

## Facility-Auxiliaries Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Link to Minutes: <http://uwm.edu/safety-health/occupational-safety/>

Date and Time of Meeting: June 23, 2021, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Enderis Hall Room 110

Chairperson: Zack Steuerwald

Attendance: Eric Kozak, Steve Wilke, Giulio Leonardelli, Fred Smith, Jacob Young, Aretha Johnson, Chris Peret, John Yang, Christi Larson, Bill Ludwig, PJ Egan

Not Present: Brian Reimer, Bob Martinez, Jan MacDonald

Excused: James Fay

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**Start meeting: 9:34 AM**

### **Announcements:**

- Occupational Safety and Training Manager Update- Zack Reported that position will be posted soon. Search and screen committee includes safety committee member Steve Wilke and others from Facilities and Environmental Services.

### **Meeting Minutes Review**

Review minutes from May 26, 2021 meeting. Motion to approve- Steve, Second- Giulio, All in Favor. Discussion regarding the data that was shared in relation to injuries and associated costs, primarily for those unable to attend last meeting.

### **Incident Review:** May 24, 2021 – June 21, 2021

- Union Custodial employee slipped and fell while cleaning restroom with Kai Vac (wet floor operation). Slip resistant shoes in use.
  - Staff with decreased mobility should use their walking aid, even for short distances and especially if the walking surfaces are slippery or wet. Zack reported on.
- Housing Painter was cleaning a paint brush with a wall scraper with long sharp edge and slipped resulting in a cut on her thumb that required stitches.
  - Painters will use wire brushes to clean brushes instead. PJ reported on.
- Heat Plant employee was removing a drum from a spill pallet with a drum cart and injured back in the process.
  - Review and recommendations still in progress. PJ reported on and informed that further review is occurring. Steve mentioned they have drum handling equipment for skid steers in Grounds.

## New Business:

- SOP Sharing/Standardization – Safe Operating Procedures. Zack asked about starting a SharePoint site/folder for SOPs that all could access and share across Facility Services, Housing, and Union. Jacob commented that this would be helpful to him in his area. US&A will create a site.
- Working in Isolation Policy and Approval Process. Zack reported on the new UW System policy and UWM approval process that will be communicated out in the near future.

## Old Business:

- Attic Access Safety Concerns for Garland, Pearse and Vogel Halls Update.
  - Rick Koehler agreed to revisit the quotation on installing a new attic access door at Vogel Hall. New estimate will not include removing the existing hatch door just placing plywood over it in the attic. Then if that door is ever needed to bring up larger objects such as a motor it is still an option for delivering equipment to the attic.
  - We are moving forward with this project. Awaiting revised quote to be sent to Tom Piccorelli for final approval to proceed with the project.
  - The project received final approval to proceed on February 11, 2020. The project has been added to the Facilities Services Scheduling Minutes as of February 13, 2020. The following work orders have been created for the project: Shop 0 Carpenter FS-102318; Shop 3 Facility Repair FS-102321; Shop 5 Paint FS-102330; Shop 6 Mechanical FS-102322; Shop 7 Eng. Spec. Contractors FS-102320.
  - Abatement is provided for in the quote. Electrical work not needed for the project as the switch is on the wall in the hallway that is turned on prior to ascending the ladder.
  - Due to issues surrounding location of the new hatch door it was determined that the project will not work. Erik Kozak will investigate some safety enhancements for accessing the attic area more safely.
  - Bob Peck and Eric Kozak looked at Vogel Hall attic access on April 16, 2021 and were unable to come up with changes to make accessing the attic safer. Issues remaining foot clearance on ladder not adequate where ladder contacts the entry to the attic (under 12" s), You must use your head and left forearm to push open the trap door to its full extent while at the same time trying to maintain 3 points of contact with the ladder. After opening the trap door, you must descend the ladder to then re-extend the ladder 3 feet above the floor of the attic to comply with OSHA standards. Ladder position at the top of the stairs to access the attic increases the hazard for the person entering the attic and anyone who may be using the stairs at that time should a fall occur.
  - Eric recommended that an outside contractor provide input on what can be done to address the access issue.
  - **Alternative safety procedure still in effect. US&A will explore a vendor to review the application.**

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- Fall Protection Update
  - Toured Great Lakes Research Facility on April 2, 2021 to obtain a quote for fall protection from Infinity Fall Protection for railings and a ramp extending the work area near steam controls on mezzanine level. Awaiting quotation.
    - **US&A to explore who the rep was and receive quote.**
  - New ladder needed for safely accessing room B30 (mechanical room) in Norris Health Center. Eric Kozak is following up on this issue.
    - Eric updated that this is a crawl space and is being evaluated. A work order was submitted.
    - **Eric reported 10-12 weeks for the repair to be completed.**
  - Portable Safety Rails use. Zack updated that training/demo of the rails was performed by Bob Peck and Goran Stanojevic. The rails have been utilized and favorable feedback was received.
- Noise and Hearing Conservation
  - Contact James Fay ([jamesfay@uwm.edu](mailto:jamesfay@uwm.edu); (414) 313-9711) when you have job tasks that last for >4 hours involving loud noise so an exposure assessment can be performed. If the exposure assessment shows that noise is 85 dBA (calculated as an 8-hr time-weighted average) or higher then you will be enrolled in the UWM Hearing Conservation Program. An exposure assessment is needed to justify enrollment into the program.
  - Use a free Sound Level Meter App for your Phone to familiarize yourself with noisy job tasks/areas. To prevent hearing loss, wear hearing protection if readings are >80 dBA. For a more accurate exposure assessment that can be used to justify enrollment into the UWM Hearing Conservation Program, contact James Fay ([jamesfay@uwm.edu](mailto:jamesfay@uwm.edu); (414) 313-9711).
    - For iPhones: Download this free [iOS Sound Level Meter App](#) from NIOSH
    - For Android: Download this free [Android Sound Level Meter App](#)
  - Annual audiograms for Heat Plant and Grounds Staff TODAY.
  - **Zack updated that James was still in need performing monitoring for more data on noise as there are positions such as Carpenters where they may be close to the noise threshold.**

## Training:

- Safety Training - Shops in June 2021 –
  - Heat Illness Prevention Training course in the **SafeColleges Training Program**.
- Safety Training - Shops in July 2021 –
  - Aerial Lift Training course (Facilities), Back Injury and Lifting (Custodial, Grounds) in the **SafeColleges Training Program**
  - **Giulio inquired about hands-on recertification. US&A exploring options to conduct recertifications due to safety position vacancy.**

## Other Business Follow-up:

- Committee Go Around- No additional business

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**Next Meeting:** July 28, 2021, 9:30am – 10:30am (Tentatively)

**Adjourn meeting: 10:26 AM**