Safety Committee Minutes: Wednesday 2/6/19 2:00 PM 375 Plant Science

Attendees: Samantha McConaughy, Betsy Howe, Kay McClure-Kelly, Robert Harrison, TJ McAndrew, David Hyte, Pam Sutton, Mike Livingston, John Guretzky, Greg Dorn

Call to order 2:02 PM

1) Overview of upcoming laboratory audits/inspections from Elizabeth Howe-EHS

Betsy Howe provided a copy of the EHS laboratory and general area compliance surveys to the committee members. These surveys are utilized by the EHS staff during inspections of these spaces. Mike will send the laboratory survey to the Department to prepare for upcoming safety survey.

2) Safety videos: For employee/student reference to specific activities and general safety.

Mike sought input from committee members on pertinent safety topics to address via short videos that could be embedded/linked within the safety committee webpage. Liquid Nitrogen, dry ice, compressed gas, were topics discussed relating to laboratory safety. Field safety topics were thresher operation, heat stress. Dave Hyten indicated some of these likely existed already. Fran Benne indicated she could help with the process.

3) New employee onboarding committee and safety content that should be included.

Mike provided a general safety handout to committee members that is linked within the safety committee webpage. Mike provided this material to the onboarding committee members and asked safety committee members to provide any additional information that they thought could be useful to new members of the Department. This handout/link provides maps to our building complex with fire exits, tornado shelter area, first aid kit and AED locations, and general laboratory and field safety information.

4) Update on near miss/accident reporting, Safety Committee website link

Betsy Howe provided wall placards and cards in reference to reporting student injury reporting and near miss/near hit reporting. These references provide links to a reporting system on the EHS website that can be utilized for training and preventing future incidents and accidents.

5) Upcoming safety presentations: Good laboratory practices and UNL EHS Services.

Mike will provide training session to new laboratory users and to those new to UNL laboratories in the next month.
6) New Business

Mike provided updates on inquiries he has received on the anonymous safety suggestion link on the safety committee webpage. One was in reference to a recommendation on placing security cameras near the bike racks located outside of Plant Science Hall to prevent theft. Another submission from an elementary school teacher in Nebraska related to the safety of grinding and ingesting field corn as a student activity in the classroom. Response was to purchase food grade white corn or alternatively contact the Pawnee county extension agent for further information as to many variables and unknowns to assess situation.

7) Next Meeting time May 8th, 2:00 PM, 375 PLSH