's rules](#) and you can find that on our website under the Confined Space page.

If you have any questions you can contact Oregon OSHA at (503) 378-3272 or

[Email: tech.web@dcbs.oregon.gov](mailto:tech.web@dcbs.oregon.gov)

### **Rule Updates:**

Oregon OSHA is currently working on the [Lead rulemaking](#).

This is Will Schafer's last meeting as the Acting Technical Manager, and Michael "Alex" Townsley will be the new Acting Technical Manager from May 27, 2025 through August 2025.

## Monthly Accidents and Fatalities Report:

If there is an accident or a fatal incident that you would like more information on let Jennifer Stewart or Alta Schafer 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 –

32 Accidents – 5 construction, 21 general industry, 2 agriculture and 4 forestry  
6 personal medical and 26 trauma

Fall (same)	2
Fall (lower)	7
Struck by	3
Caught In	8 (Amputation 5 of the 8)
MVA	3
Over exertion	1
Exposure	1
WP Violence	1
Personal Medical	6

1. April 3, Sherwood

Employee was driving as a part of their work. While driving, the employee was involved in a single vehicle accident. The employee was transported to the hospital and treated for head trauma.

2. April 7, Pilot Rock

A vehicle carrying 4 employees, drifted off the pavement onto the right gravel shoulder. Upon attempting to bring the vehicle back onto the roadway, the vehicle fishtailed and then rolled. One of the employees was ejected from the vehicle during the roll over. All 4 employees were injured.

3. April 10, Salem

Employee was installing wire for solar panels in an attic and fell through the ceiling to the garage below. The homeowner called 911. The employee was transported to the hospital and treated for broken bones and lacerations.

4. April 14, Portland

Employee was washing out the concrete pump line. The employee inserted their right hand into the hose to clean out rocks and debris. The pump activated and amputated the tip of the employees' middle finger and index finger to the first knuckle on their right hand. Employee was transported to the hospital for treatment.

5. April 21, Eugene

Employee was removing a countertop during a kitchen remodel. Part of the counter top broke and struck the employee in the eye. Employee went to the hospital and was treated for unspecified injuries.

6. April 1, Aloha

Employee lost consciousness. EMS was called, they were transported to the hospital and treated for a personal medical emergency.

7. April 2, Pine Hollow  
Employee was driving a UTV. They were driving into the sunrise and had some limitations on visibility and realized they were not in the correct place to maneuver a curve in the road. They applied the brakes and increased the turn of the UTV. The UTV rolled. EMS was called. The driver had abrasions and bruising and the passenger had broken bones.
8. April 2, Portland  
Employee stepped off of an anti-fatigue mat and fell. The employee was transported to the hospital and treated for broken bones.
9. April 7, Sherwood  
Employee was participating in a training that required physical exertion and experienced a personal medical emergency. EMS was called and they were transported to the hospital.
10. April 8, Eugene  
Employee was pressure washing a cryogenic tank from a ladder leaned against a building. The employee turned on the ladder and slipped. The employee fell approximately 6 (six) feet. The employee was transported to the hospital and treated for lacerations and broken bones.
11. April 8, Eugene  
Employee was standing on a three step stool and pulled a mirror off top shelf. The employee dropped it and tried to catch it and fell to the ground. The employee was transported to the hospital and treated for broken bones and internal injuries.
12. April 8, Salem  
Employee experienced a personal medical emergency. Coworkers provided immediate care and called for more advanced care. Employee was admitted to the hospital and received care.
13. April 11, Portland  
Employee was exiting the cargo section of a van and fell. EMS was called, the employee was transported to the hospital and treated for injuries including head and spine injuries.
14. April 13, Portland  
Employee was on an elevated platform walking while carrying a package. The employee stepped off the platform edge and fell to the decking below. The employee was transported to the hospital and treated for unspecified injuries including internal injuries.
15. April 14, Corvallis  
Employee was loading a glass fiber bailer. While closing door, the employee caught their left middle finger between door and press causing a laceration to the left middle finger. The employee was transported to the emergency room. To close the wound, the hospital removed the tip of their finger, part of the finger nail, and a small piece of bone (unknown how much).
16. April 14, Estacada

The employee was using a table saw to cut trim molding and amputated their left index fingertip just below the fingernail. Employee was transported to the hospital for treatment.

17. April 15, Wasco

The employee tripped over a curb in a parking lot. The employee was transported to the main office and first responders were notified. EMS recommended that the employee be airlifted. The injured employee was treated for broken bones.

18. April 16, Portland

Employee was on a 2-step stool and fell off. They were transported to the hospital and treated for broken bones.

19. April 17, Warrenton

Employee was cleaning a piece of equipment and was pulled into the equipment. Employee was transported to the hospital for undisclosed injuries.

20. April 22, Salem

Employee was unloading wood from a truck and experienced a personal medical emergency. EMS was called and the employee was transported to the hospital.

21. April 22, Portland

Employee was deescalating a situation with a student. The employee was tackled and bitten multiple times. The employee was transported to the hospital and received care for multiple injuries.

22. April 22, Vale

Employee began to have difficulty breathing. Employee went to the hospital and was treated. It is suspected that an exposure to a perfume caused the difficulty breathing.

23. April 23, Beaverton

Personal medical condition caused an employee to fall. The fall resulted in a trauma to their head. EMS was called, the employee was transported and treated for a head injury.

24. April 24, Venita

Employee working from home suffered a personal medical emergency. The employee was transported to the hospital.

25. April 29, Clackamas

Employee operating a pallet jack and became pinned between the pallet jack and a racking system. EMS was called and the employee was transported to the hospital for broken bones and internal injuries.

26. April 29, Prineville

Employee participated in physical training program and complained about extreme fatigue and was lethargic. Employee went to emergency room and treated for heat related illness.

27. April 3, Brookings

The employee was using a wire wheel brush attached to a pedestal grinder. Their hand was pulled into the wheel. Emergency services transported the employee to the hospital and they were treated for a partial degloving of their hand.

28. April 7, Coos Bay

Employee's hand was caught under a piece of the equipment when it shifted. Employee's ring finger was amputated at the first knuckle. EMS was called and the employee was transported to the hospital.

29. April 8, Molalla

Employee was moving boards and had a personal medical emergency. EMS was called and the employee was transported to the hospital for treatment.

30. April 10, Sweet Home

The employee was working under the yarder. The rigging was coming back when the choker caught on a vine maple and flipped it in the air and hit the employee in the face. Employee was transported to the hospital and treated for broken bones.

31. April 18, Boring

Employee was connecting an implement to a tractor. The employee caught left finger against the attachment and amputated the tip of their finger.

32. April 29, Scio

Employee was welding hooks on equipment. One of the bolts shot out and hit the employee. Employee was transported to the hospital with internal injuries.

**Fatalities –**

Summary: 8 Fatalities – 7 general industry and 1 in logging  
2 personal medical and 6 trauma  
Fall (lower) – 1 Caught In/by – 1  
Burn – 1 MVA - 3

1. April 18, Roseburg

Employee was setting runners to place a load from a forklift. The load of boards fell off of the forklift and landed on the employee. Employee was crushed-by 2 units of dimensional lumber. Employee was pronounced deceased at the scene.

2. April 11, Junction City

Employee was washing a truck with hot water when they were burned. Employee was treated and released from the hospital. Employer was notified of employee death days later. At this time, it is unknown if the employee death is related to the workplace injury.

3. April 15, Portland

Employee was found unresponsive by building security staff. EMS was called and the employee was transported to the hospital

4. April 17, Toledo

Employee was driving to another work location and was involved in a motor vehicle accident.

5. April 18, Myrtle Point

Employee crossed centerline and hit another vehicle. The crash resulted in one fatality and one person hospitalized with injuries. Law enforcement is investigating.

6. April 28, Portland

Employee bent over multiple times to clean-up a water spill. Employee had a personal medical event, employees responded and called EMS. Employee was transported to the hospital.

7. April 3, Florence

Employee was driving (primary function of position) and was involved in a motor vehicle accident.

8. April 7, Portland

Employee was found unconscious by their truck. EMS was called and the employee was transported to the hospital.

**Anonymous Questions:**

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

There were no anonymous questions this month.

**Round table:**

The group was asked if we want to move the start of this meeting to 9:30am rather than 9:00am to allow for more time to get here. The group has agreed to move the meeting.

AGC has a meeting May 14<sup>th</sup>: their safety and health council will be presenting on lead and asbestos.

Dale Lindstrom Shared the Risk and Insurance Management: The OR-RIMS Chapter is hosting their end of year annual Education (EDay) conference on June 4 at the Holiday Inn in north Portland along the Columbia River off of I-5. For further information and registration go to the website: [Education Day 2025 – Sponsored by Prism – Oregon RIMS](#)

Greig Lowell shared that the [NW Safety and Health Summit, Blue Mountain Conference](#) will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in Pendleton.

Penny Wolf-Mcormick shared that the [Heat Illness Local Emphasis Program \(LEP\)](#) starts in June 15<sup>th</sup>. Oregon OSHA will be looking at your plans on every inspection.

Construction Safety Summit: every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, will now be held at Brix Tavern in Tualatin. The May topic is what to expect from an OSHA inspection, and the presenter will be Cummins Goodman.

Excavation Safety at Knife River in June. Renee will be presenting. If there is an excavation company that would like to help please reach out to Mike Brunenkant at [mbrunenkant@gmail.com](mailto:mbrunenkant@gmail.com).

Barbara Hanley asked if any company is hiring EHS interns, please let her know at [Barbara.Hanley@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Barbara.Hanley@oregonstate.edu)

[Safety Break starts tomorrow May 14<sup>th</sup>. Sign up if you are interested.](#)

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:**

June 10, 2025 at **9:30am**

Zoom / Oregon OSHA 16760 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd Tigard, OR 97224