

MINUTES
City Vehicle Accident Review Board
October 13, 2015
Public Meeting Room #3
City Hall
212 SW 9th St.
1:30 pm

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

1. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rusty Wright, Chairman
Dennis Bothell, Equipment Maintenance
Candy Brown, Safety & Risk Manager

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Rusty Whisenhunt, PW Safety Rep
Chew Allen, Safety Rep
Britt Hubbard, Safety Rep
German Arango, WD
Afsaneh Jabbar, W/ WW Director
Sue Smith, HR

Excused* Unexcused**

2. Minutes:

A. Approval of minutes of September 1, 2015

Motion by Bothell with second by Brown to approve the minutes of September 1, 2015. AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

3. Old Business:

A. Juan Trevino – Tabled- WD (5/16/15)

Mr. Trevino was present. PW Safety Rep Rusty Whisenhunt, German Arango, WD Superintendent and Afsaneh Jabbar, Director Water/Wastewater was present.

Wright asked what other evidence Trevino had. Trevino said the police report shows that the other guy was in his lane when he tried to go to the pump station.

Wright said the report says not to scale. Jabbar said in her field, not to scale, means four feet but says eight feet. She said she has got to the area of the accident and has observed many drivers going by. Jabbar said you can't go straight because you have to go left or right. She said at that time of night, the only way to go is left and most of the people do not stop at the stop sign. Jabbar said she observed the vehicles are either in the middle of the lane or southbound. She said she wanted to give every opportunity to check into this and looking at the drawing today we don't know what the other vehicle was doing that night. Jabbar said we don't know if the vehicle was traveling or stopped at 9:30 at night. She said if we assume it was traveling then it would have to follow this path shown here that everyone takes when they are driving. Jabbar said there is a lot of gravel in this area and most people stay clear of this and drive on the concrete side of it. She said people drive left of the gravel so they take the path in the drawing which says it will be on the other side. Jabbar said she had the Traffic Engineer do a calculation for her based on the speed and where the vehicle would be if it were traveling and recognizes another vehicle is coming and wants to make an adjustment; the minimum length it needs is eighty feet if traveling 20 mph. She said if he were going slower he would need at least forty feet to make his correction from his path. Jabbar said the entire length is 112 feet from the fence but the drawing shows it was 15 feet south of the stop sign, so we have 100 feet. She said depending where this vehicle was to start the path it would be in the wrong lane to start with and would need 40 to 50 feet to adjust. She also said that would not be enough time to react and make the adjustment. Jabbar said she asked Trevino if he saw headlights. She said he told her he doesn't remember the headlights but when he checked on the driver of the vehicle he hit, driver was on his cell phone. Wright said he was calling his supervisor. Jabbar said she has never seen a vehicle taking that route on the justified right lane. Wright asked if this is a normal practice to take that route. Jabbar said yes, of what she has observed. She also said she thinks from the information we have here is inconclusive because the drawing is not to scale and part of it doesn't indicate how it happened that night. Jabbar said there is no picture but based on her observation and the travel pattern she has seen, she can say with an upper level of certainty that the second vehicle wasn't in the right lane.

Whisenhunt said the location doesn't have marked lanes and it really is a parking lot. He said the report doesn't say where the other vehicle was coming from and he agrees with Jabbar about the lanes. Whisenhunt said the question is was the other vehicle stopped when hit or moving. Jabbar said the Traffic Engineer told her this area doesn't meet the criteria to stripe the lanes. Wright asked Jabbar if she saw the pictures of the other vehicle. Jabbar said no. Trevino said the scratches show that he was trying to correct himself or they would have been more diagonal. Bothell asked Trevino's speed. He said about 15 mph. He said he didn't know the speed of the compound. Jabbar said she is contending that both vehicles were traveling or just one. Bothell asked what responsibility did Trevino have in this accident. Jabbar said if the other vehicle's headlights were

off then he couldn't see him. Bothell said the police did an investigation and a report on this and he doesn't know if any of Jabbar's investigation would hinder on any of this. He said he has to go by what the police report says. Jabbar said that is why she felt there was a conflict between the police report drawing and what the drawings she does. Whisenhunt asked Trevino if he was going to the fuel pump. Trevino said yes. Bothell said instead of going all the way down the road and making a right to go to the fuel pump you cut across. Trevino said he was going to park. Jabbar said based on the information, if there is room for error in judgment, she asks for the board to be a little reflective on this issue. Whisenhunt said the best thing to do, so this doesn't happen again, is to have the driver's go down the road all the way and then turn right into the gas pumps instead of cutting across. He said Arango is making an SOP for his division and should include this.

Motion by Brown with second by Whisenhunt to uphold initial ruling as a Preventable Chargeable Collision with three (3) points plus one (1) point for cost of damages with a total of four (4) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

B. Henry Morales –Tabled- SSC (7/18/15)

Mr. Morales was present. Safety Rep Britt Hubbard was also present.

Morales said he had one of the guys push him up out of a hole. He said when he went to push it, the back bent. Bothell asked why he was pushed and not pulled out by the front hooks. Morales said he was always told to always push people out years ago by his supervisor ten years ago. Whisenhunt said the weakest part of the bed is in the back and should never be pushed and the hooks on the front are to be used with a chain to pull vehicles out.

Motion by Whisenhunt with second by Bothell to rule this accident as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

C. Christopher Dykes- Tabled –Streets (7/18/15)

Mr. Dykes no longer works for the City. PW Safety Rep Rusty Whisenhunt was present.

The board ruled this the same as the Morales incident since due to the event happened at the same location and same damage.

Motion by Whisenhunt with second by Bothell to rule this accident as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

D. Anthony Crawford- Tabled –WWTP (6/26/15)

Mr. Crawford was not present. PW Safety Rep Rusty Whisenhunt was present.

Whisenhunt said Crawford was at a stop sign and rear-ended by a POV.

Motion by Bothell with second by Brown to rule this accident as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

5. New Business:

A. Johnny Adams- SSC (9/2/15)

Mr. Adams was present. Safety Rep Britt Hubbard was also present.

Adams said he was uncovering a gas service line at an odd angle and cut it with a backhoe tooth. Whisenhunt asked if he had a spotter. Adams said he was his own spotter. He said the crew was about 30 yards working down the ditch line. Bothell asked if it was a PVC pipe. Adams said a poly pipe. He said the tracer wire was straight but the pipe was at an angle. Brown asked if this was a scheduled repair. Whisenhunt said yes, a line replacement.

Motion by Bothell with second by Brown to rule this accident as a Chargeable Damage Incident with one (1) point assessed.

B. Jeremiah Barksdale –SSC (10/5/15)

Mr. Barksdale was present. Safety Rep Britt Hubbard was also present.

Barksdale said he was headed back to the yard with an air compressor to drop it off. He said it was raining and he was going down a slope and driving slow. Barksdale said he was trying to stop and went through the intersection and finally stopped. He started to back up and hit a POV. Bothell asked if he had someone with him. Barksdale said yes. Bothell asked about a ground guide. Barksdale said he didn't think about that because he was nervous. Whisenhunt said this is a big air compressor. Bothell asked if he had checked his breaks after the accident. Barksdale said yes and they were fine.

Motion by Bothell with second by Whisenhunt to rule this accident as a Preventable Chargeable Collision with three (3) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

C. Roy Rodrick –AW (9/21/15)

Mr. Rodrick was not present. PW Safety Rep Rusty Whisenhunt was present.

Whisenhunt said Rodrick stopped to answer phone from a citizen and a POV drove by and clipped his mirrors.

Motion by Bothell with second by Brown to rule this accident as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

D. Julio Hernandez –WWM (8/27/15)

Mr. Hernandez was present. Safety Rep Chew Allen was also present.

Hernandez said he was going to 11th Street and when he got to the bridge he noticed a large bird in the road. He said he couldn't swerve to miss the bird because of the bridge. Hernandez said he hit the bird and it hit the windshield and broke it.

Motion by Bothell with second by Allen to rule this accident as Non-Preventable with zero (0) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

E. Steven Adams – WD (5/29/15)

Mr. Adams was not present. PW Safety Rep Rusty Whisenhunt was present.

Bothell said the utility was marked and Adams chose to continue to dig after the men waved and said they will hand dig. Adams hit the utility line. Whisenhunt said the Damage Prevention Act says the mark has to be within two feet and looking at the picture, it was.

Motion by Bothell with a second by Whisenhunt to rule this as a Chargeable Damage Incident with one (1) point.

Whisenhunt said the cost of the damage of this cable should be considered. He said this cable would be a \$4-5000 repair. Wright asked if they want to reclassify. All said yes.

New motion by Bothell with second by Whisenhunt to rule this as a Chargeable Damage Incident with one (1) point plus one (1) point for cost of damages with a total of two (2) points assessed.

AYES: All NAYS: None Motion carried.

5. Consider any other accidents reported: None

6. Communication/Discussion:

Brown said she was told, any time the vehicle was in motion and there was damage, an employee has to go to get a drug screening for a vehicle accident. Brown said we don't ground them unless she gets a call from the lab too.

Brown said it would be helpful to have these utility contact reports with the utility damages. Whisenhunt said all the divisions have this form.

7. Adjournment:

Motion by Brown with second by Bothell to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 pm.