

Safety Committee Minutes
March 9, 2017
Harlan, Iowa

The FSC safety committee met on Thursday, March 9th, 2017 at the Therkildsen Center in Harlan. In attendance was Tom Grote, Bob Bruck, Jodi Gubbels, Pam Borkowski, Gary Jahn, Paul Hocamp, Lance Axland, Jolene Davis, Sharon Kroger, Brian Travis (CWG), Krista Sporrer, Melissa Raymond, Ron Kenkel, Mike Evers, Clancy Murphy, Shawn Macha, Nick Schechinger, Jodi Anania (USA), and Audrey Smith.

Tom Grote opened the meeting by thanking everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting. Tom then asked the group if anyone had any additions or changes to the meeting minutes from the September safety meeting. There were no additions or changes.

Bob Bruck's work comp/auto insurance claims were distributed to the group. There were several new injuries reported to Bob since the last September safety meeting. There was some discussion regarding the prevention of the work comp injuries specifically the anhydrous inhalation incident. Tom reminded the group that all safety training needs to be properly documented in the event an incident occurs. It was also pointed out that 2 of the injuries involved part time employees which emphasizes the need to train all employees both full and part time.

Tom then reminded the group to make sure all Emergency Action Plans are up to date with emergency contact information. The EAP should also be updated with the RCI system. Sharon Kroger or Melissa Raymond are available for anyone needing assistance updating RCI.

Sharon Kroger then led a discussion regarding FSC's new safety base training system, Good Days Work. Sharon demonstrated the Good Days Work website to the group and outlined different reporting options available to track training progress. The group provided very positive feedback regarding the training content and interactive training offered on the website. There was then discussion surrounding the required safety training during the seasonal busy times. It was decided branch managers, at their discretion, would be allowed to request future months training if they would prefer to complete the training before the busy time. They can only request future months if the current months required training is complete.

Tom then introduced our guest speaker Brian Travis from Continental Western Insurance. Brian delivered a presentation on pre-agronomy season safety and misapplication insurance claims. Brian informed the group that many misapplication mishaps can be prevented with good communication with customers and coworkers. Brian also stressed the need for documentation including, field maps, customer conversations, spray sheets, field reports, etc. Brian's message also centered on ensuring employees are given adequate time to rest during the season. Employees who become too tired can lead to poor judgement. Equipment also needs to be properly maintained to ensure it is in good working condition to apply product. Brian also stressed the need for operators to be aware of their surroundings while operating equipment. This includes being aware of possible bee hives, gardens, organic crops, etc. that may be in the area while spraying. Brian provided a website that the state maintains where registered items such as these can be located. Brian also touched on seed mix ups that happen each year. His advice to the group was to keep all seed warehouse organized. Contamination and application errors are the two types of claims with the highest dollar amount in 2015 and 2016. Brian also pointed out that FSC has a \$10,000 deductible which directly affects the financial bottom line when these types of claims occur. In the event an incident occurs, timely communication of the incident to Bob Bruck is very important so the claim can be submitted to Continental Western and handled by an adjuster from the beginning.