

OSHA Safety/Energy Committee Minutes

December 15, 2015

Present: Tom Neal, Susan Griffin, Allen Risen, Heather Mercer, Mike McGlade, Rhys Finch, Chelsea Blatner, Kimber Townsend (chair), and Nora Solvedt,

Absent: Adria Gredvig, Shirley Hill, and Rebecca Chiles

Meeting was called to order at 2:00pm.

Review of Minutes:

- 11/17/2015 minutes approved 7-0-0 as presented
 - Schuyler made the motion, Tom seconded

Building Inspections: 14 buildings were inspected; deficiencies noted during November inspections included, but are not limited to:

- Use of extension cords, need to replace with power strips
- Shelves need to be secured to the wall
- Hallways obstructed causing trip hazards
- Eye wash station blocked
- Eye wash stations not being flushed monthly
- Chemicals improperly labeled or missing labels
- Missing ceiling tiles
- Floor drain missing the cover
- Missing emergency lighting
- Leaking downspout
- Elevator call boxes need work. Otis contacted
- Full sharps container

Injury Review: See below

Conservation Committee Update:

- Electric even, maybe a bit to the positive
- Gas is well into the surplus, due to low prices, and warmer than usual Fall temperatures
- A new boiler is being installed that will continue to improve costs

Type of Accident	Findings	Recommendations
While buffing the floor an employee flung the power cord out of the way causing pain in the right hand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employee operating high speed floor buffer, walking it forward and backwards with little to no back and forth arm motion• Employee twisted at the waist, flipping the power cord with the right hand to get it out of their way• Pain to the hand and arm did not occur until 10 minutes after he stopped using the floor buffer• Prior to employment at WOU the employee had surgery to right shoulder to correct the shoulder from popping out of it's socket	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask for assistance for any heaving lifting• Limit over extension of right arm
An employee injured their left knee while walking on wet grass. The employee was carrying 20-25 pounds of equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extensive walking on uneven surfaces/grass field while filming track meet• Pain occurred in left knee while employee was walking and placed left foot down during walking stride• Most videoing is done by placing camera on tripod• Employee is currently wearing a neoprene knee brace	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue wearing knee brace and follow doctor's orders

A student employee was driving towards Salem on Hwy. 22 and was hit by a pickup. Salem Police responded and believe the person in the pickup lost control due to road conditions. The employee sought medical attention for back and neck pain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crash/injury caused by another person • Wet roads and speed of the other driver appears to be the cause • Back and neck strain injury to employee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
A student employee injured their back moving catalog boxes full of index cards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsafe position, posture, and lifting • Six drawer wooden card catalog boxes full of index cards • Employee bending at the waist, with arms extended, while lifting box from the floor to middle shelf • Carrying boxes approximately 20 feet on carpeted floors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove drawers from card catalog box/cabinet to lighten the load • Make several trips to reduce strain to back • Keep objects close to the body when lifting
An employee was re-arranging food in the freezer. While moving a half full pan of "breakaway steaks" employee felt a pop and pain in lower back.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee is 6'4" tall • Freezer constant temperature at -3 degrees Fahrenheit • Employee was wearing gloves but no coat while working in the freezer • Excessive bending to reach lower shelves that are one foot above the floor • Arms at full extension pulling 2 pound stainless steel pans of frozen steaks towards him causes excessive strain to the lower back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to employee's height recommend kneeling to move items on lower shelving to reduce possible strain to the back • Stretch out muscles prior to moving or lifting that requires excessive bending and reaching • Wear a coat while in the freezer to help in keeping muscles warm
An employee fell on an icy sidewalk landing on their back and hitting head on sidewalk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overnight temperature was 28 degrees and freezing rain started around 8:30am • Physical Plant was out spreading de-icer on all sidewalks, stairs, walkways, and crosswalks • The crosswalk on Stadium Drive was not used that had de-icer applied • The employee took normal route through grass, across untreated icy sidewalk, to cross Stadium Drive. • The employee was carrying items in hands • The employee was wearing rubber type sole shoes • No medical attention was sought 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use extra caution when walking during freezing rain and on all potentially icy surfaces

Policy Statement: updated statement and name change approved 7-0-0 as amended. Tom made the motion, Heather seconded.

Round Table: none

Follow-up from last meeting – Chelsea passed on the request for ALICE Training during New Student Week to Megan Habermann.

Next Meeting: January 19, 2016, HL 205, 2pm