

HEALTH & SAFETY COUNCIL

November 18, 2020, 3:00 PM

In Attendance: Jennifer Serne (Faculty Senate), Katie Litzenberger (Environmental Health & Safety), Mark Young (College Safety), Otto Bach (Classified Non-Rep), Jerald Dougherty (College Safety), Wendi Hembree (Operations), Kathy Johnson (Human Resources), Shane Scott (Facilities), Robert Cepeda (Emergency Management), Patrick Coffey (Exempt Rep), Jeffrey Penick (Faculty Senate), and Jason Berthon-Koch (Emergency Management), Ian Seiler (Classified PSE), Vince Foley (Facilities), and Makenna Thuringer (Student Rep)

Called to order at 3:02 PM.

I. Action Items

a. Approve minutes from October 21st, 2020

Otto Bach made the motion to approve the minutes. Jason Berthon-Koch seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

b. Review of Campus Incidents

An employee strained their shoulder while trying to lift and catch a heavy object. They were lifting a 25lb 1,000-watt sand-filled transformer onto a top shelf in electrical storage, the heavy side began to fall forward, and they tried to catch it. The employee plans to seek medical care. Additional training for lifting and storing heavy items and evaluate other improperly stored heavy items will help prevent this from happening again. EHS is requested to do a walk-through with FMD of stored items to take proactive measures.

Employee in dining developed carpal tunnel from repetitive stirring/cutting.

Waiting to hear results of a COVID-positive employee incident possibly spread to their workgroup.

II. Discussion/Presentation Items

COVID Updates

a. Requesting Changes to Plans, Policies, and Procedures

The task force is working through adding in rotating members. The current task force has been operating since February with no rotation and this should be structured like and Incident Management Team (IMT) according to FEMA guidelines. CWU had fantastic response to COVID and the current members can transition out so they can focus on their regular full-time jobs. Replacements will be people similar in mind and qualifications. We're contacting more people to have a broader group with the same expertise. The task force has focused on containment and numbers and now the goal is to make assumptions and plan for future cases. EHS recommends HSC members to be considered to serve on the IMT. Dr. Amie Wojtyna will still be involved with contact tracing and medical. Robert Cepeda and Katie Litzenberger will continue as members. James Jankowski will remain as project manager.



b. Facial Coverings on Campus

HSC received an angry email about the face covering policy in the Recreation Center. The Rec Center is monitoring people using the facility and enforcing face coverings.

Construction workers continue to be seen without a face covering outside of the construction area of Health Sciences and inside Science 1. Students in Construction Management program and Theatre use the construction site and lift work as opportunities to do safety audits for course work. City workers outside of Kamola doing work also did not have face coverings.

Dr. Larson expressed satisfaction with CWU measures to control community spread. The overall COVID cases in the community are not from students. In person classes have not had problems with COVID cases spread.

c. Campus Safety Survey Results

The safety survey was sent out pre-COVID and reviewed with that lens. The results for top concerns worth mentioning are:

- 1. Ergonomics & Sedentary Work** – Workers wanted more information about ergonomics and 50% reported they didn't know about ergo issues. Katie provided info that can be re-disseminated, such as how to adjust your chair. Information is posted to HR and EHS website. <http://www.cwu.edu/ehs/ergonomic-information>
- 2. Indoor Air Quality** – The university is aware of the concern for air quality because of older buildings. Since COVID, there may be more data on indoor air that can be reviewed.
- 3. Slips/Trips/Falls** – This is the highest concern because of the volume of people moving around, walking outside on sidewalks, moving during winter weather when there is increase risk.
- 4. Other results** – 24% were not sure if accidents were followed up or investigated. 24% were not sure if hazards were corrected. 43% were not sure where to find safety info. 45% said that safety as a topic is rarely/never discussed during staff meetings. 67% don't know who their safety rep is. Safety reps should be having conversations with their area. Most employees indicated they had emergency response training (kudos to Police).

d. Council Membership

Membership will be reviewed at the beginning of 2021 and discussed in depth where additional representation may be added and voted on.

e. Meeting Times

Jennifer will send out a survey to find a new meeting time beginning next quarter so that WFSE reps can attend. December meeting is canceled.

III. FTGO

Industrial Hygienist 2 position update: The position was approved to hire but funding had to be found within the department. There is no extra monies to fund this and must be found outside the department. IH work will be contracted out. The council is asked to support a request for



funding by drafting consultant costs for work performed, a list of work not being done at the university that poses a risk, and the list of fines for the work not done if audited. Salary + benefits total about \$95,000 annual. Biology and chemistry are the most frequent customers of IH work. Having this position be a cost-savings over time by reducing injuries and preventing accidents.

Student work: There is opportunity for students to help with EHS and Emergency Management.

CIMS Policy/Procedure: Katie will have a draft CIMS program policy and procedure next month for the council to review. CIMS project implementation is moving forward now that employees have returned from summer furlough.

Students ask if employees will be tested when returning to campus. The COVID task force is discussing in depth tomorrow and discussing a whole community response.

EventSafetyAlliance.org is doing online safety weeklong workshop Dec 7-11 for \$120.

Concluded at 3:58 PM.

Next virtual meeting TBD in January 2021