

LMAC Safety Committee

December 10, 2013

Committee Present: Don Judge, Lance Zanto, Co-chairs; Al Smith, Riley Johnson, LMAC; Karin Billings, Office of Public Instruction; Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce; Wayne Dillavou, Montana State Fund

Present: Marvin Jordan, MSSF; Robyn Morrison, WorkSafeMT; Diana Ferriter, Bryan Page, Anne Wolfinger, Dave Elenbaas, Kristine Shields, Jason Swant, Fred Miller, Georgiana Gulden, Employment Relations Division

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Discussion

Bryan Page reviewed the summary from his presentation on the Montana Safety Culture Act (MSCA) from the November 19th LMAC meeting.

The committee reviewed the document, "Brainstorming List of Ideas for LMAC Safety Committee," discussing some of the ideas in greater detail.

Some of the discussion points made were:

- The idea of having a state-run OSHA program. Wayne suggested looking at the Washington State program.
- Al noted safety information is geared toward employers, not employees. Also, employees don't have any job protection in unsafe work conditions.
- The suggestion of having separate program components or approaches based on size of employer. Riley sees safety training in the schools being critical because small employers don't have time and resources to attend training sessions and conferences. Most small employers don't do business with the State so requiring safety training for contracts is irrelevant.
- Marvin suggested putting something in rule or statute requiring the 10-hour OSHA class with the additional requirement that it be renewed every three years.
- Bryan suggested providing additional training to employers that would include how premiums are calculated and how much injury experience influences policy pricing.
- Lance talked about strengthening compliance on employers in Montana; looking at adding some sort of additional penalty (fines) to employers who ignore safety requirements in the work place or are not in compliance with the MSCA.
- Karen suggested outreach to school boards and school administrators to help facilitate introduction of safety efforts in the public school system

III. Next Steps

- Next meeting: January 13, 9:00 am -12 noon
- Do research on state-run OSHA, what they can and can't do
- Invite the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education to participate on the committee; Lance will follow up on this