

**MINUTES
GENERAL EMPLOYEE
VEHICLE ACCIDENT REVIEW BOARD (VARB)**

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

Public meeting rm #3

City Hall - 212 SW 9th St

1:30 pm

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Studebaker at 1:30pm.

1. Roll Call Ryan Studebaker, Chairman
 David Miller, Equipment Maintenance
 Candy Brown, HR Deputy Director

Others Present:

Cynthia Cornish, Human Resources
Alfred Alcala, Water Distribution
Jacob Birch, Water Distribution
Karl Veldhuizen, Field Supv, Water Distribution
Zacarias Diaz De Leon, Safety Representative, Water Dist

2. Minutes:

- A. Approval of July 5, 2023, minutes

Motion to approve the minutes by Miller with a second by Brown

AYES: Brown, Miller, Studebaker

No: None

Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider Water Distribution/Public Utilities
Michael Morelang (05/18/2023)

Alfred Alcala was called to speak on behalf of the incident that occurred on 5/18/23 as an alleged witness:

Chairman asked if Alacala remembered what had happed during this accident.

Alacala replied that he was not present at the time, and it was not until the next morning when he found out what had happened.

Aaron Borrego was called to speak on behalf of the incident that occurred on 5/18/23 as an alleged witness:

Chairman asked when Morelang was filling the truck with rock if he felt it Jerk. Borrego replied he did not.

Borrego stated he was not paying any attention and did not realize until he heard someone else mentioning it.

Miller asked Borrego how Morelang normally drives.

Borrego replied he was driving crazy that day because he was mad about something.

Miller asked when you normally load do you load from the front or side.

Borrego replied from the side.

Jacob Birch was called to speak on behalf of the incident that occurred on 5/18/23 as an alleged witness:

Chairman asked Birch to tell them what happened on the date of the incident:

Birch replied that Morlang was driving fast and aggressively.

Chairman asked him where he was at

Birch replied he was standing outside.

Chairman asked if the truck driver was waiting.

Birch replied no, it was parked.

Chairman asked how many times did he go back and forth and how many times did he hit it?

Birch replied only once.

Michael Morlang was present with Supervisor Karl Veldhuizen

Chairman explained to Morland that they spoke with both dump truck drivers, and both stated he was not in the truck like he indicated he was.

Morland replied that they were both lying on him.

Chairman replied that this was his opportunity to speak up.

Morland replied It would not do any good and that he will take responsibility for the damage but he wasn't the only one.

Chairman asked if he was loading from the corner of the truck.

Morland replied from the side.

Brown made a motion to deem this a chargeable collision with 3 points assessed plus 1 for excessive cost for a total of 4 points.

Ayes: Brown, Miller, Studebaker, Veldhuizen

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consider Water Distribution/Public Utilities

Jimmie Curtsinger– (06/23/2023)

Curtsinger was present with safety representative Zacarias Diaz De-Leon.

Curtsinger explained they had a main break on 13th st into Cache Rd. Cache rd was blocked off all but one lane. Jacob came over and told him to pull up on cache rd and back up going caddie corner, there was no one flagging and his mirror did not pick up the car he hit.

Chairman asked if he pulled in front of the car

Curtsinger replied he never saw the car

Chairman asked if the collision occurred when he was doing the U turn on the north side of the rd.

Curtsinger replied he never knew it happened when he turned around to do the U turn. He wanted to go a different direction, but had other people that told him not to.

Brown asked him who told him not to.

Curtsinger replied it was Jacob Birch.

Chairmans asked him if he cross all 3 lanes of traffic and did, he take a direct path
Curtsinger replied he took the direct path. They closed all but one lane and then it quickly went to 2 lanes and the cone stopped right at the door of his truck.

Miller made a motion to deem this a chargeable collision with 3 points assessed.

Second by Brown

Ayes: Brown, Miller, Studebaker,

Motion Passed

- B. Consider Park Maintenance/Parks & Recreation - TABLED
Eric Bard (7/17/23)

Miller made a motion to table this item with a second by Studebaker since neither Bard, Division Supervisor nor Safety Representative were present.

Ayes: Brown, Miller, Studebaker

Motion Passed

5. Next meeting date September, 6, 2023.

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Brown with a second by Miller adjournment @ 2:27pm.