

The TBB Safety Committee met at the Waco chapter office on May 8, 2014. There were a total of 18 members in attendance, with the group being made up primarily of General Contractors and Chapter employees.

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The meeting started out with introductions from the attendees. Following the introduction, Julie Schatz, with CompGroup gave a presentation on "Worker's Comp Claim Management". Her presentation followed the steps that need to be taken on behalf of the Employer during the first 30 days of a claim. At the conclusion of Julie's presentation lunch was provided to the group by the CompGroup.

Following lunch the first order of business consisted of electing members to the two open positions. Jim Fentress, with Rogers-O'Brien Construction, was elected as Vice-Chair at Large, and Larry Connely, with the Austin Chapter AGC, was elected as the next AGC representative.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of regulatory, legal, and miscellaneous updates. The national stand down, which is scheduled for June 2-6, was brought to the attention of the group. The topic that has been proposed by OSHA is fall protection. The committee is currently working on getting statistical data from National and Region 6 to be able to have to provide to participants at this stand down.

An update was then given on the current affairs of TBB. Hot items were the construction safety awards and the Worker's Defense Project. With regards to the safety awards, it was recommended that if these are done away with on a National level, as there is talk of, then we would need to continue them on a state level. This is something that the Safety Committee would be able to help out with. It was also brought to the group's attention that the Worker's Defense Project had recently signed a regional alliance with OSHA. The committee was reminded that a request had been made by TBB at the previous meeting to be looking into legislation to offset the possible legislation coming to require mandatory 10-hour OSHA training for all employees. This is a topic that the committee is currently working on.

Following the TBB conversations, a discussion was had regarding updates at the National AGC level. With the new Silica requirements coming out, AGC National has asked that they be notified of any OSHA inspections centered toward this. There was also a brief discussion about the new confined space standard. According to some of those that have reviewed it there will be extensive training requirements that have to be met with regards to the new standard. There was also a discussion on the crane standard. A public hearing on the training requirements of this standard is set for May 19th. With regards to the National AGC Safety Committee, Rick Rubelt has been elected as the current chairman.

The remainder of the meeting consisted of breakout sessions with each of the subcommittee groups. Prior to breaking out, each of the subcommittees was encouraged to reevaluate their current goals and if need be to restate their goals so that each of the subcommittees was performing meaning full tasks which would be a contribution to the committee as a whole. They were each asked to summarize their sessions and to report back to the group as to the plans they had for the tasks that they needed to accomplish in the near future.

Breakout Sessions

Safety Initiatives and Work Practices

- Need awareness training offered at future meeting locations
- Need to notify CompGroup members of meeting locations and upcoming training available
- Discussed use of iAuditor to get information out to other members
- Motion to move Dallas meeting to Abilene to encourage further participation
- Perry will talk with OSHA about having a meet and greet at the upcoming Corpus meeting on Friday morning
- Propose February meeting be held in Beaumont

Information and Resources

- Any future recall/safety notification will be sent to the chapter representative who will then send them to Perry to distribute to the rest of the state
- Motion to put AGC Safety Staff's names on the TBB website for reference

Government

- Continue to monitor Silica standard
- I2P2 – follow up on comment period and watch for future developments
- Monitor potential changes in OSHA 300 reporting requirements
- Contact Region 6 to explore options for a State structured partnership
- Research other state partnership and reporting requirements.

Professional Development

- Ideas for chapters for future training
- Professional Development suggestions for future meetings

The meeting was concluded following the reports from the Subcommittee chairman.