

NECA-IBEW Joint Safety Committee

October 16th, 2025
Meeting minutes



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1. **Call to order** - The attendees gave introductions and approved the 8/21/25 minutes.
 2. **Attendance** - Steve Huson - Mill Plain Electric, Joe Hammond - IBEW 48, Larry Reynolds - IBEW 48, Ilene Ferrell - Cochran Electric, Jolene Burum - E. C. Co., Aaron Porter - J. H. Kelly, and Barry Moreland - NIETC were in attendance.
 3. **Old business**
 - 3.1. eTA NFPA 70E TTT - Puget Sound 12/16-12/18/2025 - interested in attending this course the registration process goes through the Puget Sound JATC directly - (425) 228-1777
 4. **New business**
 - 4.1. 2027 NEC 110.16 - arc flash labels - the committee reviewed revised language in the next edition of the NEC which will mandate arc flash hazard labels beyond basic warnings on all electrical equipment in other than dwelling units. This is a significant change and now aligns with NFPA 70E labeling requirements.
 - 4.2. Apprentice situational awareness scenarios vs OSHA 10 - a discussion on hazard and situational awareness training using a variety of typical workplace tasks instead of a traditional OSHA 10 class. Apprentices would still get OSHA 30 in their last year of apprenticeship. The group used an [example](#) of working above T-grid ceiling and identifying / reducing risks found in that environment. Barry to create 4-6 scenarios that will address content typically found in the OSHA 10 course but will use actual workplace tasks to do so.
 - 4.3. Electri 70E - 70B study - Barry shared info on a new study from Electri International with a focus on NFPA 70E & B to help contractors in advancing electrical service and maintenance practices. Funding was approved in January so we hope to see the final product soon.
 - 4.4. OHSU Safety Climate Tools (total worker health & respectful workplace) - new resources to help measure workplace safety climate, total worker health and overall respect among workers is available through OHSU's [Safety Climate Lab](#).
 - 4.5. OSHA penalty amounts - Oregon in process to update penalty amounts and give notice to employers however, with the Federal Government shutdown it may take longer than normal to get this information out. Penalty adjustments are a typical thing every year and are tied to the Consumer Price Index

5. Round Table - Injury Reports - Safety Resources

- 5.1. App cut back of hand using porta-band - 1 handed tool - left handed worker - was working in awkward position.
 - 5.2. App cuts finger with porta-band when it jumps off 3/4 EMT. 2 handed tool but was using only 1 hand on tool and other to hold conduit.
 - 5.3. App reports arc flash in VAV box in ceiling right next to them - loose wiring suspect - no injuries but startled - was working from ladder at the time.
 - 5.4. App shocked on 47V? inside MCC bucket. Motor leads under LOTO - control wires had voltage source on them - 277, 45 & 47 volts reportedly. App did not test before touch and indicated they did not know if they still even had a voltage testing device. Recommend field supervisors to always verify workers have a functioning voltage tester per the Inside Agreement with them and know how to use / limitations of use.
 - 5.5. JW shocked on 277v resetting overloads in motor starter. Unprotected hand got too close to primary voltage at control transformer and made contact with back of one hand. The other hand was holding grounded door / cover open. Likely path hand to hand. Was checked out and released ok. No gloves worn.
 - 5.6. Committee discussed mental health and means to actively address workers who need help. Vitalcog training to be included in last year of apprenticeship.
 - 5.7. Barry to survey contractors to identify the Top 5 workplace injuries that we continue to struggle with - can you say sorta-band cuts? This will align with OSHA's Top 10 most cited report that comes out every October and will be used as a focal point for refresher training in 2026.
 - 5.8. App drilling overhead with safety glasses on got debris in eye. Was able to flush it out w/o significant injury.
 - 5.9. Barry encouraged the group to use apprentice evaluation to help document workplace infractions as this helps the NIETC identify patterns of behavior. Recent situation of an apprentice being caught sleeping twice on the job is good example. Document on evaluation form - contact Monica if need more - and fill out honestly. Review with apprentice and send in to NIETC. Any criteria that receives a rating of 4 or less will cause apprentice to meet with Training Director and / or Safety Director as needed.
 - 5.10. App cuts finger using Skil Saw when building wood forms. Luckily, was only a minor cut.
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6. Up Next - The last meeting of 2025 is scheduled for Thursday, December 18th, at 8:00 AM at the NIETC.