

NECA-IBEW Joint Safety Committee

March 21st, 2024



Meeting minutes

1. **Call to order** - The attendees gave introductions and approved the 11/23 minutes.
 - 1.1. Ilene Ferrell - Cochran, Josh Carter - IBEW 48, Larry Reynolds - IBEW 48, Dave Unsell - Accurate, Amanda Davies - E.C. Co, Bob Henderson - Capitol and Barry Moreland - NIETC were in attendance.

2. **Old business**
 - 2.1. WA Lnl Rulemaking - Voluntary use of PPE - This draft rule would allow the voluntary use of PPE when workers feel the need to protect themselves from noise, dust, or possible infectious or contagious diseases. The voluntary use of PPE must not introduce hazards to the work environment, must not interfere with an employer's security requirements, and it's use must not be in conflict of any DOSH standards.
 - 2.2. 2024 NFPA 70E / Alignment with NFPA 70B - New presentation from NIETC for contractors and their clients to better understand electrical equipment maintenance requirements as specified by NFAP 70, 70E and 70B.
 - 2.3. Self Retractable Lanyard Misapplication - Industry still evolving to apply new ANSI Z359 criteria for proper use of SRLs. Class 1 devices can ONLY be used where anchor point is located at, or above, the dorsal D-ring height. Class 2 devices must be used for all other applications.

3. **New business**
 - 3.1. WA Lnl Rulemaking - Crane / Rigging revisions - stakeholders are reviewing draft rules to tighten up certification requirements for operators of forklifts (tele handlers) when suspending loads below the forks. If adopted, this would have significant impact on electrical contracts who use reach forklifts to install electrical equipment when suspended. Barry to follow stakeholder meeting outcome.

- 3.2. IBEW Safety Caucus report - Barry, Josh and Larry all attended the recent IBEW Safety Caucus in Providence, RI. The content this year was a step up from last year with a unique focus on STKY events (Stuff That Kills You) and use of the energy wheel to identify and mitigate STKY hazards and measurements that predict situations where Significant Injuries and Fatalities (SIFs) are likely outcomes rather than focus on TRIR and DART Recordable Injury Rates.
- 3.3. March is Ladder Safety Month - plenty of good resources out there to remind our teams about proper ladder use, inspections and fall hazards.

4. **Round Table - Injury Reports - Lessons Learned**

- 4.1. App hand laceration on ceiling grid during equipment installation. Cut back of hand thought the glove. Stitches required.
- 4.2. JW laceration when removing panel cover - cover was held on by the last 2 screws and the door was open. The screws suddenly released and cover fell downward. Corner of open door struck JW in thigh right above the knee and significantly cut through their pants and leg tissue. Stitches required.
- 4.3. JW shocked & broken leg during 277V during T-grid light installation. Work performed energized - not justifiable per NFPA 70E / OSHA. Shock caused worker to fall / jump from ladder and leg got caught between rungs. Broke Tibula and Fibula right below the knee.
 - 4.3.1. Committee asked if JW would entertain crafting a "it happened to me" type report that could be shared with apprentices / contractors. Barry to find out if they are interested.
 - 4.3.2. Ilene reminded the group that when apprentices witness JWs with risk tolerances outside of industry safety best practices (LOTO in this case) they may elect to repeat same bad habits.
- 4.4. JW laceration during removal of MV insulated cable jacket - Details not provided yet
- 4.5. App fractured fingertip during XMFR installation - Burke bar used to elevate XMFR to mount to strut. App installing strut nut when XMFR slipped off bar and pinched finger. Recordable injury.
- 4.6. App slipped when walking and hit object during fall. Caused laceration when arm hit L bracket on column.
- 4.7. JW fall results in broken wrist and fractured pelvis - plycore board installed by others to protect floor not taped down properly and JW caught foot on edge.
- 4.8. JW smashes finger - potential amputation - during ground rod installation. Was using old school style pipe driver. These types of drivers are reported in at least 2 significant hand injuries annually. Should be using other methods.

- 4.9. Concerns from members about a low number of accessible showers at a chemical facility was reported.
 - 4.10. App strains back when stepping / climbing up into a scissor lift.
 - 4.11. MH delivering equipment had lift gate down, not completely on ground, in parking lot area. Public driver tried to squeeze through lift gate and loading dock. Not enough room. They couldn't see so had door open and leg through the door for some reason. Door struck lift gate and crushed their leg between door and car body. 911 called. Driver at fault.
 - 4.12. Larry reported Fluor, the GC in charge of MSB2, under performing on general housekeeping and material storage. Overall poor working conditions. They are reportedly the same GC who will run Mod 4.
 - 4.13. Amanda reported they are seeing an increasing number of projects where large rip rap / base rock being used for general worker walking pathways. Rolled ankles & unstable waling surfaces the outcome. Asked if any regs define minimum quality of walking areas. None were known of. 3/4 minus should be spread on top of these walking areas. OK for vehicle traffic but not walking.
 - 4.14. Ilene shared information regarding an article in the March 24 EC&M magazine which deals with troubleshooting and whether that is considered energized work or not. Good info to share with your teams.
5. **Up Next** - The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16th, at 2:00 PM. Room location may change due to Women in Trades Fair at NIETC same day. Barry to send out meeting invite and reminder.