

DOL Leadership Team Minutes
March 2, 2010 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room 205, Labor Building

Attendees: Commissioner Cherie Berry, John Baldwin, Kevin Beauregard, John Bogner, Jack Brinson, Art Britt, Kathryn Castellones, Tom Chambers, Tim Childers, Mike Daniels, Andy Frazier, William Gerringier, Jack Given, Jennifer Haigwood, John Hoomani, Felicia Hoover, Wanda Lagoe, Tiffany Lathan, Nancy Lipscomb, Gina Luginbuhl, Allen McNeely, Mike Morrow, Dolores Quesenberry, Frank Seiber, Nancy Swaney, Steve Sykes, Jim Taylor, Nick Vincelli, Anne Weaver and Lee White.

Commissioner Berry welcomed team members and congratulated Tom Chambers on his appointment as Bureau Chief of the Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau.

She stated she is scheduled to attend all 30 of the safety award banquet this year.

Commissioner Berry thanked all employees who contributed to the 2009 Annual Report and said she is proud of the excellent work by DOL employees. Copies of the report were provided to team members.

The Commissioner stated again this year the Employee Appreciate Banquet will not be held due to budgetary restraints. She said she will attend as many staff meetings and division/bureau events as possible to present the service awards to employees.

Nancy Lipscomb gave an HR Update. Nancy provided team members a handout outlining departmental policies/procedures and a performance management outline. She stated HR has posted on the intranet two new policies; policy #10 Separation from State Employment and policy #11 Beacon Time Entry. HR will be providing web-based supervisor's training and thanked Wanda Lagoe for ETTA's.

Tiffany Lathan provided team members with a handout on the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan. She stated the department's EEO plan is up-to-date and has been sent to the Office of State Personnel.

Allen McNeely gave an OSH Update. Allen said the Enhanced Audit by Federal OSHA is almost complete. All state plan states have increased scrutiny due to congressional concerns over a report released on Nevada's safety and health program. Allen stated OSH hopes to have a closing conference with Suzanne Street, Area Director, Federal OSH upon completion of the audit.

Allen stated Kleen Energy, Middletown, CT had a natural gas explosion and the feds asked for our ConAgra/ESA narratives and citations. Allen thanked Anne Weaver and the PSIM staff for processing the requests in a timely manner.

Allen said fatalities have increased over the past weeks. He stated since February 18, 1 caught in mast of forklift in Wilmington; 1 struck by CAT compactor at solid waste facility in Cherryville; 1 killed and 2 injured in a truss collapse in Clinton; 1 struck by tree limb in Troy; and 1 killed caught in extruder at a packing plant in Wilson.

Allen stated OSH has signed a safety partnership with DH Griffin/Balfour Beatty Construction on the building of the Guilford County Detention Center in Greensboro.

Frank Seiber gave an IT Update. Frank told team members the file server is on its last leg. IT is in the process of gathering information from vendors and will decide what program applications will be best for the agency.

Jack Brinson gave a Budget Update. The Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau is now on-line with Pay Point. Jack said it makes it easier for their client to pay on-line by credit card or electronic check.

Vicky Gossard is working as a temporary in Budget and has been on board for about a week.

Jack stated the Budget reductions requested by the Office of State Budget and Management were 3%, 5% and 7%. The department has offered 3.93% to date and does not plan to offer up positions at this time. The next step is the Governor will submit her budget to the House and Senate.

Art Britt gave a Legislative Update. Art stated the budget is the legislative agenda this year. He thanked team members for being available to answer programmatic questions regarding their divisions/bureaus.

Commissioner Berry read a letter received from Jack Wood, Kevin Beauregard's brother-in-law, thanking the department for items sent from the department's Honoring Military Families program.

Art Britt thanked bureau chiefs for coordinating dates for the Commissioner to present service awards. He stated Commissioner Berry was able to present all 10 superlative awards to employees and almost every service award.

Gina Luginbuhl told members 150 people attended the Gold Star Growers Luncheon. She stated the two DVDs are now completed.

John Bogner thanked Commissioner Berry for her participation in the safety awards luncheons and Star programs. He stated a Special Star Team Member Training session will be held in Winston-Salem March 9 & 10 and in Raleigh March 23 & 24.

William Gerringer told members the feds are scrutinizing the mining industry. He stated the bureau is finalizing the program for two regional seminars to be held April 27 in Rocky Mount and April 28 in Statesville and the program information will be on the website.

Kathryn Castellon stated the federal regulations have been revised and thanked John Hoomani and IT for helping apprenticeship with that task. She also thanked Jack Brinson and Budget employees for their help in getting the apprenticeship fees situation under control. The Lineman's Rodeo will be held in May and Progress Energy and Duke Power may join us as sponsors.

Tiffany Lathan stated EDB has finished the federal audit. She told members Jim DeCatsy will be retiring April 30 with over 30 years of state service.

Anne Weaver stated Grace King retired in January. She said PSIM is busy with the audit pulling files.

Jim Taylor told members the department submitted the first youth employment report to the legislature February 1. The report included data from 2008 and 2009. Jim said the Wage and Hour backlog inventory is below 600 cases.

Jennifer Haigwood thanked Jim Taylor and Mike Daniels for their help with the Youth Employment Report.

Wanda Lagoe stated ETTA has a new alliance with Carolina AGC and Sampson County Community College. Wanda said Nancy Gregory is retiring. The posting for that position closes today, March 2 and 140 applications have been received. ETTA currently has 20 power point presentations available on the website and is working on 40 to 50 more.

Mike Daniels stated Publications has a new printing press and thanked OSH for their help with funding the purchase.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45.