

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH and SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2022

On Thursday, January 20, 2022, a meeting of the Madison County Health and Safety Committee came to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Second Floor Courtroom of the Madison County Administrative Office Building Virginia City, Montana, with Tony Forsythe, Courthouse Maintenance, Jennifer Martens, DES Clerk, Joe Brummell, DES, Phil Fortner, Sheriff, Mark Rosenleaf, Montana State Fund, Mike Callahan, Safety Coordinator, Emilie Saylor, Public Health Administrator, and Laurie Buyan, Commissioners' Assistant, present. Jeff LeVeque, IT, was present to administer the Webex connection. Pete Novich, Novich Insurance, and Janie Alt, Weed Office Assistant, were present via Webex. Patti Austin, Madison Valley Manor Office Manager, participated by telephone.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the November 4, 2021, meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

Safety Coordinator's Report: Mike presented and reviewed the coordinator report for the months of October through December of 2022 and discussed tasks that he has accomplished during that time. There was discussion regarding eye wash stations that have been installed.

Safety Inspections: Mike stated that 44 of the 46 internal safety inspections have been completed, but that he has not done IT or Custodial. He will get them done as soon as he can.

COVID 19 Update: Emilie distributed a weekly update that she received from DPHHS that talks about the spread of COVID, hospitalizations, vaccination status and how that affects the rate of spread. She stated there has been a huge, dramatic increase in testing and new cases. The reason for this is because the new variant is incredibly contagious and that's why they're doing so much testing. She also distributed isolation and quarantine guidelines, noting that they are still asking everyone to quarantine. These guidelines are posted on Facebook and have been emailed. She will get information posted in the County buildings because there has been exposure in the County. She reviewed the update on COVID 19 that was given to the Commissioners on Tuesday, stating on Tuesday there were 66 cases and as of today there are 93 with 8 pending. She noted that two weeks ago there were 20. She stated they are seeing both vaccinated and unvaccinated becoming infected but those that have been vaccinated are having very minimal symptoms compared to those who have not been vaccinated. Currently the rate of positive tests are about 10% which is very high. She reviewed active cases and how they compare to neighboring counties; reviewed total cases by county; reviewed the vaccine dashboard and discussed vaccine hesitancy in Madison County; discussed upcoming mobile vaccine clinics; and stated that both County nursing homes are currently in outbreak status. Emilie also noted that she will get right around 8,000 home COVID tests.

Nursing Homes Update: Patti Austin gave the nursing home update by telephone, noting that they are currently in outbreak status, that safety-wise they are doing good and there is no snow so everyone is staying up right in the parking lot.

Goals/Potential Projects Re Safety Culture: The committee discussed the following Safety Culture items.

- **Identifying Needs for Hands-on Trainings:** The following training opportunities were discussed.
 - **CPR Training:** There was discussion about CPR training and Mike getting certified to teach classes. He stated he is almost there. Phil discussed recertifying deputies that are expired. Tony stated that his certification is also expired and he's not sure about Cody.
 - **Safety Fest:** Mike stated that they have two safety planned for this year. One in Billings on September 19th through the 23rd and one in Missoula from March 21st to the 24th. The class schedules have not yet been released.
 - **MSHA Training:** Mike discussed MSHA training for the road departments, stating that he has about 17 that need to be recertified and 10 that need the entire training. It is scheduled in Virginia City on March 15th to 17th.
- **New Project Discussion:** Joe stated a possible potential project would be to push out some information on fires, noting that the last two structure fires were due to space heaters. He stated another fire was due to dryer lint and suggested sending out a flyer with information regarding these fire hazards. Emilie discussed car seat training and suggested that anyone who might be willing to take the training would be a benefit. She also discussed access to free cribs and car seats to families that need them. Shelter in Place Kits were discussed. Mike stated that perishables are due to be updated in March. Emilie asked about safety kits in County cars. There was discussion on both road safety kits and emergency kits. Mike updated on the status of safety kits in County vehicles and Emilie will check on emergency kits and model them after the shelter in place kits.

Incident Review: Mike reviewed incidents from October to December explaining each incident, how it happened and the outcome of each.

General Discussion: Mark Rosenleaf asked about the definition of recordable or non-recordable. Mike responded that it is whether or not it goes on the OSHA 300. He distributed a handout entitled Safety Pyramid and discussed types of incidents, stating that most of them boil down to unsafe acts. You know better but you still do it. This is due to a behavior set. Texting and driving is a good example. You know you shouldn't do it but until something happens to make you stop, you remain in a hazardous behavior cycle. He reviewed the safety pyramid that was published in the 30s created by a man that reviewed thousands of incidents. He found that for every fatality there were about 30 serious injuries. Frank Burns did more research in the 60s and came up with the about the same numbers. He asked what each of us could do to prevent injuries; and answered don't take short cuts, do the task properly, and always set examples for others. He stated he is a big fan of hazard identification and mitigation when it's possible and report them. He added joining the safety committee, job safety analysis, and being a mentor or example to others are ways to get involved in safety. He discussed goals and putting them out there and steps to get to those goals. There was discussion regarding a major accident near Island Park, a close encounter where a deputies vehicle was slammed into, fortunately he was not in the vehicle when it was hit, and encounters with deer. Pete discussed safety awareness, noting that there are 190 employees in the county and getting OSHA training could change attitudes on safety and getting Supervisors to get the OSHA 10 training to help increase awareness of safety behaviors, adding that one long day could change your outlook on safety.

Date for Next Meeting: The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtroom of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Buyan, Commissioners' Assistant.