



# Labor Division Spring Meeting Minutes

Labor Division

June 7 – 10, 2023 in St. Paul, MN

**Attendees:** Ryan Anderson, Justin Arbach, Hank Bader, Eric Biernbaum, Joseph Brinley, Joyce Buell, Anastacia Burdette, Justin Cappelletty, Liliana Calderon, Paul Chaney, Tom Chessell, Andrew Clunis, Michael Costigan, Tyler Coulis, Larry DeCorte, Joseph Diederichs, Ben Dillon, Dennis Dobson, Paul Dodge, David Donkin, Scott Dornbush, Lenny Dorosh, Corey Duncan, Carl Fisk, Dave Frary, Steven Galatowitsch, James Gardner, Derrick Givens, Dillon Gorman, Leslie R. Gorman, Garrett Gutknecht, John Hall, Terry Harris, Paul Hartgerink, Jeff Hughes, Jasper Kallenbach, John Kelly, Todd Kindred, Andrew Koxlien, Mike Kufchak, Ray Kujawski, Timothy Kummet, Casey Lavin, Myles Lembke, Dave Leszczynski, Donnie Lewis, Kimberly LHeureux, Cheyenne Lucero, Ray Magruder, George McGuan, James Middleton, Jason Middleton, Amado Moreno, Tom Nicholls, Thomas Oliva, Ray Paige Jr., Chris Porter, Keith Prendergast, David Radcliff, Jr., Scott Reineck, Michael Richard, Doug Rodriguez, Bryan Sanchez, Kenny Sanderson, Rolando Santos, Charles Scantlebury, Scott Schaffer, Jon Scudieri, Jeff Selin, Lu Sletten, Allen Sloan, William Spielberg, Timothy Steinert, Bob Stone, George Stroup, Josh Schatz, Dave Trumble, Christine Ulm, Mike Valladares, John Winkels, Shawn Weyer, Jennifer Wilson, Mike Wolf, David Wysocki, Dave Zelasko, Doug Ziegenhagen, Mike Zottola,

## Labor Division Committee Chair Meeting

6/8/2023

Note: Recording Secretary Ken Morris could not be at this meeting. Terry Harris will take minutes.

Chairperson Paul Chaney

Vice Chair Travis Parsons

Recorded by Terry Harris

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Paul Chaney at 0732 CT.

Emergency exits were identified, appointed person to call 911, and appointed emergency responders.

Discussion topics:

- Paul Chaney stated that the Operations/Planning and Council Policy meeting will be at 4:30 pm Friday June 9, 2023. The Occupational/Environmental Safety and Health Committee meeting will be from 3:45-4:30 pm that afternoon.

- Appointed Jeff Selin, Dennis Dobson, and Terry Harris to be responsible for the minutes for the following Spring 2023 NSC Labor Division meetings:
  - Chairperson meetings (7:30 am June 8 and 11:45 am June 10)
  - Opening Session (9:00 am June 8)
  - Government, Labor Agencies and Standards Committee meeting (10:15 am June 8)
  - Operations/Planning and Council Policy meeting (4:30 pm June 9)
  - Executive Committee meeting (11:45 am June 10)
  - Closing Session (3:00 pm June 10)
- All the Chairpersons have a copy of the Fall 2022 Labor Division meeting (San Diego) minutes in their packets.
  - It was noted by Ron Miller that the Senior Safety Advocates only meet during the Spring Labor Division meeting, so we will need to ensure we have included those minutes for the following spring meeting for reference.
  - Terry Harris will forward the Spring 2022 Senior Safety Advocates meeting minutes to Ron Miller.
- Rec Committee will be delegated the responsibility of setting up the Frank Rapp Golf Outing for the Fall of 2023.
  - Due to the northern USA venue of the next three year's Labor Division Spring meetings, this golf outing should be moved to the fall.
- Reviewed the meeting agenda for the Spring Labor Division meetings June 8-10, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 0838 CT.

### **Labor Division Opening Session**

6/8/2023

Chairperson Paul Chaney

Vice Chair Travis Parsons

Recorded by Dennis Dobson, Jeff Selin, Terry Harris

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Paul Chaney at 0903 CT

Identification of emergency exits, appointed person to call 911 and emergency responders

Pledge of Allegiance and Canadian flag honoring time

Paul Chaney stated that a QR code has been placed on each table accessing the meeting minutes from our Fall of 2022 meeting in San Diego. Motion made by Ron Miller, Seconded by Dave Trumble to approve the past minutes. Passed

Dave Tremble commented on Labor Division Newsletters. Dave talked about the value of family and their connection in our lives. "Our families loan us to do what we do in safety; we are priceless and what we do is priceless." Dave also commented on the importance of

remembering the indigenous people's lands we have taken over and occupy. Take time to acknowledge the natives who were stewards of the land long before us.

Introductions of leadership

First time attendees, veterans, and Honorary Lifetime members recognized.

Introduction of attendees. Recognized past members Mary Sampson and Lou Slaten and thanked them for attending.

Discussion topics:

- Paul Chaney highlighted any changes to the agenda. Also, that the QR code gets you to the Awards nomination and Thank You letters.
  - Paul called everyone's attention to the Awards nomination and meeting evaluation forms and the importance of filling those out.
- Discussion of some current needs for individuals to fill openings on committees
- Keith Prendergast talked about a mental health/addiction recovery group and where to find information on helping locals set up programs to help their members.
- Keith Prendergast will be selling Labor Division t-shirts from IBEW Local 292 at \$30 apiece.
- Paul Chaney reported on things happening since the last meeting.
  - A photo folder has been set up and needs photos. Occupational Driver and Health Committee is meeting more often. A safety award honoring Joe Grabinski is in the works.
  - Paul said thank you to committees who work outside of the Labor Division.
- Tom Nichols brought up Chuck Dortenzio's "Safety Pros" meeting. Anyone wanting to get on the safety pros e-mail list should let Denny Dobson know.
- Frank Rapp Memorial Golf Outing
  - Golf outing will be added to the sign up
  - A Rec Committee will be put in place to set this up.
  - Mary Sampson spoke on the history of the Frank Rapp memorial golf outing

Meeting adjourned at 1004 CT.

### **Committee Meeting: Government Labor Agencies and Standards**

6/8/2023

Chair Keith Prendergast  
Vice Chair Ken Morris absent  
Recording Secretary Jeff Selin

Called to order Travis Parson @1019 am CT

Travis discussed target high risk industry, improve data collection. There are a small, underfunded agency and are trying to move forward.

- \*Heat illness advisory rule some states have most don't. Indoor vs outdoor.
- \*Trenching awareness, inspections ramped up due to more incident in the past year.
- \*Tree timing being looked at mostly unregulated. On the radar.
- \*LOTO update being looked at.
- \*Infectious disease, blanket rule may be difficult.
- \*Lead standard to be looked for levels. Standard outdated. CA is leading the way.
- \*Safety helmets vs hard hats.
- \*VPP comments, Eric Birnbaum commented on. OSHA to revisit the program.

Discussion on the process of OSHA standard development. Voluntary Consensus standards was the focus.

- Roadway work standards cross reference to ANSI standard for better protection (working on Consensus)
- Travis discussed on the stages of developing a standard and the stages involved. AVG of 8 years for a standard, many are longer.
- Discussion of safety systems as opposed dependent on human perfection.
- Bill Spillberg Nevada OSHA review board member. He sees the review of standards, but as labor they do get to comment on and have effect on outcomes of contested issues that affect members and workers.
- Keith Prendergast commented on certification of training on Mobile Work Platforms (MWP) in the Boston area.
- Discussion of 892 MWP standards by Locals unions involved.
- Question and discussion of "exo" skeleton devices.

Meeting adjourned at 1115 CT.

Educational Session #1: **The Changing Landscape of Cannabis**

Educational Session #2: **Multi-Employer Workplaces**

Educational Session #3: **Partnering to Build Diversity in Apprenticeship Programs**

**Industrial Safety and Health Committee Meeting**

6/8/2023

Chairperson Terry Harris

Vice Chair Ron Miller

Recorded by Ron Miller

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Terry Harris at 3:35 pm CT

Identification of emergency exits, appointed person to call 911 and emergency responders

Terry Harris read the meeting minutes from the previous meeting MMS to approve the minutes as read

Old Business:

- Terry commented that fall protection is still the #1 cited OSHA violation. (Thirteen years in a row!).
- Terry shared a quote from Carl Potter “We don’t work in a dangerous environment; we work in a hazardous environment when we choose to not follow the established safety rules and procedures”
- Bob Stone said we need to take the time to do things right
- Self-pressure can be a big issue to do things the right way. Apprentices feel a tremendous amount of pressure to prove themselves.
- Talked about how drivers seem to be driving even faster since COVID

New Business:

- Terry commented on the flow of the meeting and the open forum structure
- Introduction of folks in the room
- Discussion of how safety conferences reinvigorate us to go back to our workgroups with new energy
- Terry discussed proper breaker racking procedure and associated issues. Terry stressed the value of remote breaker racking devices and “maintenance switches”.
  - Jeff Selin added the importance of killing the control power first
- Discussed the value of quality Pre-Job Briefs
  - Always ask yourself these three questions
    - What task am I about to do?
    - How hazards are present?
    - How can I mitigate those hazards before performing this task?
- Fall protection not controlling the lift zone.
- If you see something; say something.
  - A member shared an experience with a roofing company. They stopped the job until safety measures were taken.
- Talked about complacency and it seems to be those normal, everyday routine tasks when most injuries occur.
- Terry commented that he likes to make the task “safe enough for my grandchildren to work on it”
- Terry shared a presentation on seatbelt use on all vehicles that are equipped with them.
- There was a discussion on UTV accidents that severely injured and/or killed occupants due to not wearing seatbelts.

Meeting adjourned at 1634 CT.

**Keynote: Linemen Lead Charge to Change Minnesota Law and Make Roadways Safer**

6/9/2023

Educational Session #4: **Making the Business Case for Safety: encouraging support for safety and health to your local leadership, to your employer**

**Troubled Worker Committee**

6/9/2023

Chair Dave Trumble  
Vice chair Dave Zelasko

Troubled worker committee called to order 1015

Dave and Dave introduced themselves.

First responders and evacuation plan discussed.

Old business

- work life balance post Covid, virtual meeting and importance of in person meetings on sensitive topics-mental health.
- Dave reviewed the past meeting minutes and issues.
- Dave read the previous minutes. Motion made, seconded, all were in favor to approve the minutes.

Open discussion- "It is ok to not be ok"

\*Discussion of worker support after a significant injury or fatality. Dave Z. related an incident involving a rear lot line pole repair where an individual got injured. We understand the support the injured needs, but we need to support the coworker who was also on the scene.

\*Discussion workplace violence, gun laws, and the increase of incidents.

\*There is a mental health crisis and there is a lack of resources to deal with.

\*A member commented on Mental health first aid program.

Dave adjourned the meeting at 1115 CT.

**Award Luncheon**

6/9/2023

**Membership Committee Meeting**

6/9/2023

Chair Myles Lembke  
Vice chair open

Called to order 1:35 pm CT

Emergency plan and evacuation discussed. First Responders appointed.

Previous meeting minutes were read and approved.

Myles introduced new Vice chair Cheyenne Lucero.

- Myles asked if the members did anything with last meetings ideas.
- Discussion turned diversity building presentations at this Spring 23 meeting.
- How do we affect the change here at the NSC? Myles asked how people are working to get new folks here.
- Discussion on how to get other I O's involved with the Labor Division. Travis Parsons commented on his intent to reach out to the Building trades and the AFL-CIO to get more participation. The sharing of information from the meeting is key to being able to return. NSC attendance needs to be viewed as an investment.
- Keith Prendergast spoke to trying to go "door to door" with his locals. Need to educate and inform someone with a larger network to the labor groups to facilitate distributing Labor Division info to multiple people.
- People need to be active when they go back from the Labor Division. Question and discussion on creating a "one pager" needs to approach different locals with information about the Labor division. Possible to get a power point to share info of the Labor Division.
- Local member's participation can be difficult to get and stay engaged.
- Travis P commented on the availability to get involved with the other divisions at Congress and Expo. Reach out to younger, more diverse members.
- Myles commented on the NSC cost calculators on the NSC web page.

Myles adjourned at 1418 CT.

### Educational Session #5: **Nanotechnology**

#### **Welcome Committee Meeting**

6/9/2023

Chair Ken Morris absent

Minutes taken by Jeff Selin

Paul Chaney called to order

Emergency plan and evacuation plan discussed.

Paul read the past meeting minutes

Minutes approved.

Chairs and vice chairs commented on the committees for the new attendees.

Discussion of getting involved. Correct contact information to share info.

Meeting adjourned at 1605 CT.

### **Senior Safety Advocates Meeting**

6/9/2023

Chairman Ron Miller

Meeting Attendees: Steve Galatowitsch, Les Gorman, Amado Moreno, Jon Scudieri, Mary Sansom, Lu Slaten, Ron Miller

Meeting called to order at 3:55pm by Chairman Ron Miller

First responders identified. Emergency procedures covered.

Minutes from previous meeting read and approved.

Old Business: None

New Business

- Discussed life insurance and survival benefits options.
- Discussed filing requirements and procedures for Social Security benefits.
- Discussed filing requirements and procedures for VA benefits.
- Discussed what is required for making a will and a trust.
- Discussed the PACT ACT and how it has been extended to veterans from the Gulf War era.

Meeting adjourned at 1635 CT.

### **Educational Session #6: Empowering all in Safety**

#### **Construction Safety and Health**

Chair Keith Prendergast

Vice chair Ken Morris (absent)

Minutes recorded by Jeff Selin

Call to order at 10:47 am

Emergency plan and evac discussed. First Responders appointed.

Previous meeting minutes MMSA

Keith had a presentation on trench/excavation safety. Refresher of right and wrong for trenches and excavations.

Keith related a personal experience with an excavation incident in Boston.

Trench safety stand down information was shared for the week of June 12<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>.

Keith adjourned at 11:40 am.

### **Committee Meeting – Occupational/Environmental Safety & Health**

6/10/2023

Chair Paul Chaney

Vice chair Ralph Ortiz (absent)

Minutes taken by Jeff Selin

Called to order at 0913

Emergency plan and evacuation plan discussed. First Responders appointed.

Paul discussed the scope of the committee and past history.

Reading of previous minutes-MMSA -yes

Dave Trumble commented on clean coal, fugitive natural gas emissions, nuclear occupation radiation dose, linear no threshold limit for radiation.

Indoor heat illness was discussed.

NFPA 70 B

HAZ WHOPPER training for polluted ground areas discussion. Lack of awareness by General Contractors on the issues of the Hazmat contaminated work.

Discussion of Safer buildings coalition. Less RF radiation for cell phone use, first responder issue for emergent situations, may rely on radio networks for the building.

Old business:

- Vaping and fatalities
- Silica, lead gas by airports, fire foam

Adjourned at 943 CT.

2023 Labor Division Spring Meeting

Occupational Driver Committee

06-10-2023

Chair Person: Denny Dobson

Vice Chair: Chuck Dortinzo (Unavailable)

Recorded by: Denny Dobson

Meeting called to order at 2:04pm

Emergency Exits were discussed

911 callers Identified

Emergency Responders were identified

AED at front desk

The meeting minutes from the Fall 2022 Occupational Driver Committee Meeting in San Diego CA, were read and approved.

Old Business:

None to report

New Business:

- The floor brought up Fleet Telematics.
  - Seatbelt monitors, speed sensors, parking brake sensors, aggressive driving leading to discipline.
- The Floor asked about truck maintenance.
  - Who does it? Contractors or Fleet services?
  - What to do if a truck is out of service do to certification of chassis and dielectric testing of boom.
- The Floor brought up snow tires vs all season.
  - Are there companies switching between snow tires and summer tires? Most Utilities that are subject to bad weather are running snow rated tires year round.
- The Floor brought up Electrification of Vehicles.
  - Many companies are switching to all electric on their smaller vehicles. Most larger CDL vehicles are combustion over electric.
  - Electric vehicles are hard to get right now. Charging and range are still difficult and tends to lower efficiency of electric vehicles.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm

Notes submitted by: Denny Dobson

**Operations Plan and Council Policies Committee Meeting #1**

6/10/2023

Chairperson Paul Chaney

Vice Chair Ralph Ortiz

Recorded by Terry Harris

Meeting Attendees: Warren Becker, Paul Chaney, Dennis Dobson, Terry Harris, Myles Lembke, Ron Miller, Tom Nichols, Jeff Selin, Sarah Van Huis, Dave Trumble, Dave Zelasko

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Paul Chaney at 1149 CT .

Identification of emergency exits, persons to call 911, and emergency responders

Paul read the minutes of the last meeting. MMS to approve minutes

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Sarah stated that every year we should be either reviewing the Handbook or the SOPs
  - Handbook in odd years
  - SOPs in even years

Meeting adjourned at 1152 CT.

## **Operations Plan and Council Policies Committee Meeting #2**

6/10/2023

Chairperson Paul Chaney

Vice Chair Ralph Ortiz

Recorded by Terry Harris

Meeting Attendees: Warren Becker, Paul Chaney, Dennis Dobson, Terry Harris, Myles Lembke, Ron Miller, Tom Nichols, Travis Parsons, Jeff Selin, Sarah Van Huis, Dave Trumble, Dave Zelasko

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Paul Chaney at 1231 CT.

Identification of emergency exits, persons to call 911, and emergency responders

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Paul presented the following motion from the Executive Committee to modify the first sentence of the Troubled Worker Safety and Health Committee scope to read: The committee recognizes impairment may come from a variety of sources, including but not limited to drug (prescription or illicit), alcohol use, fatigue, mental distress, PTSD, and suicide.
- Motion made by Dave Trumble to approve, second by Travis Parsons. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 1232 CT.

### **Labor Division Executive Committee Meeting**

6/10/2023

Chairperson Paul Chaney

Vice Chair Travis Parsons

Recorded by Terry Harris

Meeting Attendees: Warren Becker, Paul Chaney, Dennis Dobson, Terry Harris, Myles Lembke, Ron Miller, Tom Nichols, Travis Parsons, Jeff Selin, Sarah Van Huis, Dave Trumble, Dave Zelasko

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Paul Chaney at 11:53 am CT

Identification of emergency exits, persons to call 911, and emergency responders

Paul read the minutes of the last meeting. MMS to approve minutes

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Paul asked the committee “What are some opportunities for improvement learned from the St. Paul Spring Labor Division meetings?”
  - It was confusing when we deviated from the agenda meeting start times. Either:
    - Don’t deviate from the established start times, or
    - Make sure an announcement is made about the rescheduling of the next meeting start time before being dismissed from the current meeting so that everyone is aware of the schedule change
  - Welcome Session meeting needs to be one of the first meetings after the Opening Session prior to any of the committee meetings taking place.
  - The raffle went well.
    - Miles mentioned that it seemed like the value of the items donated for the charity raffle exceeded the amount of money brought in through ticket sales. A discussion was held about whether we could request Locals to donate cash for the charity fund raiser instead of so many items.
    - A discussion was held about the timing of when we make the determination of who the charity for the raffle proceeds will be.
  - It was great having coffee for breaks. It would be good to have it available the first thing in the morning before the start of the first meeting each day.
- Travis commented that registering for the Labor Division Fall meetings through the website for the NSC Safety Congress is daunting.
  - There are many steps to go through before getting to the Labor Division section
  - While getting to the Labor Division section, you must navigate past several registration price postings that can be intimidating and confusing

- Discussed forming a Rec Committee for the purpose of determining the feasibility of moving the Frank Rapp Golf Tournament from the Spring Meeting to the fall meeting due to how cold it will likely be the next three March scheduled meetings.
  - Dave Zelasko will make some phone calls to see if it will work to have the tournament on the Sunday prior to the Labor Division meetings
- Ron Miller reported that he was asked if there are any committees for veterans to be able to discuss safety concerns.
  - Discussed including veterans in Troubled Worker or Sr. Safety Advocates
  - Discussed creating an ad hoc committee to sort this out
  - Motion made by Dave Trumble, second by Travis Parsons to modify the first sentence of the scope of the Troubled Worker Safety and Health Committee to read as follows:
    - The committee recognizes impairment may come from a variety of sources, including but not limited to drug (prescription or illicit) and alcohol use, fatigue, mental distress, PTSD, and suicide.
    - This motion will be given to the Operations Plan and Council Policy Procedures Committee

Meeting adjourned at 1230 CT.

**Please note the following fallen workers**

Howard Phorson – PWU/CUPE/1000

Jim Fries – PWU

Nate Johnson – IBEW Local 77

James “Buck” Guffy – IBEW 1547 Suicide

Zane Reilly LU 2150

Grant Peterson LU 2150

Leo Bernadrdune LU 103

Thomas Hackett LU 103

James Harkins LU 103

David Murphy LU 103

Michael Sarafian LU 103

Daniel J. Sheehan Sr. JU 103

Kenneth J Smith LU 103