

MINUTES
 General Employee Injury Review Board
 Thursday, July 24th, 2014
 Public Meeting Room
 New City Hall
 9:30 am

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bennett at 9:30 am.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Tim Bennett, Chairman
 Don Schaefer, Safety Rep
 Candy Brown, Safety & Risk Officer
 Rusty Whisenhunt, Public Works Safety Officer

Members Absent: None

Others Present: James Bearbow, Safety Rep
 Roy Rodrick, Safety Rep
 James Breedlove, Safety Rep
 Leon McGahee, Safety Rep
 Tiffani Burk – HR

Excused*

Unexcused**

2. Minutes

A. Approval of minutes of June 26th, 2014

Motion to approve minutes by Bennett with a second by Schaefer.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

3. Old Business

A. Robin Dale-Streets (4/21/14) Appeal

Mr. Dale was present. Safety Rep James Bearbow was also present.

Mr. Dale said he went to go get his drink out of the truck. He got in the truck, got a drink. When he was coming out of the truck, when he first stepped to the ground he went down because he felt a sharp pain in his back. He doesn't know how it happened or what happened. The doctor said it was some kind of lumbar strain. Tim Bennett asked him to tell them how he got out of the truck. Mr. Dale said he was

sitting in the truck. He put his hand on the door. He slid over and put one foot on the step and stepped down on it. Then put one foot down and when he did that is when he felt the sharp pain. He said he had one hand on the door and one hand on the seat. He said he didn't hop out. Before this happened they were attaching a water jug holder to a trailer. He said he hadn't been in any awkward positions before that. This was a 6 foot old ford dump truck

Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Bennett to change the initial ruling from Preventable to Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

B. Carlton Clark-Cemetery (4/28/14)-Tabled

Mr. Clark was not present. Safety Rep Leon McGahee was present.

Mr. McGahee brought some pictures for the Board to look at. He explained the process of lifting the caskets during a funeral. He said normal operating procedures is that 2 employees do the lifting. But on this day there were 2 funerals at once and Mr. Clark had to do it by himself. He hurt his neck and back.

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

4. New Business:

A. Tamara Shropshire-Building Maintenance (6/30/14)

Ms. Shropshire was not present. Safety Rep Leon McGahee was present.

Ms. Shropshire was at Pleasant Valley around 3:15 am and was walking to the restroom and she blacked out and woke up to EMT's over her. The report states that the EMT told her it was from dehydration. She did not get hurt during the fall. They had to call the ambulance because she passed out.

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

B. Blayne Powell-Traffic (6/26/14)

Mr. Powell was not present. Safety Rep James Bearbow was present. Mr. Powell is no longer a City of Lawton employee.

The report states that Mr. Powell was climbing up and down the stack loading the permoline tank. He got down to get a drink of water when he noticed pain in his lower back. Mr. Bearbow showed the board the pictures and explained what Mr. Powell was doing during that day. Mr. Bennett asked what did it mean by the stack? Mr. Bearbow explained that it was a stack of paving materials that he was loading. Mr. Bearbow said they had just watched safety videos on lifting procedures.

Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Bennett to rule this as Preventable with two (2) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

C. James Ray Pierce-Water Distribution (7/1/14)

Mr. Pierce was not present.

The reports states that this is an accumulative injury resulting from using joystick type levers in the backhoes(unit 7873) and also tightening bolts and turning valves on & off. He has been with the City of Lawton 8 years. He has pain in his elbow and it is swollen.

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

D. David Nelson-Animal Welfare (7/6/14)

Mr. Nelson was present. Safety Rep Roy Rodrick was also present.

Mr. Nelson said he was on kennel duty. He was cleaning the cages out, watering and feeding the animals. When he went into the kennel, this cat was meowing a lot. He thought maybe it was starting to get a little friendly. He went to the pen to grab the litter box to change it out and as soon as he opened the gate. The cat went nuts and went after him. He said there was nothing he could have done. The cat bit his right index finger. He said the cat was in the back of the pen and was constantly meowing. He said he had not even had a chance to grab the litter pan yet and the cat screamed real loud and lunged at him. Rusty asked him if it is customary to wear gloves. Mr. Nelson said if we know that the animal is wild then we do wear gloves but this one was not marked as a wild animal or if we are actually handling the animals. Roy said those gloves are heavy duty (bigger than welding gloves). They would be awkward to use and it would be hard to get the pen open with the gloves on.

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

E. Janna Norwood- WWC (6/11/14)

Mrs. Norwood was present.

Mrs. Norwood brought some pictures of the hoses that she was working with. She said the hoses are 6" and they were wound up. They were picking them up and loading them on the trailer. She said her back kind of hurt after the third or fourth one. But she didn't think anything of it. When they went to roll them out, you are bent over and are rolling the hoses out on the ground. It was kind of sore. Then the next day is when she and Henry were trying to turn the hose around and it had water in it. When she went down to pick it up, is when her back really hurt. Don asked if it was possible to drain the hoses out before trying to pick them up. Mrs. Norwood said they walked down them trying to get all the water out but as far as draining them, it is really difficult. Tim asked if they were squatting or bending over. Mrs. Norwood said when they were loading them up they were squatting but when they were moving them around, they were bending over picking them up. Don asked if she was doing this with someone else. Mrs. Norwood said yes when she was loading them up, it was her and Richard Norwood. The next day when they were moving them around, it was her and Henry from Rehab. Don asked her if she had any training on proper lifting techniques. She said yes, a video on lifting. Don asked her if she thought this could have been prevented and she said she was not sure.

Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Bennett to rule this as Preventable with two (2) points assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

F. Christopher Cruz-Sewer Construction (6/17/14)

Mr. Cruz was not present. Mr. Cruz is no longer a City of Lawton employee.

The report states that Mr. Cruz was involved in a vehicle rollover accident. He was driving a loaded dump truck. He hurt his back and left wrist and arm. He also had a neck sprain.

Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Bennett to rule this as a Chargeable Incident but this employee was already issued points through the Vehicle Accident Review Board therefore zero (0) points were assessed. AYES: All NAYS: None, Motion carried.

G. Josh Anderson-Revenue Services (6/10/14)

Mr. Anderson was present. Safety Rep James Breedlove was also present.

Mr. Anderson said he was arrived at 1208 Park to restore the water. He took the lock off the meter and looked around the yard for animals and never saw any. He put the lock in his truck and walked up to the gate. He shook the gate and whistled. He said he has been doing this 7 years total. No dogs in the yard at all. He gets up in the yard about 50 feet, whistled again and again no dogs. Went about 15 more feet and 2 pit bulls came out from the eastside of the house where the doors are at. The doors were they go in and out of the house are at. The dogs attacked him. Whether or not he can proof that the dogs were let out of the house, he has an attorney. Mr. Breedlove showed photos. Mr. Anderson said the guy that locked the meter said the dogs were trying to eat through the fence to get to him. So if the dogs were in the yard then they would have been at the gate if they heard him unlocking the meter. He believes that they let the dogs out to get him. Mr. Breedlove said the owners knew he was coming. Mr. Anderson said there was 5 people in the house and no one came out to check to see if he was dead or alive. When the EMT's showed up then 5 people came out of the house. The dogs mauled him. The photos showed his injuries to the back of his head, his right arm and his left leg. Mr. Anderson said one of the dogs got him on the back of the leg and wouldn't let go. He said he drug him about 30 feet and when he got to the fence and went over the fence to get away. He let go because the barbs on the top of the fence got his belly. The male dog never let go of him. He was going to the house because he has to let the owner know that he is turning the water on, in case they have a faucet on. He said he would not have gone into the yard if he knew there were dogs in the yard. He said they have purchased stun guns for them now.

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

H. Keegan Spencer-Police Tech (7/13/14)

Mr. Spencer was not present.

Motion was made by Schaefer with second by Brown to table this injury

5. Consider any other injuries reported: None

6. Communication/Discussion: None

7. Adjournment:

Motion by Schaefer with second by Bennett to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 am.