

**Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council
Meeting minutes – May 1, 2015**

Members present

Paul Aasen
Brandon Holmes
Scott Huberty
Pedro Lopez
Michael Marturano
Michael Mueller
Scott Parker
Elizabeth Rheingans
Greg Rindal
Christopher Schmidt
Daryl Tindle

Staff members present

Alden Hoffman
Mark Hysell
James Krueger
Ken Peterson, commissioner

John Rajkowski
Roslyn Robertson
Cindy Valentine

Speakers and guests present

Anjelica Calixto, Consulate of Mexico
Alberto Fierro, Consulate of Mexico
Roberto Fonts, Dialog One, LLC
Andy Hedland, Central Boiler of Greenbush,
Minnesota, *via telephone*
Lisa Hollingsworth, MNOSHA Compliance
Chris Leifeld, Workers' Compensation Division
Matt Marquis, CCA, MDPA, MMFCA
MECA, IMCA, MPWEA, TICA
Ryan Nosan, MNOSHA Workplace Safety
Consultation
Kim Yoacum, Aveda Corp.
Kurt Zimmerman, IBEW Local 160

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairman Paul Aasen. Announcements were read. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Daryl Tindle announced his retirement from IBEW Local 160 and his resignation from the council in May.

Approval of the agenda

The link to the reports has been updated. Scott Parker moved to approve the May 1, 2015, meeting agenda as amended, seconded by Michael Marturano. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Approval of the minutes

Scott Parker moved to approve the revised Feb. 6, 2015, meeting minutes, seconded by Michael Mueller. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Legislative news – John Rajkowski, DLI legislative liaison

- The legislative session has two weeks before finishing May 19.
- There is a budget surplus.
- DLI's budget is in the Omnibus Economic Development Budget bill. Most of the other omnibus finance bills have been heard. Conference committees meet, the Legislature takes

up policy bills to be heard. Inside one of DLI's policy bills to be heard next week is the expansion of the Safe Patient Handling Act to include any worker who is engaged in lifting a patient. If certain NAICS criteria are met, the employer is required to ensure workers are properly trained and have the proper equipment. The bill was heard and passed in committee and onto the Senate floor, with bipartisan support. It is expected to be passed.

- James Krueger, Minnesota OSHA director, testified against a repeal of a rule that has been around for approximately 30 years, regarding the use of a two-rope cable system versus a one rope in grain elevator manlifts. DLI Commissioner Peterson wrote a letter to the House chairman objecting to the repeal.
- Additional issues affecting DLI deal with minimum wage (two-tiered tip credit) in the House bill and a ban on the sprinkler requirement for homes 4,500 square feet and larger in both the House and Senate bills.

Department update – Commissioner Ken Peterson

- Things are going pretty well at the Legislature. There is not much opposition on safety issues.
- Worker Memorial Day was commemorated April 28. A monument, dedicated to all Minnesotans who died in their line of work, is located within the Minnesota Workers Memorial Garden on the State Capitol grounds.
- The 2015 Minnesota Safety and Health Conference will be May 5 through 7 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. It's a good reminder of how far we've come in significantly reducing injury and illness rates since the Occupational Safety and Health Act passed in 1973. Everyone deserves a safe work environment. In spite of an increase in the workforce, fewer people are being injured or killed on the job.

New business

- ***MNSTAR Program and MNSHARP update*** – Ryan Nosan, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Workplace Safety Consultation, coordinates and oversees the two partnership programs among labor, management and Minnesota OSHA. The programs provide employers with tools and information about worker safety. Typically, these employers are on the cutting edge of safety and implement “best practices.” OSHA guidelines are the starting point and the company moves beyond those guidelines to establish its safety and health programs. Injury and illness rates must be below the national three-year average. The programs allow employers an exemption from MNOSHA Compliance programmed planned inspections. Representatives of two partners are present today: Andy Hedland of Central Boiler (MNSHARP) and Kim Yoacum with Aveda (MNSTAR Program); they will give a summary about the benefits they see in the partnerships.
 - The Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MNSHARP) is a consultation-based program designed for employers with fewer than 250 employees on-site and fewer than 500 nationwide. These smaller companies typically do not have the resources a larger company would have. A review is made of the employer's safety and health management program. A full consultation service is performed before the process is begun, which includes training, site analysis and program review. There are currently 34 full MNSHARP sites and two pre-MNSHARP sites (one or more deficiencies are being worked on before obtaining full MNSHARP status). MNSHARP Construction is for construction projects 18 months and longer in duration, where the company has an

effective safety and health management system in place, employee involvement and employer commitment.

- The Minnesota STAR (MNSTAR) Program is an application-based program similar to the federal Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The MNSTAR program is designed for employers of any size. The company's safety and health management system is reviewed. Currently, there are 40 MNSTAR Program worksites: 38 full MNSTAR Program sites; and two merit sites (one or more deficiencies have been identified and are being worked on to transition into full MNSTAR Program status).
 - **Greg Rindal:** Please comment about the use of the SGEs to support either program and how that is going?
 - **Ryan Nosan:** In the past we've used special government employees (SGEs). For the VPP process (MNSTAR Program), we have the ability to use individuals identified as SGEs. If we go to a refinery and don't have a knowledge base of a specific issue, we can contact federal OSHA Region V to ask for a list of SGEs who could provide assistance. In the past five years we have not run into the need to use an SGE. We have a specific team dedicated to the MNSTAR Program process and we can use the PSM group from MNOSHA Compliance.
 - **Kim Yoacum:** The Aveda Corporation, located in Blaine, Minnesota, has been a MNSTAR Program worksite for eight years. Aveda's mission is aligned with the partnership, the company is environmentally friendly and the company is committed to the safety program. The MNSTAR Program is the best way to leverage and share best practices to show we are a safe and healthy workplace. We've seen a lot of benefits using the program. We are proud to fly the MNSTAR Program flag at each of our facilities: corporate and manufacturing; and distribution. Our focus is on the reduction of employee injuries, human factors, being in compliance and always being "best in class" when it comes to safety performance.
 - **Andy Hedland:** The MNSHARP program has been wonderful for Central Boiler and has far exceeded any expectation. We first started exploring the idea of a partnership around 2010. Safety has always been a priority with the company owners, but there is always room for improvement. We were at a point where we were unsure about how to get to the next level. The biggest difference seen in the past five years is with the overall culture of our employees. There was skepticism at first, but that has changed to having everyone on board. It's a realization that our MNOSHA partnership is to help our company make improvements and to send our workers home safe at the end of the day. A recertification took place a few weeks ago, causing excitement rather than the nervousness that may have happened five years ago. Safety is a full companywide effort. By working with the MNSTAR Program consultants, we've achieved our goal of getting to that next level.
 - **Paul Aasen:** What are the two most important aspects of working with these programs?
 - **Kim Yoacum:** Resource availability. It's a true partnership to solve challenges. Our management was really on board with the partnership. It helps the collaboration with employees, because it shows management's commitment and improves our safety culture.
 - **Andy Hedland:** Resource availability, phone contact or requesting a personal visit. Employee morale has increased due to the consultation process. If employers are

- willing to invite MNOSHA in to form a partnership, the employees see – firsthand – that safety is taken seriously. Being able to correct hazards, not just talking about it but making the changes, has helped in all areas of the business.
- **Greg Rindal:** The independent assessment is so valuable. When we look ourselves, our leadership and even our safety professionals tend to have rose-colored glasses. When we’ve hired a third-party, their independence and helpfulness makes a big difference.
 - **Pedro Lopez:** In construction, when management is supportive and leading by example that creates a rapport with the employees. It is a key element in a successful program and partnership.
- **Minnesota Mexican Consulate** – Alberto Fierro, secretary of the Mexican Consulate explained Minnesota’s consulate is one of 50 consulates in the United States and covers North and South Dakota, Minnesota and northern Wisconsin. The purpose is to promote links of collaboration between Mexican and U.S. institutions. We are now the second largest trading partner in Minnesota. Governor Dayton is expected to travel to Mexico sometime in August. We make alliances with organizations that provide services to more than 100,000 Mexican workers, many who work in construction. We have had, for several years, a memorandum of understanding signed to work together in terms of letting the Mexican employees know how to be safe and what the rules are regarding health and security. We have worked very closely with, and will continue to support, the Hispanic Contractors Association to ensure the safety of Mexican and Latino workers. The University of Minnesota is doing very important work (here and in Wisconsin) with workplace safety in the dairy industry. Materials have been prepared in Spanish so the employees can read and learn more about safety in the workplace.
 - **Commissioner Ken Peterson:** In the past few years, the percentage of Latino workers injured in the workplace has increased. We need to work harder to protect these workers, many who work in the roofing and construction industries. We will continue in our training efforts and will encourage the contractors to do more in keeping employees safe on the job.
 - **Pedro Lopez:** Referencing a February article by David Noriega, a reporter from BuzzFeed News, “Construction work is getting more deadly, but only for Latinos,” said the workforce is changing in the construction industry, not only nationwide, but in Minnesota. We deal with the language gap and provide training to those with limited-English speaking capabilities. The \$100 program, received from the national chapter, is offered at no charge to the participants. We have reached out to many organizations, including the ABC, to provide free services to their contractor members that have Latino and Spanish-speaking-only employees. We have recently reached out to the Carpenters Union and to offer OSHA-10 and -30 training at no charge to individual members. This offer has been extended to other unions and to the Minnesota Safety Council.
 - **Partnerships** – Lisa Hollingsworth, MNOSHA Compliance, said she is working in partnerships with the AGC, ABC and MnDOT on projects six to 18 months duration. ABC approached MNOSHA Compliance approximately 10 years ago to develop partnership opportunities with area contractors. The AGC Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Minnesota Program was discussed; ABC has a similar program, STEP, with three

levels of achievement. After Level 3 is reached, MNOSHA Compliance reviews the project using a checklist and criteria established with minimum safety guidelines for contractors with excellent safety and health programs. Lisa Hollingsworth conducts walk-around inspections monthly with the contractors and their subcontractors. Of the MnDOT projects, she meets with the contractors and subcontractors at the St. Croix River Crossing project once a week. There are 200 craft workers on site and 16 cranes. The crew worked all through the winter. MNOSHA Compliance has consistently been working on about eight or nine projects a month for about two years now. Some of the projects are:

- Carl Bolander and Sons – TCAAP/City of Arden Hills clean up and demolition;
- M.A. Mortenson – Capitol Office Project, Metro State University, University of Minnesota Mechanical Engineering, 4 Marq, Methodist Hospital, Ridgeview Hospital in Waconia;
- Hunt Electric – Methodist Hospital;
- Graham – Southwest High School and Hinckley Public Safety Building;
- Q3 – Excel Energy Project Phase 3; and
- Lunda Construction and Ames Construction joint venture – St. Croix River Crossing.
 - **Pedro Lopez:** Who funds the St. Croix bridge project?
 - **Cindy Valentine:** It is federally funded.
 - **Mike Mueller:** How much improvement is seen with partnership programs partners?
 - **Lisa Hollingsworth:** This is a new program where the employer is exempt from programmed inspections, although a MNOSHA Compliance inspection is conducted monthly. AGC tracks those statistics and she has a copy.
 - **Paul Aasen:** What are the limits of the partnership program? Are there other companies that would like to be partners but cannot get in?
 - **Lisa Hollingsworth:** AGC brings the partners in to their CHASE Minnesota program and ABC does the same. Contractors would need to become members of the groups for two years, meet the safety program criteria and then MNOSHA Compliance can explore the partnership process.
 - **Commissioner Ken Peterson:** MnDOT insisted on being a partner on the St. Croix River Crossing bridge project.
 - **Lisa Hollingsworth:** At least one or two MnDOT representatives are present during the weekly walk-around inspections.
 - **Cindy Valentine:** She participated in a conference call with MnDOT and other state agencies to discuss a partnership, similar to the St. Croix River Crossing project, to build the tallest bridge through the mines in Virginia, Minnesota.
 - **Pedro Lopez:** Are there any DBE workforce goals?
 - **Lisa Hollingsworth:** Yes, there are for each project.
 - **Scott Huberty:** Is the Vikings stadium involved in a partnership?
 - **Lisa Hollingsworth and Cindy Valentine:** The Vikings stadium project is on its way to being in MNSHARP.
- **Worker Memorial Day event** – Lisa Hollingsworth was invited to give a presentation about the St. Croix River Crossing bridge project at the Worker Memorial Day event at the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

- **National Safety Stand-down Campaign** – May 4 through 15 is a voluntary event to raise awareness of preventing falls in construction. Falls are the within the 10 most-frequently cited OSHA standards. The event allows employers time to talk to their employees, reminding them about safety hazards and the importance of fall prevention. There are many ways this can be done: toolbox talks, handouts, posters, email messages, quizzes, videos, safety presentations, lunches and more. In 2014, Minnesota OSHA participated in 73 events, reaching 18,720 workers. A certificate of participation is available on DLI’s website at www.dli.mn.gov/MnOSHA.asp that is signed by U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez. Event photos can be submitted to the website also.
- **Fire extinguisher training** – Paul Aasen said Firehouse Subs, a sandwich company, was founded by two firefighters and will help safety organizations with grants or other underwriting to cover fire extinguisher training.

Old business

There was no new business.

Staff reports

- **Federal OSHA update – Mark Hysell**
 - The fall safety stand-down is May 4 through 15.
 - Workers’ Memorial Day is April 28. On average, 12 Americans lose their lives at work each day. It isn’t publicized in the media enough. This past Workers’ Memorial Day was the most publicized since it began. There were many special events nationwide.
 - In Cleveland, Ohio, U.S. Department of Labor Assistant Secretary Dr. David Michaels threw out the first pitch at a Cleveland Indians game.
 - On April 2, federal OSHA updated its guidelines for protecting health care and social workers. It is a hazardous industry, both in ergonomics and workplace violence. Roslyn Robertson and Mark Hysell are on a committee to quantify all resources within the OSHA communities to get it out to both compliance and consultation training efforts to employees in the Midwest. The Bureau of Labor Statistics identified more than 23,000 serious injuries resulting from workplace violence situations in the health care industry. Employees are four times more likely to be seriously injured associated with workplace violence in that industry than in other industries. Research has been compiled over the past decade that shows it takes a combination of common sense, partnerships, alliances, VPPs, SHARPs, management commitment to employee safety, employee involvement/commitment, good guidelines assessing risk factors in the health care industry, assessing troubled patients who are prone to violence and establishing a protocol to deal with it. A lot of assistance is available in the guideline. Federal OSHA has a Web page dedicated to workplace violence prevention.
 - Federal OSHA is seeking nominations for six vacancies on the 12-member Whistleblower Protection Advisory Committee. Representative positions for two management, two labor, one public sector and one state plan are open until May 18.
 - **Jim Krueger:** Christine Dougherty, one of MNOSHA’s staff members, will be stepping down from the committee. At the most recent OSHSPA meeting, a nominee was selected from the state of Washington. Detailed information can be found in the *Federal Register*.

- The Minnesota performance report (evaluation process) has been completed and submitted to Washington.
 - The OSHA Region V family meeting with federal enforcement offices and state-plan states in the Midwest is scheduled for July 27 through 29, in Indianapolis, Indiana.
 - Federal-fiscal-year 2016 grant applications are expected from Minnesota soon.
- ***Workplace Safety Consultation update – Roslyn Robertson***
 - Statistics for first and second quarters.
 - WSC is on track with its performance goals as proposed to federal OSHA during the federal-fiscal-year 2015.
 - There were 511 total visits for safety and health services (initial visits, training, follow-ups).
 - A total of 2,131 hazards were identified, including eight imminent danger: 1,868 serious hazards; 235 other-than-serious hazards; and 20 regulatory hazards, such as recordkeeping.
 - There were 161 interventions, which include formal training, meetings with professional groups, MNSTAR Program, conference participation and more involved technical assistance, impacting more than 7,000 establishments, represented by more than 9,400 employees.
 - In construction, there were 261 total visits, with 746 hazards identified. Fifteen percent of the initial visits were in residential construction. The Vikings stadium is working toward MNSHARP recognition; Gov. Dayton has asked WSC to support the project and it continues weekly visits and support depending upon the changing activities. Progress is tracked via a live webcam, in addition to the scheduled on-site visits.
 - For the fall-prevention stand-down, WSC staff members are working with their defined clients participating in large and small events around the state. 3M has a large trailer with fall-protection and confined-space safety displays, hazard identification, and different techniques and safety equipment used, which will be brought to different locations. Individual consultants will conduct toolbox talks for employees during general consultation visits. Last year's events were very successful. We have events planned both weeks of the stand-down.
 - For general-industry inspections, including public sector, there were 250 total visits, with 1,385 total hazards.
 - Alliances with employers and employer-associations are reviewed for up to two years; after that, goals are re-evaluated to ensure the alliances stay current and active.
 - WSC has formal alliances with three MnSCU campuses. WSC wants to ensure the smaller and under-represented campuses have access to its services.
 - WSC is re-establishing its alliance with the Minnesota Dental Association providing formal training about bloodborne pathogen exposure-control planning.
 - There are ongoing meetings with the health care group, discussing issues barriers, innovations, techniques, and more relating to safe patient-handling in health care.
 - WSC provides ongoing support at the Vikings stadium project. Based on activities, WSC schedules visits and make services available.
 - Workplace violence prevention is an important strategic area being focused on. WSC conducted 13 formal training presentations, one program-assistance in the form of

interview questions to assess a workplace violence prevention program and two initial visits that focused on workplace violence prevention.

- Hibbing Community College is WSC's contracted partner in the logger safety training LogSafe program. It will be initiating the spring training program; check the Hibbing Community College website for details. WSC conducted 18 formal interventions and one formal training visit relating to an on-site consultation.
- The ergonomics focus included 15 total visits and 13 technical assistance and training interventions to health care facilities and municipal EMS through coordination with the League of Minnesota Cities.
- The focus on the safety of temporary workers received good feedback from the industry last fall. WSC partnered with the Hennepin Technical College for the Safety Symposium to address issues in this area. Out of that symposium, Hennepin Technical College has established a Temporary Worker Safety Advisory Committee. Earlier this week, Roslyn Robertson participated in the second meeting of that advisory group. There was good representation from temporary agencies and employers that use a significant number of temporary workers in their daily operations. WSC's goal in that advisory group is to provide input to Hennepin Technical College about developing curriculum of how to train temporary agencies about what they need to bring to the temporary workers before their first assignment. This is a novel approach to training temporary workers. Hennepin Technical College is offering this training free of charge to temporary agencies and the employers in the work group. Going forward, Web-based applications will be developed for use during the screening of temporary workers to assess them on the spot, before they go to their first assignment. Through group discussion, baseline models every employee should be entitled to are being created, working with employers to create standardized safety programs for their workers. Temporary workers are a vulnerable group that experience a higher than average injury and fatality rate, so WSC wants to do everything it can and to have a robust discussion in Minnesota to identify what resources are available, using online resources to minimize the cost to employers.
- The Region V violence prevention in the workplace focus includes Roslyn Robertson's participation in a work group at the Regional level with partners in and around Minnesota. The group can share the innovative approaches being used to address the safety of workers.
- WSC is participating with the Mexican Consulate in a May 30 event in Winona, Minnesota, to promote the services of both groups. The Mexican Consulate has a mobile unit that travels throughout the Greater Minnesota area to promote its services and provide access to Mexican and Latino workers who may need its services and not know how to access them.
- On April 11, Roslyn Robertson participated with federal OSHA's hosted townhall-type outreach event with Asian and Pacific Islanders, at the Hmong Community Center. A few follow-ups have resulted from that event.
- Safety Grant Program, first quarter of federal-fiscal-year 2015: total number of grant applications received and reviewed, 53; total number of grants awarded, 36; total project costs, \$1,700,000; total amount of grant money awarded, \$274,881; total amount of requested grants, \$460,988; total number of grants to private companies, 31; and total number of grants to public entities, five.

- **Pedro Lopez:** Is the Temporary Worker Advisory Council intended for construction and general industry?
- **Roslyn Robertson:** A construction employer has recently joined the group
- (Pedro will contact WSC to assist and become a part of the group.)

- ***Training and outreach update – Cindy Valentine for Nancy Zentgraf***
 Cindy Valentine distributed the MNOSHA training activities report for the second quarter of federal-fiscal-year 2015.
 - Outreach: Presentations were offered for A Workplace Accident and Injury Reduction (AWAIR) program and residential fall-protection. The residential fall-protection presentation was very well received. A number of Spanish-speaking representatives attended, staying afterward to take a closer look at the harnesses and fall-protection equipment on hand.
 - Training: Funds have become available to send some MNOSHA employees to the OSHA Training Institute (OTI). Classes will include: electrical standards; machine guarding and hazardous energy control; accident investigation; permit-required confined-space entry; applied welding principles; combustible-dust hazards and controls; and process safety management. MNOSHA is sponsoring a scaffolding class, in conjunction with OTI, this summer in St. Paul, Minnesota, for state and federal staff members. External training was made available to MNOSHA employees about Ebola and other infectious diseases – how to protect the nursing and health care industry. This training opportunity was jointly sponsored by the Minnesota Safety Council and others.
 - **Paul Aasen:** As an entity, the presence and risk of Ebola appears to have abated. From an emergency and workplace safety and protocol standpoint, having a plan is great, but an important factor to consider is what if people don't show up to effectuate the plan? What is the protocol if no trained workers show up? What is the plan for B, C, D, E and F?
 - **Daryl Tindle:** Several years ago, there was much conversation about the H5N1 avian flu pandemic. The response conversation needs to take place before such an event, not when it happens.
 - **Paul Aasen:** The Minnesota Safety Council and Midwest Center jointly sponsored an event and a panel from companies met to discuss how to prepare for an Ebola outbreak. A number of them mentioned pulling out the pandemic planning documentation as a baseline in planning for an infectious disease response.
 - **Pedro Lopez:** A live construction safety call-in program will be launched on Radio Rey, 63WDGY, the largest Spanish-speaking radio station in Minnesota, and on Univision, the national channel.

- ***Compliance update – Jim Krueger***
 - Five hundred twenty-two inspections were conducted during the second quarter. MNOSHA Compliance is on goal for the year. Four fatalities and 25 serious injuries occurred this quarter. Twenty-two serious injuries were recorded in February alone.
 - One hundred thirty-six complaints were received, which resulted in 61 on-site inspections.
 - The lapse time to these complaints was just more than 3.05 days.

- Citation issuance was done in 21 days. Everyone has a right to contest and MNOSHA Compliance wants to ensure all proper procedures have been followed.
- Two vacant positions will be filled, which is the first time since the last hiring occurred in October 2012.
- There were 1,170 telephone calls handled; almost evenly split between employees and employers calling.
- Homeland security and emergency management: On April 23, 2015, the governor declared a state of emergency and activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), at the Department of Public Safety's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, to coordinate the state's ongoing response to avian influenza. Alden Hoffman participates in daily conference calls and is serving as the MNOSHA Compliance resource to the Department of Agriculture's safety officer.
- Emphasis programs continue with silica in construction, isocyanates, excavations and construction (fall protection).
- Significant legislation/rulemaking update: MNOSHA is adopting by reference injury reporting, effective Oct. 1, 2015, with the exception of Part 1904.2 – changes to recordkeeping requirements for low-hazard industries. The Minnesota Rules 5208.1500 SIC list for AWAIR has been adopted for the next two years. Employers newly added to the NAICS list have six months – until June 29, 2015 – to comply. MNOSHA's federal grant has been completed with no significant increases noted. MNOSHA is in the beginning stages of putting together its federal-fiscal-year 2016 budget and hopes it will stay at least at the same funding level. There is a concern MNOSHA may see a decrease next year.
- MNOSHA is working to update its computer interface system that transmits Minnesota's data to federal OSHA's new computer program, OIS. This will be done by Oct. 1, 2015.

- ***OSHSPA update***

Jim Krueger will be traveling to Raleigh, North Carolina, this week for the OSHSPA board meeting. He is the OSHSPA vice-chairman and has been approved to attend the next meeting, which is in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

General questions and comments

- **Pedro Lopez:** Does DLI look at trends in serious-injuries and fatalities by trade, employer, best practices, lessons learned and pro-active? Can we put something together so organizations can review the information to assist companies or individuals?
- **Jim Krueger:** Serious-injury and fatality information is available on DLI's website. Per Minnesota's data practices laws, files can be requested for public viewing. MNOSHA looks at trends, such as falls, window-washing and excavations. MNOSHA staff members are trained and re-trained about what is trending in Minnesota.
- **Christopher Schmitt:** How are employers that are newly added to the NAICS list added? Is it the employer's responsibility to verify it is or is not on the list? Is there a bulletin that goes to certain industries when they've been newly added?

- **Jim Krueger:** Minnesota publishes the list and makes it readily available. For the most part, the list hasn't changed a whole lot.
- **Liz Rheingans:** What industries are affected by an isocyanates emphasis?
- **Alden Hoffman:** Minnesota's emphasis program began because of truckbed-liner incident reports from Colorado and Michigan. MNOSHA's emphasis program continued for about three years. It has expanded in the past five years into plastics and foam operations.
- **Scott Parker:** Is that spray foam used to insulate residential properties? (Alden confirmed that it was.)
- **Jim Krueger:** Complaints have been reported that some workers are protected during this process but that other employees who are not doing the foam work are exposed.
- **Paul Aasen:** Any last words of wisdom from Daryl Tindle during the past 15 years to carry forward?
- **Daryl Tindle:** He said he would like to see less about the presentation format and more solicitation of information from the members. He would like to see more input from the council members.
- **Alden Hoffman:** Regarding an avian flu update, on April 17 the safety officer from the Department of Agriculture called looking for a safety officer to help them in their emergency operations center. The U.S. Department of Agriculture sent staff members to Minnesota with questions relating to how infected birds are destroyed. The workers use a firefighting-type foam that smothers the birds, the carcasses are covered with dirt and are then composted. The whole process releases ammonia. Questions were raised about how to measure ammonia and how to decontaminate the meter. MNOSHA provided technical advice and demonstrated how to use the meter. Governor Dayton declared a state of emergency April 23. About 2.5 million birds were affected by that time, in about 15 counties. Today, the state Board of Animal Health is the lead agency in Minnesota, with the Department of Agriculture and the Minnesota Department of Health assisting; the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is involved, checking the wild birds. When the governor activates the emergency operations center, any agency is employed to help and offer whatever assistance it can. The National Guard hauled water to the foamers, now completed, and that duty has been handed off to a private entity to continue. The Minnesota Department of Transportation offered use of a tanker to haul water, as well. Statistics are available on the Board of Animal Health website. As of today, 70 farms, 19 counties and just under four million animals are dead or soon-to-be. One-half million of those are chickens. It is an eight-week process from the time when the disease is identified, the infected animals are killed and composted, and the site is decontaminated. Warm weather (65+ degrees) helps kill the virus. When the operations center was activated, all state agencies reported in, first in-person, twice a day and once a day on weekends. Meetings are mostly via teleconference at this point.

Publications

The 2014 OSHSPA report, *GRASSROOTS Worker Protection*, is available on the DLI website at www.dli.mn.gov/OSHA/PDF/grassroots_2014.pdf.

2015 meeting schedule

In 2015, the council is scheduled to meet Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7 and Nov. 6.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela McLaughlin
Executive Secretary