

**NECA-IBEW Joint Safety  
Committee**

**June 19th, 2025  
Meeting minutes**



1. **Call to order** - The attendees gave introductions and approved the 3/21 minutes.
2. **Attendance** - Ilene Ferrell - Cochran, Kyle Sutton - Cherry City, Steve Huson - Mill Plain Electric, Chris Martin - O'Neill Electric, Amanda Davies - E. C. Co., Josh Carter - IBEW 48, Joseph Hammond - IBEW 48 and Barry Moreland - NIETC were in attendance.
3. **Old business**
  - 3.1. WA Lnl certification of fire resistant material installers - CR-103P Rulemaking was adopted. This will required all installers of Fire Stop materials to complete a registered apprenticeship when fireproofing penetrations in all Type 3 & 4 structures effective 7/1/25 - enforced 7/1/26. Barry to survey contractors and L U 48 for interest in NIETC becoming a registered apprenticeship to meet Lnl compliance.
4. **New business**
  - 4.1. MEWP fatality (not local) draws questions about drive / lift controls being standardized. ANSI A92.6 design changes were reviewed however, this latest Standard does not indicate uniform control functions between manufacturers of American made lift equipment. Concerns over other, non-fall related injures caused by the mandatory use of harness and lanyards in MEWPs was also discussed.
  - 4.2. Heat Illness Update - AIHA Updates their free App 2.0 - Heat rules now in effect in both WA & OR requiring annual training, acclimatization procedures, written programs, 32 oz cool water / hour - shade & rest periods based on trigger temperatures & humidity. (Heat Index) Contact Barry for training or sample written program materials.
  - 4.3. Orthodics - part of boot program? - The committee reviewed Super Feet products and discussed potential inclusion in the boot reimbursement program. Chris reported their products are well made and reduce foot fatigue / pain.

- 4.4. 811 Rulemaking update - Changes to the OREGON Utility Notification system have been adopted. Digital white lining, reduced ticket length (45 days now to 30) and expanding “non-invasive” methods of digging. NOTE - effective date still pending. <https://digsafelyoregon.com/news/>
- 4.5. Safety Meeting App for NECA Contractors - a new resource for NECA contractors is now available. This app provides a convenient digital method to present tool box talks and NFPA 70E related documents. For access please contact Barry.
- 4.6. Workplace Poster Revisions - Both Oregon and Federal posters have updated panels effective 7/1/25. Barry to distribute pdfs & printed copies in early July.

## **5. Round Table - Injury Reports - Safety Resources**

- 5.1. App cuts hand with utility knife - removal of gloves and cutting towards hand. 7 stitches. Steward & contractor both reported. Training issues? Use of proper tool?
  - 5.1.1. OEG shared great information and video on insulation stripping methods and tool selection. Amanda shared information about a recent cut / amputation all hands presentation at Intel with a focus on how the injury affected other responding workers and long term mental health / substance abuse issues suffered by the injured worker.
- 5.2. OHSU elevator tech shocked 480 - was cutting tie wraps with knife and cut through insulation making contact with 480 volts. Worker is back at work and ok.
- 5.3. JW strained back after taking deluge shower for possible chemical exposure. Steward notified.
- 5.4. App smashed finger on heavy gang box lid - lid not opened all the way up - removed tool and lost control of lid resultant in pinky fracture - gang box labelled to help remind workers about the potential pinch point. The group shared stories about similar incidents due to the heavy use and damage over time of gang boxes making opening doors difficult.
- 5.5. App strained back driving ground rod with sledge inside vault - Macho would not drive it all the way - recordable - employer & employee both notified JSC.
- 5.6. Jobsite response to a rumored active shooter threat was discussed. Evacuation procedures had large group of workers assembled in the lunch tent which was not the best decision for cover. When brought up for after action review, GC was combative in response.
- 5.7. Jobsite exposure to chemical fumes caused workers to leave the project. SDS was made available however, lack of thorough cleanup caused repeat exposure.

- 5.7.1. Recommend having poison control phone numbers posted on job boards.
  - 5.7.2. Kyle shared info on emergency response locating services using the free website "What3Words". Super handy to identify location when street signs are not established yet or when multiple entrances exist on project. Users enter an address / GPS coordinates and then can select exact location on map. Website generates 3 unique words to for that exact spot and you give those words to the EMS dispatcher.
  - 5.8. The committee reviewed new dropped object warning light accessory for MEWPs. Red laser lights are broadcasted away from perimeter alleviating the need to get out and move cones / danger tape every time the lift is moved. SkyJack example HERE.
6. Up Next - The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21st, at 8:00 AM at the NIETC. Note meetings now being held on the even number months moving forward.