

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19
JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
September 1, 2011

Present: Ken Warholik, Steve Upham, Danny Weinmeier, Dennis Bergheim, D.D. Skawronski-Munro, Stewart Bintz, Steven Jeffery, Ron Dechaine, Sheila Kitz, Bryan Bepalko

Absent: Leo Demoissac, Lawrence Theroux and Claude Dubrule

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The 15th Joint Health and Safety Committee meeting of the County of St. Paul No. 19 was called to order by Sheila Kitz, Co-Chairperson for the Employer Group at 3:20 p.m., Thursday, September 1, 2011 at the Administration Office.

2. ADDITIONS AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Dennis Bergheim to adopt the agenda with no additions.

3. MINUTES

Moved by Steven Jeffery that the minutes of the July 14, 2011 meeting be approved. All in favour.

BUSINESS ARISING

FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

The fire extinguisher training will be held on September 20, 2011 in the parking lot at the Administration Office. Bryan will be speaking to Terry Senecal, Fire Chief to see if he will do the training, if not Bryan will be doing it.

HAZARD ASSESSMENT FORMS

At the last meeting changes were discussed to simplify the hazard assessment forms, however, Bryan has not had a chance to look at the changes so it was tabled to the next meeting.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AUDIT

Bryan reported that the County had passed the transportation safety audit with a grade of 8% which would calculate out to a 92% since these are determined as a reverse audit. Once all documentation is in place we will be one of the first municipalities to receive the Applied Partners in compliance Status. This status will exempt our trucks from needing to register at the scales. The fee for getting a driver's abstract is currently \$22.00, however, with a P.I.C. status you receive a \$15.00 credit per drivers abstract retrieval. The fee for a CDIP license is anywhere from \$300.00 to \$350.00 for the license, and with a P.I.C status we will be exempt from having to pay for it. The yearly membership fee for the P.I.C. status is \$350.00. Once we receive our P.I.C. status we will require 50 stickers for our license plates showing our status which will cost approximate \$7.00 per license plate. We will also be required to send annually an update of our transportation audit along with our yearly KM submission, our accident records and a copy of our C.O.R (certificate of recognition).

RADAR SPEED BOARDS

Bryan reported that the radar speed boards had been installed in St. Vincent which brought a good response from the residents. They were then installed in Mallaig during the Haying in the 30's event and in Ashmont for the Heritage Day's weekend. He reported that they will be installed in the Hamlet of Lafond next. The information collected consists of a traffic count & records the speed limits. Once the information is downloaded the stats will be brought back to the committee. It was discussed that perhaps they could also be installed on the Moose Hills Road and maybe on the Lakewood road so a traffic count could be recorded since a majority of the traffic is Heavy Oil.

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY COURSES

It was decided that a ground disturbance course would be done in the Spring and one could be done for the Grader Operators in the fall. There would be approximately 30 to 35 staff participating.

DUMPING SITE AT MALLAIG AND ASHMONT

It was discussed that a dumping site for sewage should be made in Mallaig at the sewage lagoon, however, an upgrade would have to be done which would consist of some concrete and dirt work as a turnaround would be required.

MUSTER POINT SIGN

The Muster Point sign at the administration office will have to be moved as it is currently on the inside of the perimeter fence located on the adjacent property. Bryan will install it directly on the fence on the County's side.

CHAIN SAW COURSE

Bryan will be conducting a chain saw course in the late fall or in the spring. He will do the theory part first then have staff do some hands on training. A refresher course should be done every couple of years.

DEFIBRILLATORS

Bryan reported that the defibrillators were not brought to the parks this year as an oversight, however, he will make sure that the training is done during his spring training sessions and he will try to have a session for the rest of the staff either later this year or early next year. He will also be ordering 2 more defibrillators.

4. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

INCIDENT REPORTS

BRYAN BESPALKO

Bryan reported that there has been 3 incidents.

1st incident The first incident involved a summer student. The employee was buffing with a wired wheel when a bristle flew off and lodged into his leg. The piece was removed at the hospital and he was prescribed some antibiotics. The risk was serious but rare. If the employee was wearing proper PPE equipment such as coveralls the incident may not of been so serious. The employee was unaware of the hazards. The incident was preventable and the supervisor spoke to the employee about the hazards. We made a WCB claim with no loss time.

2nd incident – An employee was squatting down to check the tire pressure when he inadvertently hurt his back. He remained on medium duty that day and then was off for 2 days. The incident was not preventable as it was an unforeseeable occurrence. We made a WCB claim with a 2 day loss time.

3rd incident - An employee was working on a snow plow truck when it came off the jack stand and fell on his foot. The injury was iced and he returned to full duty. It was concluded that the employee should of used additional support and made aware that the vibration caused when using air impact guns can easily make things move. Some of the other controls such as a chain hoist should of been utilized. The employee was made aware that the equipment should always be secured properly and safely. The WCB claim was made with no loss time.

Bryan reported that he had purchased a mobile air conditioner for the mechanics. The equipment helps the employees to do their jobs more comfortably and the unit helps in evacuating the smoke when they are welding or chipping. The unit utilizes regular 110 power and water.

KEN WARHOLIK

Ken reported that the safety gate should be installed by the end of September. The Salt shed is up and will be used for sand only. They have also installed a transformer with power on the shed for future use. He then reported that there is quite a large burn pile next to the Oil Tanks. Some of the contents in the burn pile consist of railroad ties, tanks, tires, wood pallets and other materials. It was decided that a roll off bin would be brought to the shop.

DENNIS BERGHEIM

Dennis advised the group that he had received a complaint that County employees were shooting beavers from the road. After a brief discussion it was determined that administration will review this issue.

STEVE UPHAM

Steve advised the group that the bluetooth devices are working quite well.

STEVEN JEFFERY

Steven reported that the construction on Pederson and Lecapoy Road went very well and traffic obeyed the construction zone. He then reported that the first call's are now being flagged properly. A CNRL representative was on site when they were doing a ditch cut over a gas line.

LINDA MEGER

No issues to report.

SHEILA KITZ

Sheila reported that the current blackberry's will be upgraded. This should alleviate some of the issues staff are currently experiencing. The new phones have a full screen so e-mail's are much easier to read. ~~The County will now be signing 18 month contracts due to constant hardware issues.~~ The new contracts will allow for a change out of cell phones every 18 months.

Sheila advised the group of a potential issue that may occur on Tuesday with a ratepayer. Prior to entering the safety meeting she had received a call from Municipal Affairs advising that this gentleman had been at their office and they felt he was unstable. Sheila will also be contacting the RCMP and advising them of the possible issue and she will advise the office staff of the potential threat.

Sheila informed the committee that the County will be scheduling an information session regarding the local authorities pension plan and our benefit packages so employees can make informed decisions on the options that are available. This session will be scheduled in the evening so spouses could attend if they wished.

We will also be having a representative from AMSC that will come and speak about the employee assistance program. This session would have to possibly wait till the end of construction season and the employees at the lakes should also be invited to attend.

RON DECHAINED

Ron advised the group that a windstorm had knocked some trees down by Glenn Ockerman's and Atco Electric should be notified.

DANNY WEINMEIER

Danny advised the group that the Mallaig Water line work had been completed.

D.D. SKAROWNSKI-MUNROE

D.D. advised the group that she has given out the handsfree devices to staff, however, the staff driving any of the big truck units find that the cab is too noisy to hear the caller. D.D. will check into the devices that have the ear speakers and will also check into some of the blue tooth devices.

STEWART BINZ

No issues to report.

NEW BUSINESS

DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW

It was brought forward that the distracted driving law is now in effect.

FALL TEAM BUILDING EVENT

It was decided that another team building event will not be scheduled till the new year.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 6, 2011.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Sheila adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.