

## Facility-Auxiliaries Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

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

Date and Time of Meeting: August 25, 2021, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Enderis Hall Room 110

Chairperson: Zack Steuerwald

Attendance: , Fred Smith, Jacob Young, John Yang, Christi Larson

Not Present: Eric Kozak, Aretha Johnson, Chris Peret, Brian Reimer, Jan MacDonald

Excused: James Fay, PJ Egan, Giulio Leonardelli, Steve Wilke, Bill Ludwig,

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**Start meeting: 9:32 AM**

### Announcements:

- Occupational Safety and Training Program Manager Update- **Zack reported that 2 finalists will be interviewed next week.**
- Fire Drills- Week of Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>- **Zack reported**

### Meeting Minutes Review

Review minutes from June 23, 2021 meeting. Motion to approve: **Fred, Second by John, All in favor**

### Incident Review: June 21, 2021 – August 22, 2021

- Environmental Services employee tripped and fell.
  - Ensure that all walkways in offices are clear and free of anything that could be tripped over.
- Union Facilities employee stood on a chair to replace a screen and rolled ankle stepping off chair.
  - Appropriately use the step stools or ladders that are provided for this type of work.
- Field Station Facilities employee working outside replacing irrigation lines when he began to feel dizzy and felt his heart rate increase. When he began working, the temperature was in the mid to upper 70's but the temperature and humidity rose quickly and was in the mid to upper 80's when the injury happened. The work being performed was very strenuous and labor intensive. It included cutting irrigation pipe, moving the pipe, and pounding 10 foot posts into the ground.
  - Recommend employees dress accordingly for the heat, drink plenty of fluids, take frequent breaks in the shade or air conditioning for no less than 15 minutes, use the buddy system and if the temperature is too high postpone the work until the weather is more conducive to the work that needs to be done.
- Environmental Services employee using an electric floor buffer and lost control of it when she tried to move the cord out of the way and it backed over her foot.

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- Supervisor stated retraining on use of the floor buffer is needed. When using the buffer employees must have both hands on the handles to keep it under control and if they need to remove a hand for something they need to let go of the trigger to stop the machine from spinning.

## **New Business:**

None

## **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. No updates.**

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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. No updates.**
  - 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. No updates**
  - 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.**
  - **Zack updated that James was getting some good data at Heat Plant and with Grounds.**
- SOP Sharing/Standardization – Safe Operating Procedures
  - **Zack reported that this is on his “to-do” list.**
- Working in Isolation Policy and Approval Process
  - **Zack reported this will be communicated out to Deans and Dept. Heads**

## Training:

- Safety Training - July 2021 –
  - Aerial Lift Training course (Facilities), Back Injury and Lifting (Custodial) in the **SafeColleges Training Program**
- Safety Training - August 2021 –
  - Hand and Power Tool Safety Overview (Facilities) in the **SafeColleges Training Program**
- Safety Training - September 2021 –

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- Slips, Trips, and Falls (Facilities), Back Injury and Lifting (Grounds), Ladder Safety (College of General Studies) in the **SafeColleges Training Program**
- Safety Training - October 2021 –
  - Hands-on Confined Space training- In-person
- **Christi reported that CGS Facilities are not receiving the emails from the Vector Solutions system. Zack to follow-up with PJ.**

### **Other Business Follow-up:**

- Committee Go Around- **None**

**Next Meeting:** September 22, 2021, 9:30am – 10:30am (Tentative)

**Adjourn meeting: 9:56 AM**