

NECA-IBEW Joint Safety
Committee

June 18th, 2026
Meeting minutes



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1. Call to order - The attendees gave introductions and approved the 4/16/26 minutes.
 2. Attendance - Bob Henderson - Capitol Electric, Josh Carter - IBEW 48, Joe Hammond - IBEW 48, Savana Carr - E.C. Co., Scott Peabody - E. C. Co., Steve Huson - Mill Plain Electric, Aaron Porter - J. H. Kelly, Ed Drapeau - IBEW 48 and Barry Moreland - NIETC.
 3. Old business
 - 3.1. Lnl new excavation rules - adopted and effective June 1, 2026
 - 3.1.1. New Permit completed by Competent Person - both permit and CP must be onsite during work inside trench / excavations requiring protective systems. May use GC or excavation contractors CP if documented.
 - 3.1.2. C P class at NIETC? - Barry to look at \$ of class held at NIETC.
 - 3.1.3. Electrical Safety - Capacitors & Dual Layer caps recognized by NFPA 70E in new article 370. Provides guidance when working near these higher energy devices which contain both electrical and chemical hazards. These are widely used in data centers and, through "dielectric absorption" can regenerate a dangerous stored charge. Toolbox Talk available [HERE](#).
 4. New business
 - 4.1. Heat / Smoke response - [Air Now](#) & [Heat Index](#) apps - OSHA's heat illness rules are in full effect. Keep in mind this is for both indoor and outdoor work environments. The Heat Index app not reliable for work inside of buildings. [WGBT](#) or equivalent must be used. Wildfires are unfortunately already happening throughout various locations. Employers should be familiar with Air Quality Index (AQIs) numbers and how they trigger certain actions. A formal response plan and training are required before we see Pm2.5 levels exceed AQI of 72 (WA). Review [OR](#) & [WA](#) Wildfire Smoke rules and Fact Sheets in preparation. Written programs and training are available from the NIETC.

- 4.1.1. Milwaukee new [hardhat fan](#) - a possible option for job sites that do not allow electricians to wear vented hard hats / helmets.
- 4.2. Workers Comp survey via IBEW 48 update - more info to follow.
- 4.3. Fed OSHA proposal to eliminate medical clearance for filtering face piece respirators (N95s). Comment period now closed. Now waiting for possible adoption. State plans would not be forced to adopt.
- 4.4. Updated workplace posters - both pdf and printed versions to be ready by July. Oregon and Washington versions have revisions. Federal poster stays the same.
- 5. Round Table - Injury Reports - Safety Resources
 - 5.1. App cuts leg with razor knife stripping insulation while squatting. Knife slipped off wire and drove blade into calf.
 - 5.2. App cuts finger using portaband overhead. Cutting 1/4" rod. After cutting through the tool dropped onto their hand cutting through glove. Stitches required.
 - 5.3. App holding 20' piece of uni-strut being hosted 30' vertically to ceiling for installation of a conduit rack. Felt "pop" in wrist. Sprain / strain MSD.
 - 5.4. App falls from attic to lower level. Possible break to right heel bone. SRL and tie off equipment & policy in place but not used.
 - 5.5. Steve reminded the group of the Stute Clause in WA that can hold prime / general contractors accountable for sub-contractor actions.
 - 5.6. Scott Peabody shared information regarding heat illness susceptibility increasing for those who have suffered effects previously. Also, hydration means both water and electrolytes. Can overdue electrolyte drinks and cause harm thinking you are hydrating.
- 6. Up Next - The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20th, at 8:00 AM at the NIETC.