

MINUTES
General Employee Injury Review Board
Thursday, May 24th, 2012
City Council Conference Room
Wayne Gilley City Hall
9:30 am

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Vu at 9:30 am.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Ha Vu, Chairperson
Candy Brown, Safety & Risk Manager
Don Schaefer, Safety Rep

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ray Quiroga, SWC
Norman Busch, Streets
Roy Rodrick, AW
Chew Allen, WWC
Darrin Hall, NS
Tiffani Burk – HR

2. Minutes

A. Approval of minutes of April 26th, 2012

Motion to approve minutes by Brown with a second by Schaefer. AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

3. Old Business

A. Kevin Paddyaker-WWC (4/9/12) **Appeal**

Mr. Paddyaker was not present. Safety Rep Ray Quiroga was present. Motion was made by Quiroga with second by Schaefer to accept initial ruling from 4/26/12 meeting as preventable with two (2) points assessed. AYES: All, NAYS: None, Motion carried.

4. New Business

A. Vernon Young-SWC (4/24/12)

Mr. Young was present. Safety Rep Ray Quiroga was also present. Mr. Young said it didn't happen on the job but the job caused it. He went home one day and his shoulder just started hurting. He said he doesn't recall pulling anything or hearing anything pop. It just started hurting real bad. He went to the Doctor and he said it was just wear and tear. He has been on and off commercial for about 13 years. Ha asked him if he knew an

exact time that it happened and he said no. It was after work and he was getting ready for bed and it started hurting. He put bio-freeze on it and it helped. But it hurt again the next day. He said he is back to work. He said he came back to work the next day. He is taking medication for it. It still hurts but not as bad as it was. He was picking up bulk and it happened on a Thursday. He went to the Doctor on Friday. He said the medication is helping but it does make him a little woozy.

Motion was made by Quiroga with second by Brown to rule this as non-preventable with zero (0) points assessed. AYES: All, NAYS: None, Motion carried.

B. Phillip Cummings-SWC (4/23/12)

Mr. Cummings was present. Safety Rep Ray Quiroga was also present. Mr. Cummings said they were doing bulk clean up. They had finished their route: him, Nelson and Donald Holmes. They went to help Ray. They were at 600 block of Euclid. They were picking up brush. There was a limb about 15 feet long. They stuck it in the middle of the blade. He was running the handles. The blade pulled the limb in, and it snapped. It threw part of it in the air and it hit the tree that was by it and it came down by the truck where he was standing. Nelson hollered "watch out". He looked up and saw it and he started to run. It caught another tree limb and it spun around and caught him on the right hip. It hit him hard like a baseball bat. He told Nelson to call Ray and he came and took him to get an x-ray. He went back to work and worked a whole week. Then they sent him to Dr. Meek and he said it had bruised his kidneys real bad and his back was all scratched up. He has a pinched nerve in his hip. The doctor said he wanted him off for 2 weeks to let his kidneys heal. The next Saturday he went back to work and he guessed his hip tightening up and he has been limping ever since. He said his main deal is always safety. They send a lot of guys to train with him because he is always safe. He said there was no way that they knew that would happen. It was a freak accident. The tree limb was about 2 and ½ times the size of a baseball bat. He asked how far away to they stand from the hopper when they are putting stuff in it. He said you have to stand right beside it because the handles are on the side and you have to operate the handles. If he wouldn't have moved, it would have hit him in the head. It was something that could not have been helped.

Motion was made by Quiroga with second by Schaefer to rule this as non-preventable with zero (0) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

C. Keith Richardson-WD (4/12/12)

Mr. Richardson was not present. Safety Rep German Arango notified the Board that he and Mr. Richardson would not be able to attend the meeting and he asked if this injury could be tabled until the next meeting.

Motion was made by Brown with second by Schaefer to table this item. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

D. Edward Northern-Traffic (4/25/12)

Mr. Northern was not present. Safety Rep Norman Busch was present. Mr. Busch said that Mr. Northern was at therapy for his injury. Norman Busch said they were at 8th and Douglas. They were putting out a temporary sign. Right there next to the edge of the road where they parked the truck. As soon as he picked the sign up, he stepped back. There was a hole and he stepped into it. There were 2 water valve lids that were missing and that

is the holes that he stepped in. The grass covered the holes so they were unable to be seen. Mike Spencer said people have been steeling the lids. He is not back to work. He was on light duty. He said he is in so much pain that he has been using his own time off. He has not had surgery but has started therapy. He has a hurt knee and lower back.

Motion was made by Busch with second by Schaefer to rule this as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

E. Robert Sockbeson-Animal Welfare (4/26/12)

Mr. Sockbeson was present. Safety Rep Roy Rodrick was also present. Mr. Sockbeson said he was dispatching and Rose was working the front counter. She noticed a lady in the parking lot was trying to load her dog and it was a large dog. She said she would watch dispatch and he needed to go help load the dog. He went and the dog was lying on the ground and the lady said "be careful he is old". He assumed that he was just old. He went to pick him up and as soon as he started to lift he felt a hematoma and a pocket of blood. As soon as he felt it, the dog reacted to the pain and he bit him on his hand and locked down and didn't let go. Mr. Sockbeson went ahead and put it in the SUV and let him relax and then the dog let go. At that point, he just squeezed it off because blood was coming out quite a bit. He told the lady that she would have to take him to a licensed vet to check for rabies. She said not a problem because that is where she was going anyway because he had been hit by a car. Mr. Sockbeson said if he would have known that before, then he would have used a safe procedure for dogs that have been injured. They would have used the lariat to muzzle his nose. Ha asked if he would have been wearing gloves would that have sustained the bite. He said no, it would have not. They will bite through most materials. He had an appointment with the doctor the other day. He is still having issues with his middle finger. The doctor said in about 6 months his knuckle should come back to normal. He has good range of movement. He now has full work release. Mr. Rodrick said gloves would not have prevented this bite. The severity might have been a little bit less but it still would have been an injury. His knuckle was crushed. His bone was visible in the pictures. He said he did not take time off except when he went to the doctor's appointments. Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Brown to rule this as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

F. Brian Unroe-WWM (5/4/12)

Mr. Unroe was not present. Safety Rep Chew Allen was present. Mr. Allen said the bay door had been sticking and they had been using a metal pole to push the garage door up the rest of the way. While Mr. Unroe was doing this his right shoulder popped. Mr. Allen said Mr. Unroe was having an MRI this morning. Mr. Allen said he didn't know that it was broken. Everyone had been pushing it up and Mr. Unroe was the unfortunate one that got hurt doing it. Mr. Allen said the door is fixed now. Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Brown to rule this as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

G. Camron Sellers-WWC (5/8/12)

Mr. Sellers was present. Safety Rep Chew Allen was also present. Mr. Sellers said he was pulling sewer rods out of a sewer line. The rod motor was hooked up; the rods binded up and started locking up and when it did, it jerked him and hurt his back. It is better now. He has to go to therapy next week. Ha asked if there is a safety

film on correct procedures for use of rods and rod motors. Candy and Mr. Allen both said they didn't know of any safety films. Mr. Allen said this rod jerked real quickly and if he wouldn't have jumped out of the way like he did then he would have gotten hurt real bad. Pictures show how the rod was bent.

Motion was made by Allen with second by Vu to rule this as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

H. Phillip Gibson-Inspection Services (4/25/12)

Mr. Gibson was not present. Safety Rep Darrin Hall was present. Mr. Hall said he talked to Jimmy Crow but not to Mr. Gibson. Mr. Gibson did not sign the injury report. Jimmy Crow told Mr. Hall that Phillip Gibson had a herniated disc in his back and he is having some neck problems. He was in a city vehicle at a stop light and was hit from behind by another vehicle. Motion was made by Hall with second by Schaefer to rule this as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

Consider any other injuries reported: None

Communication/Discussion:

Ha was thinking about moving the meetings to the New City Hall Candy said after talking to Jim about it there was some concerns with moving the meetings. It was discussed right after moving into the new building about having them in the 2nd floor conference room and that for sure is not going to happen. She said she would talk to Jim Russell about it.

Adjournment:

Motion by Brown with second by Schaefer to adjourn meeting at 10:20 am.