



Meeting Minutes

05-20-20

Conference Call

<i>Attendee</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
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1. Roll call/ Attendance
2. Approval of minutes from 01-23-20 meeting
3. Introduction of new members and review of committee's mission and organizational structure (subcommittees)
4. COVID-19 and Workplace Safety Update from Phillip Russell
 - A. Prior to the meeting Phillip requested questions from committee members
 - i. Has OSHA issued any citations related to COVID-19? Not yet, keep in mind there is a 6-month limitation period. Would have to fall under the general duty clause.
 - B. OSHA is heading back out into the field, after pausing for social distancing, to conduct inspections and investigations.
 - C. OSHA has reversed its original stance on recordkeeping and COVID-19 cases. As it stands, the illness is recordable if it can be reasonably concluded that the illness resulted from a work-related exposure.
 - D. Face coverings: A consideration in Florida's climate is the risk of heat stroke/exhaustion in workers wearing masks and face coverings.
 - E. Screening measures
 - i. temperature screening employees prior to entering job site
 - ii. using a questionnaire format to screen employees: For example, "Have you been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19?"
 - iii. Deanna added: Make sure that you are performing hazard assessments and staying on top of the constantly evolving situation.
 - iv. Phillip was asked can employees be asked to screen themselves at home by taking their own temperatures? These are recommendations, not laws. The best advice is to raise your wall of protection and show that you are being proactive to provide a safe workplace to employees. What works for one company, may not be the best option for another.
 - v. Deanna added: CDC guidance says that having employees self-report can be very helpful. This can be done verbally.
 - vi. Mark added that temperature screening may be problematic especially in warm climates since sweat may produce a false reading.
 - vii. Tim offered a link to a video showing COVID-19 screening taking place on a construction site using infrared temperature technology. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Mts9GGv3gk>
 - F. Phillip opened up discussion to the group. Has anyone experienced any work-related COVID-19 claims?
 - i. One member's company has not experienced any positive cases but has had several exposure cases. The exposed employee/s were removed from the workplace while an investigation and contact tracing was performed. If the employee is unable to obtain negative test results, he or she will remain out of the workplace for 14 days and may only return when negative test results are produced.
 - ii. Another member's organization had 6 positive test results. They were able to use contact tracing and isolation to control the situation.
 - G. Larry described the process that his company uses to screen employees each morning. During the morning meeting on job sites, supervisors use a written questionnaire to ask each of their crew members a set of questions. In addition, supervisors review a list of reminders regarding preventative measures like hand washing with their crew.
 - H. Mark posed the question: What is everyone doing to maintain a sense of urgency when the rate of positive/serious cases is low?
 - I. Mark offered that a confirmed negative test result is not necessary for an employee recovering from COVID-19 to return to work after the 14-day period from the initial diagnosis. It is possible to get a positive result when someone is shedding dead virus cells.

J. Phillip was asked if there have been many lawsuits related to COVID-19 and the workplace? There have been some based on the Warren Act but not many regarding the workplace environment.

- i. A lawsuit has been filed against Wal-Mart for not providing proper PPE and hand-washing supplies.
- ii. Mark added that if employees choose to use an N-95 respirator, they must be informed of the risk and complete the proper paperwork. A form that can be used for this purpose was distributed to the group.

5. Technology Sub-Committee

- A. Working on setting up a VR demonstration for the FTBA SC booth at the 2021 Construction Conference.
 - i. Caterpillar has a VR experience in which they bring everything to the location and allow participants to put on head gear and navigate through a virtual job site. It is not just for equipment operators but for anybody who works on a construction site. Pricing is the issue. Is there a way to get a better pricing option through the FTBA?
 - ii. Steve mentioned that 3M provides a virtual experience for fall protection safety. He believes this option may be more affordable.
 - iv. Bill noted that it seems like the marketplace is responding to the increased interest in VR training for the construction industry. This should help with finding a affordable options.
 - v. Tim asked if we should still pursue our options for working with FAU's virtual lab to create a resource database for FTBA members. It was decided to leave that door open while keeping in mind that as the market for VR training in the construction industry increases its supply, it may become unnecessary.
- B. Bill posed the question, can wearables be used to monitor employee temperatures for COVID-19 job site screening? Tim informed us that Triax has a wearable belt that is used to monitor other data on the job site. It is likely that they may come out with a device that monitors temperature as well.
- C. Dave advised that Halo has a new version of their Halo Light on the market with some improved features.

6. Resource Development Sub-Committee

- A. Jamie stated that the main action item for the R&D sub-committee is building a case study on the use of truck-mounted attenuators. They will re-group as a team to plan the next steps toward this goal.
- B. R&D may work with the Tech sub-committee on the FDOT's use of smart work zones. Jamie asked, is there an FDOT committee on smart work zones that a member of the FTBA SC could join? Greg informed us that there is an FDOT initiative underway to identify road construction projects that will be invited to participate in a study using smart work zone technology.
- C. New content is needed for the blog portion of the FTBA SC website. Jamie posed the question, should we include a resource on COVID-19 or is it overkill? Perhaps adding a link to the CDC information would be a better option.
- D. Phillip updated us on the OSH Review Commission's statement regarding OSHA's fall protection "six foot rule." An article was emailed to all committee members. Please contact alison.sanders@rangerconstruction.com to request a copy.

7. Training Sub-Committee

- A. Bryan thanked those who volunteered to present the OSHA-10 Hour Training at the 2020 Construction Conference adding that the variety of trainers was well-received by those who attended the course.
- B. Bryan informed the group about some virtual training resources that can be utilized while social distancing regulations are in place such as <https://www.clicksafety.com/>, <https://www.artba.org/safety-center/training-programs/>, and <https://www.fsesci.com/>.
- C. Mark commended Ogletree Deakins for their breakout sessions during the Construction Conference
- D. Bryan mentioned that the OSHA 10-Hour training for Spanish speakers that was planned for the summer is on hold until social distancing regulations are lifted. A virtual training is an option that we may look into.

E. Brad Sant informed us that ARTBA has petitioned OSHA for the ability to present the 10-Hour course online and added that ARTBA is currently preparing to launch some more virtual courses.

F. Brad was asked how the number of SCTPP certifications has been affected by social distancing. He replied that the inability to take the certification exam has slowed the process some.

8. Marketing and Membership Sub-Committee

A. Sample copies of the FTBA SC Industry Best Practices Booklet have been printed and will be available to preview at our next in person meeting.

B. Mandy thanked everyone who volunteered their time at the FTBA SC booth during the 2020 Construction Conference.

C. We have extra polos for members as a result of a vendor mistake during the ordering process. We also have a few extra buffs.

D. The M and M committee will be working on preparing some sort of publication to promote Fall Protection Awareness Week.

E. Mandy thanked the member companies that donated prizes for the raffle. We had about 100 participants and gained several new members.

9. Closing

A. Mark opened up the discussion and asked if anybody had anything else to share?

B. Phillip mentioned that as the annual FTBA convention approaches (assuming it still occurs), can those who are planning on attending plan on getting together as a group during the convention?

D. The question was posed to the group, does anybody have a good reliable resource for COVID-19 PPE and sanitizing supplies that can be delivered in a timely fashion? Two members offered their contact for resources to the group. An email was sent out with the information. Please contact alison.sanders@rangerconstruction.com if you would like to receive the information again.

12. Reminders and Upcoming Events

A. We will plan for our next in person meeting on the first or second Wednesday or Thursday in August. A survey will be sent out as the date approaches.