



**Essex Windsor EMS  
Joint Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, June 20, 2019  
County of Essex Civic Centre Room E  
360 Fairview Ave West  
Essex, ON  
N8M 1Y6**

**0900  
Regular Quarterly Meeting - Q2**

**1. Call to Order | 0916**

Moved by: Dan Suvajdzin  
Seconded by: Denis McFarlane

**2. Record of Attendance**

**Union Committee Members Present:**

Dan Suvajdzin, Co-chair  
Brad Hart  
Miguel Restrepo  
Renee Murray

**Management Committee Members Present:**

David Jacobs, Co-chair  
Jean Pierre Bacon  
Denis McFarlane  
Micheline Cornellier  
Mike Lacroix

**Others Present:**

Chris Grant, Management oversight  
Ian Nash, Union oversight  
Crystal Sylvestre, Recording secretary

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**Guests:**

Aaron Swartz, Manager, Lights and Signals, COE Infrastructure Services  
Rob Vitek, Health and Safety Consultant, COE Human Resources

*Quorum obtained.*

**Absent:**

David Kfrerer  
Dan Pickel  
Dustin Anderson  
James Jovanovic  
Tyson Brohman  
Sarah Bezair

**3. Welcome and Introductions**

Rob Vitek, County of Essex Health and Safety Consultant and Aaron Swartz, County of Essex Infrastructure Services Joint Health and Safety are joining our meeting as observers.

**4. Review of last meeting minutes**

Item #8 – Tyson did not find mold in the Tecumseh station.

**A1: amend minutes and reissue to Laserfiche and County Connect**

Item #12 – revisit hair styles and PPE – add to next agenda

**A2: Add hair styles with PPE to next agenda.**

Minutes approved otherwise.

Voted unanimous.

**5. Base inspection report review**

*April, May and June 2019 and Pelee March 2019 distributed to committee.*

June inspections were performed by Lacroix and Hart.

Items noted are:

Essex: Smoke alarm is hard wired but is not remotely monitored. i.e. if the alarm is activated, someone needs to phone 911. Test button didn't work well but did respond to Smoke spray from Fire Department.

**A3: add 'Check Fire/Smoke Alarms' to inspection form**

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CO monitors in every crew room? Some monitors are not fixed to the wall very well. Half of the stations have plug in CO monitors and half are not.

Mercer: Skids near the man door could possibly block the door if they were to be knocked over. They are leaning now, stacking would be a better solution.

Mercer: There is no fire extinguisher in the storage room at Mercer because there is a fire suppression system in that room and there are other extinguishers nearby.

Emergency Lights: some stock room have emergency lights and some don't. Jefferson is really old and doesn't work anymore. If door closes behind you then it is required.

Jefferson Bay 1: pipe has green build up on it. Could be looked at closer, roof might be leaking.

Spill kits: by gas pumps have taken on water due to extreme amounts of rain – will need to be refreshed.

Eyewash Stations: labels need to be refreshed on the bottles as well as the holder

## **6. 2019 Base Inspector Sign Up – Review**

James and Micheline are scheduled for July. Both are fairly new to the committee. Substitute another labour rep for July inspection and allow James the opportunity to inspect in August. Rob Vitek will join the group in July.

## **7. MOL Field Visit Review May 10, 2019**

*MOL Field Visit and MOL Compliance Record #04232NJNR109, distributed to the group.*

Gesto base cord was on the floor and a staff member tripped and was injured. Motion detecting lights have been installed and cord has a trip prevention cover on it. Pull down cord for truck has also been installed.

## **8. Armour vests– task 2 people to investigate**

Action item from previous meeting. Tom LeClair is very knowledgeable in this subject. Brad Hart and Jean Pierre Bacon will take on task and

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consult with Tom. Task is to prepare a business case to determine if a recommendation is warranted.

Province is investigating this subject as well but is on hold due to budget freeze.

## **9. Portable Radio Harness**

Radio harness for your chest. Nate MacMillan has offered an option. David Jacobs also reviewed many options. Motorola is a reasonable choice cost wise and they fit our radio. Need to be tear away. Next meeting, Nate can present his options. This should coordinate with armour vest presentation.

## **10. New epaulets-number and laundering**

3 sets of epaulettes issued recently. Concern is that 3 sets is not sufficient for laundering if they all need to be laundered at once. What is the contingency for loaning epaulettes? Chris will look into it. Epaulettes are available online for \$10 if needed.

## **11. Health and Safety Refresher Course**

Ontario website requires a 2 hour refresher course for Health and Safety Committee members every 3 years. Any members certified after Feb 28, 2016 will need the refresher.

A4: Confirm who in the committee needs recert and schedule as required.

## **12. Pelee Island update**

Denis inspected on March 8, 2019. Dustin and Mike have since visited.

Some major renovations are being scheduled. No new Health & Safety items to note.

Items discussed:

- Wall outlet where the trucks are plugged in by driver's door didn't seem to be fixed properly to the wall.
- Burners have been replaced and extras are above the stove.
- Crews are driving over the cords in the gravel driveway causing damage. Install an outlet placed behind the vehicle to avoid this.

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- Educate staff on which plugs to use over the winter – block heater vs, truck power.
- Personal items have been cleaned out of the closet.
- Extra Propane tanks have been disposed.
- BBQ and portable BBQ is outside and needs to stay outside. All are asked to monitor this.
- OPP are sharing this space with EWEMS for the next while. They have a computer, weapons safe and discharge barrel.
- OPP cleaning staff will now clean our station, not the apartment, just the station.
- HVAC inspections are being quoted for station and clinic.

### **13. PGH ER door swipe**

PGH changed the swipe system 8-9 months ago in Chatham, in the past EWEMS had trouble getting into the hospital, wait for a crew to let them in or knock for a nurse. Now there is a swipe to get out of the building as well. EWEMS has no egress in the case of emergency. Swipe for truck is an option.

A5: Follow up with Operations and then add to next meeting agenda. Invite Deputy Lemay attend next meeting.

### **14. Cleaning chemicals and improper labelling**

Chemicals in wrong containers persist. Committee members need to monitor. Review postings on dispensers to communicate danger and proper filling practices.

A6: Memo re: posting on filling station.

A7: Request "Common Health and Safety Issues" section be added to Spring training

### **15. Mosquito repellent in vehicles**

Stock of Croc Blok has been received and are being distributed.

### **16. OHSA Updates**

EWEMS is with in compliance for most of items.

**A8: Distribute MOL updates to committee for review.**

Reg 851 – EWEMS flotation devices are within compliance.

Eye wash stations: EWEMS are all labelled and up to date.

Jan 1, 2020 more updates coming from MOL.

## **17. MOL updates**

Paging system – still working towards that issue but budget freeze is impeding most conversations. New system is very loud.

## **18. WSIB Stat Report – Micheline**

*WSIB stat report from January 2019 to date distributed.*

MH is the leading issue based on number of incidents. Arm injuries are second followed by back and leg.

Areas of improvement could include overexertion training. Lifting, cuts and slip and falls.

With the addition of Rob Vitek to COE staff, a process to break down the WSIB report into incident type and preventative measures will be developed. Proper use of the equipment would be valuable.

Extrication gloves were issued at Spring Training. Suggestion to send out a memo that explained the capabilities of the glove.

**A9: Issue memo re: extrication gloves.**

## **19. Next Meeting**

Sept 12, 2019  
0900  
Civic Centre Room TBD

## **20. Adjournment**

Moved by Dan Suvajdzin  
Seconded by Mike Lacroix

**That** the meeting of Thursday, June 20, 2019 adjourn at 1118 –**Carried**

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Approval of Minutes:

  
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David Jacobs  
Management Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Suvajdzin  
Union Co-Chair