

## Safety Committee Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 8:36 a.m. by Chairperson Marvin Kohout.

**Present:** Marvin Kohout, Kara Burda, Sharon Jelinek, Tim McDermott, Becky Vales, Bruce Filipi, Jenny Hermsmeier and Dan Johnson

**Absent:** Colby Marks, Russ Karpisek, Lyle Weber, Russ Kalkwarf, Rick Korbelik, John McKee and Deb Spanyers

- In recognition of a quorum, Kohout informed those present of our abidance of the Open Meetings Law.
- Jelinek moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Hermsmeier. Voting aye: all, nays: none, motion carried.
- Members present during the Safety Committee meeting, having received and reviewed minutes of the May 20, 2020 Safety Committee meeting, Burda motioned to approve them as presented. The motion was seconded by Vales. Voting aye: all, nays: none, motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS:

#### WELLNESS COMMITTEE UPDATES:

McDermott reported on the now completed mini-challenge of “100-miles/100-days”. A quiet set of months, due in part to the pandemic, has delayed the meetings of the Wellness Committee. Discussions will be underway again in consideration of moving all program participants into the online, MyVia portal for the 2021 Program year, with or without an all-wearable reporting layer for ‘activity’ points.

The forthcoming Flu-shot Clinic is being planned and organized with Madonna Fit-for-Work. The date established for the clinic will be Tuesday, October 13. Similar location of both the Courthouse and the LEC using times similar to last year is to be scheduled.

#### 2020 TRAINING DISCUSSION:

A short update, as was well known and understood by all given the current COVID-19 Pandemic, was provided on any “on hold” classroom training opportunities forthcoming this Fall. Cyber Security is expected to be a primary topic when prospects for training open up.

#### COURTHOUSE WATER FOUNTAIN UPDATE:

In brief, Johnson reported that the bottle filler for the mid-building water fountain, while delivered months ago, has seen some difficulty in finding a service company to schedule its installation. Johnson will continue to reach out and find a plumber willing to get this accomplished.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### NIRMA I – PROPERTY and LIABILITY CLAIMS: *(As summarized by Kohout...)*

The Committee reviewed and discussed one (1) PL claim having been reported during the last quarter:

**#1:** Reported on May 27, 2020, a county vehicle operated by a Saline County Deputy “hit a deer with a 2018 Ford Explorer” on May 20<sup>th</sup>. **COMMITTEE REVIEW FINDINGS:** The Safety Committee, while recognizing that deer and/or other animals have the propensity to rush out into the path of vehicle travel, continue to voice the need for operators of county vehicles, as well as their own, to continually be aware of their surroundings while driving, being observant and defensive at all times.

## **NIRMA II - WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIMS:** *(As summarized by Kohout...)*

The Committee reviewed and discussed one (1) WC claim having been reported during the last quarter:

**#1:** Reported on June 15, 2020, a county employee – the claimant, sustained minor injury while “digging with a shovel” on June 8<sup>th</sup>. **COMMITTEE REVIEW FINDINGS:** While the Committee had limited information in regards to a sustained injury or the contributing factors involved in the incident, it was discussed that workers should provide for themselves proper footing, maintain good posture with safe use of their back while digging with hand tools, such as a shovel.

A brief discussion was held on the merits of having complete information reported to NIRMA on the claim reporting form. The Safety Committee relies on this information to make a proper review to be shared with others.

## **COURTHOUSE REOPENING DISCUSSION – THOUGHTS**

A limited discussion was held on the outcomes experienced with the reopening of the Courthouse. It was felt by most that the limiting of Courthouse hours, closing at 4:00 p.m., helped with cleanup, attending to late arrivals and general acceptance of the public. The committee’s shared thoughts will be provided to the County Board for any future consideration, during or after the pandemic.

## **CLAIMS & ACCUISION COSTS:**

- McDermott introduced two (2) claims that suggested a retroactive approval by the Safety Committee.
  - One was for the purchase of an electronic ‘body temperature’ device primarily used by Security Staff at the entrance to the Courthouse. McDermott moved to approve the claim in the amount of \$1,677.50, seconded by Johnson. Voting aye: all, nays: none, motion carried.
  - The second claim, in the amount of \$325.00, was discussed in association with COVID-19 Rapid Testing vouchers for use if a staff member is needing such a service. One such voucher had already been utilized and the process proceeded smoothly. McDermott moved to approve the claim, seconded by Johnson. Voting aye: all, nays: none, motion carried.
- A brief update was provided on the compilation of materials and services funded specifically to help combat the coronavirus. The County has thus far expended \$19,071.38 in funds for this purpose, of which there is a process underway by the Emergency Manager to request reimbursement via the CARES Act.

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

A brief discussion was held on the removal of documented Safety Committee members that could not or did not attend meetings over lengthy periods of time. The removal of one member was offered, another will await a response of their continued intent.

## **IN CONCLUSION:**

- The next meeting of the Saline County Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Courthouse Assembly Room.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim McDermott – Secretary