

**Oregon OSHA
Forest Activities Advisory Committee
March 11, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Steve Aulerich	Chris Gillette	Kate Ryan
Tom Bozicevic	Barbara Hanley	Bruce Skurdahl
Frank Chandler	Rod Huffman	Bryon Snapp
Mike Coiner	Larry Kirkpatrick	Renée Stapleton
Mark Dvorscak	Julie Love	Ty Travis
Larry Fipps	Teresa Lundy	
Jim Gahlsdorf	Kevin Lyons	
John Garland	John Myers	

Meeting Agenda:

- Introductions
- Approve December 2020 meeting minutes
- Current rulemaking update (Renée Stapleton)
- Tethered logging research variance report (July – Dec. 2020)
- Using harvesting machine simulators in incident investigation training (Kevin Lyons)

Meeting started at 9:10am and introductions were conducted.

- Review of December 2020 meeting minutes. Tom concluded review of December 2020 minutes. A member moved to approve minutes, seconded by another member.
- **Current rulemaking update (Renée Stapleton)**
 - Bill 3290 would transfer certain duties, functions, funding, and authority from DCBS to BOLI for Oregon OSHA.
 - Bills on Excessive Heat and Wildfire Smoke per Governor's Executive Order. Proposal tentative for August/September 2021.
 - Member comment: with the heat threshold, consider morning/midday for different industries, example rigging on morning shift vs an agriculture crew working in midday.
 - Renee Stapleton: a construction crew may not have that flexibility in schedule. Ag employers try for morning outside work but they are limited on options depending on best time of the day to pick for crop quality, etc. We are in favor of the committee talking about forestry needing a different discussion in relation to heat.
 - Bill 2682-1 would require Oregon OSHA to adopt rules for the safety and health of workers related to leasing of construction vehicles and the people who inspect the leased construction vehicles.
 - Bill 3243 related to COVID-19 that civil penalties violations imposed during the COVID-19 emergency rules are not payable or due for fifty years after the pandemic. Renee: if

passed, this may cause an issue since Oregon OSHA is required to be at least as effective as federal OSHA.

- Oregon OSHA permanent rule proposal for temporary COVID-19 rule. The temp rule will expire May 21 and COVID is expected to be around a lot longer.
- Ag Labor Housing rules: COVID-19 Workplace Requirements for Employer-Provided Labor Housing. Public comment period closes April 16, 2021. Adoption tentatively will be in May 2021.
- Member request: could Renee send a list to this group on the legislation that has Oregon OSHA's attention? (*emailed to committee members on 3/19/2021*)

- **Tethered logging research variance report (July – Dec. 2020)**

- Tom Bozicevic emailed a PDF to the group before the meeting. Tom pointed out data from current reporting period (07/2020 – 12/2020) and accumulative total of all reporting periods (06/2016 – 12/2020).
- Member question: asked if a specific employer has a variance for tethered logging. The employer had a base machine tip-over with, however, no operator was inside at the time.
- Tom: 1) Yes, the employer was granted a variance but based on the timing of the current report, the tip-over event should be on the next report (due July 2021). 2) Other than the semi-annual reports, variances do not require additional reporting, however, employers must still follow Division 1 reporting requirements for events involving a worker fatality or hospitalization.
- Member comment: there should be a correction to #17. It should read “tether line and chain” not “drum.” From report: 2018 machine: Re-spliced eye 2 times (connection between tether line and ~~drum~~ chain) due to wear. (*corrected*)

- Using harvesting machine simulators in incident investigation training (Kevin L.)

- Training using simulated environments to improve the quality of incident investigations.
- To compete in funding competitions we need industry support. For the current NIOSH competition we need letters of support for recruiting participants and participating in extension. Hoping for AOL and Oregon OSHA participation support (not funding).
- Research question: Does testing safety investigation action items in simulated incidents during training, increase the likelihood that future incident investigations will develop action items that address the major findings of the investigation?
- Target audiences were shared
- Some examples were given that pose questions such as, “How do you measure slope?”; “who and when decides a safe work area?” How should the seatbelt be checked?
- Member comment: Other timber companies rather than AOL would be good to participate as well.
- Kevin Lyons: Yes, but contacting individual companies and getting them lined up would be difficult. AOL is a large company that would be good to have involvement from. Nearly impossible to get 30 or more companies on the phone for a meeting.
- Rod Huffman (AOL): I am sure we can have involvement. Happy to get the information out and review what you can. Agreed to set up a meeting.

- Member comment: there is work that has been done prior to Christmas break with handbook illustrations and digitizing the content so workers can access on phones. Short quizzes also on platform. Would be interested in having a conversation with Kevin Lyons in connection with FACE program.
- **Walking/working over water:** Tom: if a person needed to access an area to cross a stream or creek bed where there is a fall potential or drowning hazard, then what would be a best practice to get to the other side safely?
 - Member comment: it depends on the activity, if felling trees or stringing haywire to get down across the creek or similar hazard.
 - Tom: would people use fallen trees to use as a bridge to cross?
 - Member comment: have but concern is how long has that tree been there? Will bark slide off? Have used aluminum boat with use of life jackets, but that can create other concerns with using a boat too.
 - Member comment: issue with working over water is not the same as it was in the past.
 - Tom: further discussion to ensure worker safety in such situations is needed.
- **Quarterly Overnight Hospitalizations & Fatalities Report (12/2/20 – 3/5/21) (Tom)**
 - Member comment: would be nice to have job title and what the person was doing at the time of fatality.
 - Member comment: appreciate the summary, but having the raw data shared with this group would be helpful to give us some framework to think about how people get hurt. Tom can send out the one compiled report since 2016 to this group. *(emailed to committee members on 3/19/2021)*
- **Roundtable**
 - Member comment: will someone from AOL be in meeting to represent other companies for future meetings on rulemaking wildfire smoke? One concern is with AQI based on different topography and distance from AQI monitoring site.
 - Tom: encouraged members to participate in the virtual rule advisory committee (RAC) meetings on that topic. Next meeting for that RAC is March 25th, 1-4pm.
 - Renee: the two bills are also focusing on AQI so it will likely to part of the discussion. One concern was availability of monitoring stations. There is industrial hygiene equipment that can be used as well.
 - Member comment: with COVID and retirement of qualified cutters there may be less qualified cutters coming in. With tethered logging there is an issue with the system of fighting wildland fires, working next to powerlines. Consider that as part of the rulemaking discussions.
 - Larry Fipps: Division 7 question. Has the FAAC discussed where jammer logging fall into D7 rules (in the initial 2003 rules)? It doesn't fall under the cable logging definition.
 - Member comment: if you had a line off a roadside, it was like a skidder machine.
 - Member question: how are we doing on the ground, ground erosion, etc.?
 - Tom: Oregon Department of Transportation conducting activities to identify hazard trees along roadways subjected to fires. Contractors will be marking and felling hazard trees.
 - Member comment: Safe insured loggers, cleared – dividend yesterday. Good news for loggers.

Adjourned meeting at 11am

Next FAAC meeting is June 10, 2021.