

DOL Leadership Team Meeting
April 2, 2019 10:30 am
Commissioner's Conference Room, Labor Building

Attendees: Commissioner Berry, Kevin Beauregard, Art Britt, Nicole Brown, Tom Chambers, Terri Harris, Jill Cramer, Cliff Dautrich, Gary Franks, William Gerringer, Jennifer Haigwood, Christine Ryan, Phil Hooper, Felicia Hoover, Harriet Hopkins, Don Kinney, Wanda Lagoe, Scott Mabry, Kevin O'Barr, Dolores Quesenberry, Beth Rodman, Christine Ryan, Jennifer Stackpole, Tara Williams-Brown, Paul Sullivan (by phone), Anne Weaver.

Commissioner Berry: Commissioner Berry welcomed the Leadership Team members. This is the first meeting since January 10.

Commissioner Berry announced that she will not seek re-election in 2020. She stated that she wants to "leave while I'm in love", but that she still has 21 months left, and has no intention of letting up. She is making the announcement early so that others who may want to run can make their preparations.

Budget Update: Jennifer Stackpole provided the 3Q update and reported that we are on track. She mentioned that XTND is going to be phased out and replaced, likely by the end of the year. She will provide more information as it becomes available to her.

Communications Update: Dolores Quesenberry announced that the 2018 Annual Report is complete and available online. The printed version had one error on page 27, but all copies were corrected with a "patch" using crack and peel paper.

The Inside Labor podcast continues with new episodes and has been expanded to include guests from NCDOL alliances as well as NCDOL insiders.

HR Update: Terri Harris reported that OSHR has asked for \$20 million for salary adjustment fund for fiscal year 2019 – 2020. There is no indication of which classifications will be considered at this time.

Please communicate to your employees if they have secondary employment they are required to complete the secondary employment form to be reviewed and approved by management, HR, and the Chief of Staff. Secondary employment includes part time work and business ownership, worked outside of NCDOL work hours. The review and approval process is to make sure there is no conflict of interest. The secondary employment form must be renewed annually.

HR will be looking at an online PAR process that is being offered by the Department of Information Technology. All cabinet agencies will be required to use the program and Council of State agencies will have the choice to opt in. There will be more information available over the next 3 to 6 months.

The Office of State Controller announced the availability of the HR/Payroll Mobile App for iPhone and Android phones to enter time, approve time, and view pay statements. Instructional videos and guides are available on the State Controller's website, www.osc.nc.gov.

The Annual Performance Evaluation task will launch on June 17. HR will host evaluation labs again this year. More information to follow in early May.

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Legislative Update: Jennifer Haigwood announced that the N.C. General Assembly is in the midst of the 2019 long session. The Governor's Budget was released in March, and NCDOL was pleased that all of the budget items we asked for were included. The House currently has the budget.

Our agency bill (HB 400) has been filed and is scheduled for its first hearing on April 13.

Two bills pertaining to zipline regulation have been filed. Both bills have NCDOL as the enforcing agency.

Jennifer also reminded the team that the Silent Auction will go live on April 22. Please donate items as you do your spring cleaning. This is a fundraiser that offsets the cost of the fall Employee Recognition Banquet.

OSH Update: Kevin Beauregard stated that OSH has received a large number of reporter and disclosure requests recently.

The ORB recently underwent a spring cleaning, which included disposing of four dumpsters' worth of items that State Surplus would not take. There was no charge for the dumpsters, and the company that provided them recycles the items.

The second floor of the ORB was painted last week.

The lease on the Winston-Salem office is coming up and OSH plans to renew it.

New Consultative positions will be posted once a classification issue is resolved with OSHR.

The next meeting with Federal OSHA is on May 21.

S & I Update: Phil Hooper provided the S&I update:

Boiler:

- Running with open position after Smith promotion. Inspectors are meeting Strat Plan goals.
- A Temp helped with civil penalties for unpaid invoices. The Temp has resigned due to finding a fulltime job. We will be looking for another temp.
- Penalties for safety violations are up to date.

EDB:

- Recently hired two new investigators:
 - Millicent Williams comes to us from the Department of Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention where she worked for almost 15 years as a juvenile court counselor and most recently as a supervisor.
 - David Bailey was with the Raleigh Police Department for several decades as a patrol officer and a detective. Most recently he has been working with a private investigation firm.

Elevator:

- The bureau is in the middle of inflatable inspection season and have inspected several hard ride companies.
- We are making good progress in the rollover count.

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- We are losing Bob Martin the 1st of May, and that will represent a big hole in the Eastern Area B. We are hopeful that we can get a good replacement for him.
- Before we know it, we will be at the state fairgrounds opening the state fair.

Mine & Quarry

- The 42nd NC Mine Safety & Health Conference was held March 20-22, 2019 in Cherokee.
- There were 155 confirmed registrations and 17 exhibitors in attendance.
- More training classes are posted on our training calendar on the department website.

Around the Room:

Paul Sullivan said it was snowing in Charlotte, but that otherwise all is well in the West. The team is nearing completion of the investigation of the tragic accident in Greensboro where a woman fell 80 feet while descending a water tower.

Congrats to Matt Gruber in Asheville and Warren Lutz in Winston-Salem who have completed their training program and are being released this week to conduct independent inspections.

Gary Franks said the Help Desk has responded to over 1300 phone/email requests since January. Antonio Green left the department last week, and his work is being divided between other IT employees. IT is working with Wage and Hour on a new case management system. IT continues to work on ongoing security updates.

Felicia Hoover reported that all is well at the OSH Review Commission.

Anne Weaver reiterated that there have been significant increases for the PSIM Bureau for public records requests for Compliance inspection and investigation files from attorneys and the media.

Nicole Brown had several updates:

- New Administrative Assistant Dawn Eason started on April 1.
- OSH East is still investigating the Conservators Center fatality. A 60-day meeting was held with the Assistant Director, BC, District Supervisor, OSH Reviewer, and CSHO to discuss the status of the inspection and any potential violations. Direction and guidance was given by management and the CSHO was asked to return to obtain some additional information for the case.
- OSH East is also investigating a trench collapse, and will recommend citations for the deceased employee's employer, Vertical Walls, as well as the General Contractor.
- OSH East had two resignations and one interdepartmental transfer
- There is currently a vacant admin position in Raleigh that will be posted soon.
- OSH East anticipates having a couple of CSHOs in training released by the start of OSH Compliance appraisal cycle, which is May 1. They are still having a difficult time finding qualified HCOs to fill some of those vacancies.

Beth Rodman stated that Martina Gonzales is retiring. The Gold Star Growers events in February went well, and there was a lot of positive feedback on the agenda.

Kevin O'Barr stated that the on-site audit for the federal 21(d) grant went well. He expects a draft report later in April. The National Consultation Conference will take place April 24&25 in Tampa, Florida.

Wanda Lagoe announced that Sandra Allen is retiring, and there was a recognition program for her last week. Safety Awards season is in full swing. In Raleigh and Concord, billboards have gone up for Stand Down to Prevent Falls.

Jill Cramer reported that Functional Schedule Training for archiving is coming up on April 23. She also said Legal Affairs has created a database for 3rd party litigation as well as general public records requests.

Scott Mabry stated that over 1200 people attended the State Construction Conference last week. News from the conference is that a continued increase in construction in N.C. is projected over the next two years.

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