

MINUTES  
OF  
DODGE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
SAFETY COMMITTEE  
June 29, 2023 @ 7:00 A.M. – Fremont Maintenance Facility

  
**COPY**

The meeting of the Dodge County Safety Committee was called to order by Chief Safety Officer, Scott Huppert at 7:00 A.M. the following employees present: Larry Brune, Scott Huppert, Charles Bunn, Jay Jacobsen, Larry Klahn, Leon Nelson, Ernie Stockamp, Gary Tienken, Robert Tunink, John VonSeggern and Lynn Wooldrik. Absent: Burt. Also present was: Jean Andrews, NIRMA Contact Person.

Motion was made by **Jacobsen** and seconded by **Bunn** to approve the Minutes of March 23, 2023. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

**REMINDER: CHECK your receipts for sales tax!** Need signature and truck equipment number on receipt. Also, **reminder to wear seat belts, gloves and eye protection.**

Reminder to put up the warning signs and to remove them upon completion of work

Reminder to use strobe lights and to **wear vests** when on roadway.

Reminder to do a walk-around on equipment parked on or off county shed property.

**CLEAN UP YOUR MESSSES!** Restrooms, gravel, grease and oil in and around the wash bay! Do not leave your sunflower seeds in the vehicles.

**ITEM #3. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Vehical & Equipment Inspection Report:** Larry Klahn read the vehical report stating all vehicle inspections were done and all items were in working condition.

**Shop Inspection Committee:** Jay Jacobsen and Chuck Bunn. Jay stated that the medicine cabinets have the contents updated.

**ITEM #4. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Incident involving **Jay Jacobsen** cutting finger: Jay was using a side cutter (dyke) to cut the tie wires holding the snow fence up to the "T" post. A gust of wind blew a section already cut snow fence back towards the "T" post at the exact same time Jay was attempting to cut loose another tie wire resulting in the side cutter trimming his finger nail causing a blood blister. Investigation revealed that a side cutter did indeed cause the injury to the finger and nail of Jay Jacobsen. The investigation also revealed that gloves were being worn at the time of the accident. Safety Committee recommends extra caution be given

when using hand tools especially during windy conditions and determined the incident was preventable.

2. Incident involving **Chuck Bunn** injuring knee: Chuck was helping to drop the snow fence and roll it up. He was kneeling down and heard his knee “pop” resulting in severe short term pain. The knee “popping” continued throughout the day. Was the incident preventable? No. The investigation revealed that a knee injury did happen to Chuck. The Safety Committee recommends that employees who may be doing tasks that are outside of their normal job description consider doing stretching excercises before beginning that task.
3. **Rob Tunink** while moving excavator tore down groundwire from overhead powerline. Rob was walking excavator #63 from a field driveway onto County Rd. 16 when the boom came in contact with the ground wire of the overhead power line resulting in the ground wire pulling loose from the insulators on the poles. The Safety Committee determined the incident was preventable and further recommends that when excavators are being moved in and around a job site that the boom be positioned so that it is at or below cab height.

Rob Tunink asked for confirmation on the chain of command in the event an accident or incident occurred again. Scott stated the chain of command is #1. Scott Huppert; #2. Jean Andrews; #3. Gary Tienken and #4. Larry Klahn.

4. Accident involving **John VonSeggern Jr.** pulling down a power line: The incident occurred on Queen Ave in Royal Estates subdivision. John was attempting to spread gravel with truck #19 on Queen Ave. As John approached the power line, he slowed down and started lowering the box. The cab guard of the dump box caught the power line resulting in it being pulled from the meter socket at the house. The incident was preventable. The investigation revealed that the #19 Dump box did indeed pull the electrical wires from the meter socket. The Safety Committee recommends when spreading rock or gravel under low-hanging power lines, a spotter be used or a semi with a dump belly trailer be used instead.
5. Incident involving **Chuck Bunn & Sprayer Hose Breaking**: Chuck Bunn & Jay Jacobsen were spraying Round-up and 2-4-D on the weeds in the Scribner Yard when the sprayer hose near the handgun split causing water and chemicals to spray on Chuck’s entire body. Was the incident preventable? The Safety Committee determined that yes it was and also no. The Safety Committee recommends that all lines and hoses on the spraying equipment be inspected each day before use to detect cuts, scrapes or other types of wear before use and fix the equipment.

Lynn Wooldrik brought up the fact that after the tornado on May 12, 2023, the barricades were placed on county roads that were closed due to downed power lines. Lynn mentioned that only 2 of the 24 flashers were working. Scott stated that he and

Justin Burt set out the barricades that evening. Scott said he attempted to turn on the lights but failed. Scott promised to do a better job next time.

Justin Burt arrived at the meeting 7:25 A.M. He was late as he overslept.

With no further business, motion was made by Brune and seconded by Jacobsen @ 7:35 A.M. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

 Larry Klahn, Secretary