

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY LABOR-MANAGEMENT SAFETY COMMITTEE
Room 257, Courthouse
Wednesday, December 5, 2007; 3:30 p.m.

Members Attending: John Rose, Amy Simmons, Bill Dashnaw (arrived late)
(Absent were Kit Smith, Mark Brouillette, Mark Patterson, Greg Paquin)

Others Attending: Joe Zacharek, Andrew Moses, Beth Boyd, Debbie Snell

The meeting was called to order by Joe Zacharek at 3:43 p.m.

1. Discussion of Last Meeting. Mr. Zacharek discussed the resolution which was handed out at the last meeting to further clarify its intent. Mr. Dashnaw moved to have Joe Zacharek stand in as chairman of this committee until the chief elected official (currently J. Patrick Turbett) can determine who the chairperson shall be. Ms. Simmons seconded the motion.

2. Safety Officer Report on Background/Experience/Training. Mr. Zacharek spoke as to how he initially started being interested in safety issues. He had surgery due to carpal tunnel and began research to learn more about the condition. Mr. Zacharek started out working as an insurance salesman and risk manager. Mr. Moses asked about his education. Mr. Zacharek is OSHA certified and has a BA in business from Syracuse University. He further adds that he is President of the NYS Safety Officers and has taken numerous continuing educational courses such as safety training and risk management. Mr. Moses questioned what ergonomic training he may have. One class was on how to defray the onset of carpal tunnel.

3. Safety Funds Balance. Chairman Zacharek stated that the balance of funds is currently at \$4,378.63 and \$2,750 will be taken out of that amount for chainsaw classes, leaving a balance of \$1,628.63. There will be some mileage charges (\$100-\$150) to be used also before the end of the year. Mr. Zacharek suggested that the balance of funds be used to purchase a projector for power point presentations. Mr. Dashnaw told the committee that three quotes were needed in order to make this purchase and suggested that Mr. Zacharek phone purchasing to help obtain the quotes. Mr. Rose pointed out that December 14th is the cut off point for purchases. Ms. Boyd made a motion to purchase the projector, seconded by Mr. Simmons. Mr. Moses questioned whether or not the unused portion of the \$10,000 grant money was recoverable if not used in that fiscal year. Mr. Dashnaw stated it was not. Mr. Zacharek was concerned that the money was not all used last year and could have been. Mr. Zacharek stated that grant money has been obtained for 2008 for 4 snowplow classes, PESH safety classes (8 hr class), 4 flagger training sessions and 4 heavy equipment classes.

4. Injury/Claims Survey Reporting. Mr. Zacharek phoned a number of municipalities to speak about specific injuries/claims and was referred mainly to Highway Superintendents. Ms. Boyd stated that we need to determine the cause of these injuries and the reasons they happened. Mr. Dashnaw asked if there were a way to access the

comp claims without the names. Ms. Boyd said a new program is needed to give more information. Mr. Dashnaw states that the committee needs to determine the target areas and Mr. Zacharek needs to talk about claims to the municipalities in order to get a feel for what is going on - then an assessment will need to be made. More results are needed to get more money from the legislators. Mr. Dashnaw states that further proof and an approach to minimize claims are necessary in order to sell this to the board. Mr. Moses would like to see if a breakdown on the WLT system is possible to determine where the needs lie. Ms. Boyd states that Data Processing may be able to help with that. Mr. Dashnaw gave handouts on qualifications for flaggers, high-visibility safety apparel, flagger procedures, flagger stations and temporary traffic control zone devices and gave an explanation of same.

5. Old Business. Submission of Accident/Injury Reports. John Rose gave out copies of the reports his department uses for accidents/injuries. Mr. Zacharek will bring the reports he has to the next meeting.

6. Suggestions for training/programs needed. Mr. Zacharek has DOSH reports which are available and Ms. Boyd states the number of lost days are needed. Mr. Dashnaw would like to see what types of injuries and issues there are. Ms. Boyd suggested that if we see any totals of injuries increasing then we should review them. She also believes we should review the expense history. A handout is needed in spreadsheet form to give to the legislators in order to show what the cost is to taxpayers. A request will be made by committee members to Nancy Todd of the Workers Comp department in order to obtain injury-specific information from the WLT program, leaving out confidential information such as claimant name, address etc.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2008 at 3:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 4:59 p.m. was made by Beth Boyd and seconded by Amy Simmons.