

UW Facilities Safety Team Meeting Minutes

Hybrid: In-Person & ZOOM

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Minutes: Goldie Johnson

Attendees: Chris Pennington, Tracey Mosier, Ron Fouty, Clayton Brainerd, Roman Ariri, Grant Backman, Thomas Bain, Olynthia Chancy, Kellie Dean, Alfonso Escobar, Chris Forbes, Matthew Gay, Katherine Huebl, Goldie Johnson, Joe Grojean, Joe Lo, Michael Nguyen, Joe Schindler, Matt Phelps, Michael Wilson, Han Yoo, Officer Anthony Stewart (UWPD), Chris P reported for (EH&S)

Absentees: Ryan Balkcom, Kurt Cooper, Jason Beatty, Anne Donegan, Daniel Eden, Nicholas Jenkins, Gopal Narayanan, Mark Pekarek, Shannon St. Clair, Troy Stahlecker, Todd Tracer

Meeting Moderator: Chris Pennington

SAFETY MOMENT: Chris shared a traffic-related safety incident as a reminder to stay aware of and alert to other drivers, and their unexpected movements, on the road.

Introductions: Around the room introductions

Announcements: March is Eye Wellness Month

Review of January Minutes (including Action Items from the previous meeting):

1. All Team members provide Safety Focus Initiative updates at February meeting.

UWPD Report: Officer Stewart reported that there are continued increases in bike theft, burglaries and trespassing. Some of these issues are seasonal (for example, bike thefts increase as weather improves and more people bike to work). Personal crimes (assaults and sex offenses) have stayed level, whereas robberies have increased. Some of the incidents are not on UW property but people come to UWPD to report. Officer Stewart also advised to be extra alert on the I-5 corridor as there has been an increase in reported untargeted shootings. It's possible there is some increase in this activity because of 'no-pursuit' law. If someone is driving aggressively, move over.

A question was asked about how to better secure bikes on campus. Officer Stewart suggested that transit bikes can be a good option for some situations.

Some meeting attendees asked about having police check certain buildings on campus, such as Mary Gates Hall, in the early morning before staff start their shifts to ensure the building is safe from trespassers. The issue of 'tailgating' and how to prevent it was also discussed. There was also some discussion about how police prioritize calls from staff regarding unsafe conditions in a building. If there is no immediate threat, then that call will usually be designated with lower priority.

Upcoming safety improvements in the Central Plaza Garage were discussed. The project timeline and details are available at: <https://facilities.uw.edu/projects/cpg-upgrades>

UWF Safety Focus 2024 Initiative – Tracey Mosier: Reminder to teams to be prepared to report on safety focus initiatives next month. Quarter 1 focus is ergonomics.

EH&S Report – Chris shared the EH&S report below.

1. Frank Wright will be joining OSH as a full-time Fire & Life Safety Specialist. This position is replacing Diana Zumba's previously held Fire Prevention position, and that position will not be back filled. If you have any questions related to fire permitting or MAQ, please contact Scott Nelson.
2. Luke Robert will be joining ROS in March as the UW Boating Safety Officer.
3. Interviews for the Planning & Administration AD have been completed and an offer has been made to one of the candidates.
4. Recruiting:
 - a. Radiation Safety is recruiting a Health Physicist.
 - b. Research & Occupational Safety is recruiting a BSL-3 Biosafety Officer.
 - c. Research & Occupational Safety is recruiting a Laboratory Program Safety Manager.
5. New and updated resources for 3-D printers have been posted on the EH&S website. See this [link](#) for more information.
6. UW 2023 OSHA 300A summaries of workplace recordable injuries and illnesses are posted on the EH&S website. See the [link](#) for more information.
7. Changes have been made to the hazardous material shipping regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA). See this [link](#) for more information.
8. The following documents are currently in development or being updated and will be sent to UWF for stakeholder review/comment in the near future:
 - a. Electrical Safety Program Manual (currently under EH&S internal review).
 - b. Contractor Safety Manual (currently under development).
 - c. Hearing Loss Prevention Manual Updates (currently under EH&S internal review).
 - d. Asbestos Management Plan Updates (OSH planning meetings with RMO to discuss updates to the manual).
 - e. University Hazard Communication Plan Updates (currently under EH&S internal review).
 - f. Fall Protection Self Audit Checklist (currently in development).
 - g. Shop Safety Program Manual Updates (currently under internal review with OSH section).

UWF Group 2 Health & Safety Committee – Chris P

Note: Group 2 minutes are on the same web page as the Safety Team Meeting minutes:
<https://facilities.uw.edu/partner-resources/safety>

New term began in January. Co-chairs have been elected, the Secretary will be rotating.

March Monthly Safety Topics (only review the topics relevant for your shop and go in depth) – Chris

- Warning Signs/Labels – Reminder to pay attention to signs, and understand what they say and mean. Be aware of new signs and don't forget to look at old signs. Sometimes when we see something all the time, it can become somewhat invisible. Stay alert to all signs.

Ladder Safety & Fall Protection – While certain fall protection regulations start at 4 feet, fall hazards can exist anywhere we are working. Ladders are some of the highest risk equipment we use. Make sure your ladder is in good shape before you use it, and don't use non-UWF ladders. Additional fall protection resources are listed in the March MMT.

Review of January Incident/Accident Reports:

2024-01-006: Student employee was cut by box knife blade. Supervisor's response was excellent. It was also noted that there are safer styles of box knives that don't require replacement blades.

2024-01-008: Employee reported lots of needles and drug debris near By George. Employee shared some good suggestions. Reminder to all to keep reporting these issues. If needles are found, submit a work order. We have a program for needle clean up.

2024-01-023: Employee cut finger with handsaw while pruning tree. It was shared in the meeting that the employee was wearing the correct gloves but the saw went through an area where there was a seam in the glove, which is a weak spot in the glove. Ron will let the manufacturer know about this incident and will evaluate other possible glove options.

2024-01-028: Employee was cut using hori hori knife. Good reminder to stay aware of tools in relation to one's body.

2024-01-045: Employee's hand burned by refrigerant when check valve failed. Protective gloves have been purchased and all staff will wear these now.

New Business: [Central Plaza Garage upgrades | UW Facilities](#)

Action Items (report at next meeting):

1. Next meeting March 26, 2024
2. Chris will discuss building entry/tailgating solutions at the next Group 2 meeting to coordinate with campus partners.
3. Ron will follow up with glove manufacturer in relation to incident/accident report 2024-01-023.

[January 2023 Accident reports](#)