

**Minutes**  
**National Occupational Safety, Health and**  
**Environmental Compliance Committee (OSHECCOM) Meeting**  
**February 1, 2001**

The National OSHECCOM meeting was held at FAA Headquarters in Washington, DC, on February 1, 2001. In the absence of an OSHECCOM Chair and Vice Chair, the meeting was called to order by the Acting Designated Agency Occupational Safety and Health Official (DASHO), Louise Maillett.

**OPENING COMMENTS**

Ms. Maillett welcomed the committee members and explained the current situation regarding the Chair and Vice Chair positions. Ms. Maillett introduced Bill Peacock, who has become AAT-1, replacing Ron Morgan, and Bob Howard who was acting for John Carr, who has become the new President of NATCA. Next, Ms. Maillett asked the committee if it would be acceptable for Mr. Carr and Mr. Peacock to serve as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, through the next meeting, and for Mr. Peacock to chair today's meeting. Elections for a new Chair and Vice Chair would occur at the next meeting. The committee members agreed to this plan. Subsequently, Mr. Peacock took over chairing the meeting and addressed some housekeeping items.

**ACTION:**

- Voting for the Chair and Vice Chair will occur at the next OSHECCOM meeting.

**FEDERAL WORKER 2000 INITIATIVE UPDATE**

Vicki Hershiser (AEE-200) and Kerry Lange (AHL-100) jointly presented an update on FAA activities regarding the Federal Worker 2000 Initiative.

- Ms. Hershiser briefly:
  - Discussed the Federal Worker 2000 Executive Order;
  - Described the two FAA Federal Worker 2000 Committees;
  - Indicated that an information packet on the initiative was distributed in August 2000;
  - Noted that AEE had requested FAA Lines of Businesses (LOBs) and staff offices to provide points of contact (POCs) for OSH matters and these were provided;
  - Indicated that data sharing between FAA's SMIS and DOT's WCIS began in August 2000; and
  - Stated that the next activity which was currently underway was the development of LOB-specific OSH program evaluation protocols.
- Ms. Lange described three items:
  - (1) Successes to date regarding DOT/FAA's program to electronically submit claims to the DOL: There has been a 5.5% increase in timeliness.
  - (2) As a result of DOT's and FAA's work in this area, a National Performance Review Hammer Award for was presented to DOT and FAA at the end of 2000.
  - (3) AWP Initiative: Western Pacific region was successful in reducing worker comp cost. AHR personnel train supervisors on the claim process. DOL consults with the FAA Regional Flight Surgeon before a claim is accepted. Regional Air Traffic personnel work with supervisors to find alternative work for the affected employee. She said that the success in AWP may not work in all circumstances.
- QUESTION(S):
  - A question was raised concerning whether employees could be screened for physical disability prior to employment. Dr. Fred Tilton and AHR responded that one can only ask about physical

abilities if there is already an FAA requirement standard (such as the current work standards that require applicants to be able to carry up to 40 pounds of equipment). The Americans with Disabilities Act should be consulted for specific requirements and limitations.

**ACTION:**

- OSHECCOM commended Ms. Hershiser and Ms. Lange for their efforts.

**DEFIBRILLATORS**

Dr. Fred Tilton, AAM-2, noted that there is an FAA proposed/final rule currently over at the Office of the Secretary of Transportation which mandates that airlines carry Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs).

Next, Dr. Tilton described various components of the December 11, 2000 Memorandum regarding AED Operating Guidance, which was developed to address the issue paper submitted by the Southern Region OSHECCOM. The issue paper states that FAA has purchased AEDs for deployment to various FAA facilities, but only medical staff personnel have access to them. The Southern Region OSHECCOM requested guidance regarding having accessibility to AEDs 24 hours per day, 7 days per week (24/7), as medical staffing is not available at all times that access to AEDs may be needed.

- The AAM guidance addresses the implementation and use of AEDs, including the activities and training needed by personnel who might use the AEDs. In addition, Dr. Tilton indicated that they are taking a volunteer approach regarding who would like to become trained in the use of AEDs. Dr. Tilton also indicated that all states have "good Samaritan" laws that absolve trained users from liability. Discussion of the various parts of the guidance then ensued.
- Dr Tilton indicated that AAM had purchased 33 AEDs and distributed them to facilities that have a medical staff on site. He further indicated that AAM didn't have the resources to expand and fully implement the program outside of AAM, but they recommended that the lines of business take it on.
- The cost of the training, the purchase of any additional AED's and AED upkeep rose as issues for FAA LOBs. Bill Peacock discussed ATS impact (significant cost, resources, program implementation) and advised that this was not a decision that the OSHECCOM could make, but needed to be referred to the Management Board. He requested that AAM continue to pursue the issue by taking it to the Associate Administrator for consideration.
- The OSHECCOM recommended that the LOB's explore the costs and benefits. If additional AED's are to be acquired, the LOB's should first consult with AAM on the selection, training and maintenance procedures.
- Ray Thoman proposed implementing AED programs with existing AAM AEDs. Then if it worked out, the program could be expanded.
- QUESTION(S):
  - Two questions were raised regarding how AEDs interact with electronic equipment: Does any electronic equipment interfere with the AED? Does the AED interfere with any FAA equipment? Dr. Tilton responded that he has no evidence to show that electronic equipment interfered with AED use. He indicated that the FAA has not done electromagnetic testing regarding any possible interference an AED might have on FAA equipment.
  - Suzanne Pellosmaa of NAATS asked if AED support language could be included in security guard contracts at various FAA facilities since the guards are there 24/7? This is a potential option.

**ACTION:**

- OSHECCOM commended AAM for their efforts.
- OSHECCOM provides encouragement to AAM to explore ways to expand availability of existing AED's, and to work with any LOB's that request assistance establishing additional AED's.

**CLIMBING SAFETY**

Dr. Tilton, AAM-2, described the January 5, 2001 AAM Memorandum regarding Medical Evaluations of Employees Who Climb Structures, and in particular, the attached "Health Risk Identification Questionnaire for Agency Employees Who Climb Structures, Scaffolds, or Ladders."

- Kevin Conrad of PASS, indicated that PASS employees had some concerns about the questionnaire and that PASS National was currently in the process of gathering comments from their members. He will be sending a response to AAM on the issue.

**ACTION:**

- AAM will participate, with other FAA offices, in discussions with PASS after their comments are received.

**LOB BRIEFING**

Tom Holloway, AEE-200, presented a status update regarding the OSH responsibilities for LOBs revolving around three August 2000 OSHECCOM recommendations: (1) LOB POCs identify OSH responsibilities for their respective organizations by 12/1/2000; (2) LOBs and Regions develop a plan, consistent with the budget cycle, to establish fenced funding to meet the identified OSH operational requirements by 12/15/2000; and (3) LOB POCs develop a brief status report for these two items and submit the report to the OSHECCOM Coordinator by 12/2000.

- Dr. Holloway presented information on:
  - the number of employees in each LOB;
  - the type or types of work environments in each LOB [all LOBs have office environments & 5 of 16 identified industrial environments];
  - the basic OSH training needs for each LOB (as identified by each LOB) [all need general safety and health training & 5 of 16 identified specialized OSH training for industrial work environments];
  - the basic OSH personal protective equipment (PPE) needs [3 of 16 identified requirements for PPE]; and
  - OSH budget projections (as identified by each LOB) for FY01, FY02 and FY03.
- Dr. Holloway's conclusions on the data were:
  - LOBs have begun to identify OSH needs.
  - Some needs are not yet in the budgets.
  - The process is iterative, with refinements each year.
  - Request updates to be included in the annual report to OSHA by November of 2001

**ACTION:**

- OSHECCOM requests/recommends that LOBs provide AEE with updates of their OSH responsibilities implementation status by November 2001 for inclusion in AEEs annual report to OSHA.

**TRAINING FOR NATIONAL OSHECCOM MEMBERSHIP**

A group of FAA safety personnel (Mary Wingard, Michael Thomas, Lita Arnold, Cheryl Mazzella Anderson) presented the OSHECCOM Member Training, which was developed by a subcommittee consisting of field and headquarters OSHECCOM members. This completed the training requirement in the OSHECCOM Charter for all members present.

### **FUTURE MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for July 12, 2001, at FAA Headquarters. Suggested issue papers/agenda items should be sent no later than May 11, 2001, COB to Michael Thomas at 202-493-4292 or by email at, michael.thomas@faa.gov. (Editor's note: the meeting date has subsequently been revised to July 19.)

### **HANDOUTS**

Handouts and presentations can be downloaded from <http://www.aee.faa.gov/aee-200/osheccom>.

- Agenda
- Federal Worker 2000 Update
- Permitted Users of Automated External Defibrillators
- Memorandum on Clarification of Policy on Climbing Safety, dated November 28, 2001
- Memorandum on Medical Evaluations of Employees Who Climb Structures, dated January 5, 2001
- LOB Briefing, AEE-200 Safety Team
- OSHECCOM Member Training Package

### **SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS**

1. Voting for new Chair and Vice Chair will occur at the next OSHECCOM meeting.
2. OSHECCOM commended Ms. Hershiser and Ms. Lange for their efforts on the Federal Worker 2000 initiative.
3. OSHECCOM commended AAM for their efforts on Automated External Defibrillators.
4. OSHECCOM requests/recommends that LOBs provide AEE with updates of their OSH responsibilities implementation status in the OSH annual report questionnaires.