

Twin Cities Field Federal Safety and Health Council

Quarterly Meeting

From: Matt McCoy

Date: June 7, 2022

Subject: Meeting Minutes – 3rd Quarter, FY 2022

The Twin Cities Field Federal Safety and Health Council (TCFFHSC) convened on June 7, 2022, as follows:

- Roll Call – Bernard Williams called the meeting to order at 1pm and thanked the individuals for participating in the virtual meeting and meetings in the future will be virtual until we can have meeting in person. A total of 22 personnel participated in the meeting. Other councils represented included Duluth/Superior, Gulf Coast, and Omaha.
- Tracy Dallman and Mary Bauer, OSHA Region V, provided updates from OSHA on COVID-19 and heat illness prevention. The presentation with recorded voiceover is too large, but can be retrieved from the following link: <https://app.box.com/folder/164889119599>



OSHA Update
COVID-Heat-FFSHC.

- Mary Bauer, Federal OSHA, provided an update on recordability of COVID-19 cases after the meeting:
 - The OSHA Region V COVID Taskforce team has not heard anything different and to be a confirmed case, a laboratory needs to confirm it. Antigen or PCR would be acceptable if the analysis was done in a laboratory.
 - Slide information:
 - COVID-19 can be a recordable illness if a worker is infected as a result of performing their work-related duties. However, employers are only responsible for recording cases of COVID-19 if all of the following are met:
 - The case is a confirmed case of COVID-19 (see CDC information on persons under investigation and presumptive positive and laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19);
 - The case is work-related, as defined by 29 CFR 1904.5; and
 - The case involves one or more of the general recording criteria set forth in 29 CFR 1904.7 (e.g., medical treatment beyond first-aid, days away from work).
 - OSHA is providing enforcement discretion around recordkeeping for most sectors.
 - Visit OSHA's Injury and Illness Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements page for more information.

- Seth Burmeister, Omaha FFSHC, provided a copy of a COVID-19 presentation he received from the Federal OSHA Omaha Area Office.



Omaha FFSHC
COVID-19 Presentati

- Seth also provided updated information he received from the Federal OSHA Omaha Area Office on using CDC community level tracking to determine masking requirements for your area.
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>
 - <https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus>
- There was a lengthy discussion on COVID-19 updates, lessons learned, and action plans by each agency. Mary and Tracy provided input and answered questions.
- Mary Bauer also informed the group that the Region V office is growing, and they recently added a 7th compliance officer.
- Terri reminded everyone that a membership designation form is needed to show that the agency's director/commander has approved the individual to represent the agency by participating in a FEB-sponsored council. The form will be provided with the minutes, and members can return the completed/signed form to Terri Stamm for recordkeeping. More information about the member designation form can be found on the OSHA website, <https://www.osha.gov/enforcement/ffshc/membership>. Matt McCoy, Chairman, stated he would not require the completed form for participation or voting, as long as the participant is an employee of a federal agency.
- Next Meeting, Thursday, September 1, 2022. We will plan on having virtual meeting unless in-person is allowed for federal agencies. If so, location information will be sent out with the calendar invite.

//Signed//

Matt McCoy, Chairperson

VA VISN 23 Safety & Health Officer