

## **Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes**

**09/22/2022**

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Charlotte office/ WS office/ other tele-conference locations. No one from the Charlotte or Asheville offices were in attendance.

### **Opened at 10:00 AM**

**Attendance:** Celeste Hardy, Jennifer Sitzmann, Donald Payne, Margaret Ness, Tyler Smith, Jerry Midyette, Mark Rasdall, Andy Sterlen, Fleda Anderson, Doreen Makaya, Tyler Bobo, Wesley Herron

### **Old Business:**

- June minutes reviewed – No comments

### **New Business:**

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/21 – 09/22/2022

13 Inspections in Logging

15 Inspections in Arboriculture

15 Consultative Visits

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- 1- Arborist fatality - 03/30/22- Monroe, NC (R&R Tree Service)
- 1- Logging fatality - 07/19/22- Maxton, NC (Ciarrocca Brooks Logging)
- 1- Arborist fatality – 08/20/22- West End, NC (Barnes Brothers Tree Service)

### **Open Discussion:**

We noted that Gary was not present as he was recuperating from his surgery and Eric also let us know that he would not be present as he was out sick. The Lifesize system had some challenges, and the Charlotte office was not on the call.

Mark Rasdall investigated the Barnes Brothers Tree Service accident which occurred in Moore County and shared the details of the accident for us. Employees were taking down about 9 trees in a residential area for the homeowner. They had two climbers in two trees and one had just been topped and the deceased employee on the ground was limbing that part of the tree with his chainsaw. The men lost site of the employee limbing on the ground. The other climber in a tree approximately 20 feet apart topped the next tree which then fell hitting the employee on the

ground. The ground employee was operating the chainsaw limbing the other tree when the next treetop came down and hit him in the back. He was not wearing a hard hat and the chainsaw came back and hit him in the head.

Wesley Herron investigated the Ciarrocca Brooks Logging accident which happened on July 19. The accident happened when the owner decided to make repairs to the Feller Buncher and the machine had not been deenergized or locked out prior to servicing. The machine was idling while the repairs were being made. The employee was working in the front of the feller buncher head placing the spring into place while the owner was working to the rear of the feller buncher head. The hydraulics activated while the owner was attempting to pry the spring back onto the accumulator arm causing the accumulator arms to close. The employee was standing inside the feller buncher and was struck by the arms and his head was crushed. Wesley also noted when he asked the owner about locking out the equipment, he was not familiar with that term and had not received any training in lockout procedures for himself or employees.

I think when we participate in the ProLogger camps next year we can review this accident and stress the importance of lockout procedures and training for employees.

The first two 2022 ProLogger base classes were held at Wayne Community College – March 23-24 - with Eric Smith presenting and Montgomery Community College – May 25-26 – with Celeste Hardy and Mark Rasdall presenting.

The September 7-8 base class was held at McDowell Tech CC with Gary presenting. There were 25 attendees at that event.

Andy reviewed the TCIA events for the upcoming EXPO in Charlotte. The Tree Care Industry Association's (TCIA) representative, Mr. Peter Gerstenberger, Senior Vice President for Industry Expertise, along with the Commissioner, Jennifer Haigwood and several other staff members will be participating in an Alliance signing ceremony on 11/10/22 @9:30. TCIA is one of America's oldest and largest Trade Associations comprised of Tree Care business all over the United States. TCIA predicts up to 4,000 attendees at this event.

TCIA has reserved a complementary booth for OSH at the November 10-12 TCI EXPO '22 in Charlotte. We will have representation at the booth for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> although we will not be present during the Veteran's Day (11<sup>th</sup>) holiday. The booth will be in the EXPO climb area and not on the main exhibit hall.

Andy and Celeste will be presenting some training at the EXPO for the NC arborists in a separate training room and plan to discuss the importance of communication between the climber and ground employees. In preparing for the training class they have reviewed the past accidents in NC and noted that the ground employees have been fatally injured in 5 out of 6 incidents.

Peter Gerstenberger has already offered to assist us with setting up training classes for the CSHOs and arborists in the use of cranes and climbing techniques. We hope to discuss this further at the EXPO to line up training for next year. We are very excited about all the resources and possibilities the alliance with TCIA will provide to help NC provide more training for both our compliance employees and arborists in the state.

- **Thanks to the CSHOs who made inspections in August that helped us to complete 28 inspections and 15 consultative visits for the year to date.** As a follow-on to that

subject, we have applied a reduction from 25 to 20 Compliance inspections in our Strategic Plan goals to better align with manpower issues within the Division.

- Consultative Services' goals remain at 15 visits.

Mark Rasdall told all CSHOs in the east that want to attend the EXPO to contact him as he will be coordinating those attending from the east to include the Wilmington office.

Mark Rasdall also asked about the ANSI 03.0 Safety Requirements for Logging. Nick was able to provide him the answer, 1978 is the most current version, and some additional references that are helpful.

We hope everyone that is interested will take advantage of the opportunity to attend the TCIA Expo in Charlotte November 10 and 12. The Expo Climb will have climbing demonstrations and all kinds of safety equipment. There will be over 1000 exhibitors at the Expo.

Andy has begun working on the NC version of an arborist rule/guide and Peter Gerstenberger has offered to help as he has assisted other states in setting up programs.

If you desire additional familiarization (training) with the industry and activities (inspections) associated with them, please let one of our committee members know and we'll schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person where allowed) to assist.

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 15 December 2022, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations?

**Closed at 10:40 AM**

## **Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes**

**06/23/22**

10:00 AM– 12:00 PM

Charlotte office/WS office/other tele-conference locations

### **Opened at 10:00 AM**

#### **Attendance:**

**Gary Thorpe**, Celeste Hardy, Kevin O'Barr, Mark Rasdall, Chris Jasion, Andy Sterlen, Scott Mabry, Eric Smith, Grant Quiller, Peggy Reme, Rob Maedje, Jeffrey Johnson, Bruce Pearson, Mildred Rivera, Roseanne M Gray, Frank Castillo, Bruce Miles, John Jaskolka, Chris Moore

#### **Old Business:**

- March minutes review – no comments

#### **New Business:**

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/21 – 06/23/22

- 7 Inspections in Logging
- 10 Inspections in Arboriculture
- 13 Consultative Visits

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- 1 arborist fatality - 03/30/22 – Monroe, NC (R&R Tree Service)
- 1 logging fatality -05/25/21 - attributed to 2021 records (Slew Foot Logging)
- Carolina Loggers Association held their annual meeting at Wilmington March 11-13/22. Celeste and Gary attended and mingled with the attendees and vendors to discuss OSH offerings and services.

The first two 2022 ProLogger base classes were held at Wayne Community College – March 23-24 - with Eric Smith presenting and Montgomery Community College – May 25-26 – with Celeste Hardy and Mark Rasdall presenting.

The September 7-8 base class will be held at McDowell Tech CC with Gary presenting.

- The “Arbor Fest” was held in Fletcher 1-3 April. Celeste, Andy and Gary operated one of the 43 booths set up for this affair. There were 1074 confirmed attendees from all over North and Central America. We even met one attendee from Taiwan, discussed written programs, equipment and tree safety and exchanged contact information. Andy expanded on the opportunity presented by the event.

A Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (SLTC) meeting was held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at IFCO Seedling’s Washington Nursery in Washington, NC with Eric presenting. Eric reminded the committee that Chuck Murdock retired last year and recognized that he was a big supporter of this committee, ProLogger Training, our SEP committee, employee training and safety within the Industry for many years. We’re going to miss him.

## **Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes**

**06/23/22**

A review of hazards routinely observed at logging sites – Missing First-Aid/CPR training, missing Hazard Communication program, missing or not current chemical list, missing SDS's for all chemicals onsite. Also, hazards within crew-cab pickups - discharged fire extinguishers, missing monthly and annual inspections, damaged hand tools, such as chainsaws/pole saws, damaged ladders, no ladder training if ladder is used, unlabeled containers, machine guarding (air compressor), damaged welder/generators missing lug boot covers of positive and negative terminals, cut or damaged welding cable, damaged stinger(s), damaged PPE, electrical hazards with extension cords if used, the need for properly sized advance warning signs (Trucks Entering Hwy). Reiterated importance of the employer reporting accidents which involve fatalities, amputations, eye loss and hospitalizations and stressed the importance of calling in a fatality within 8 hours and hospitalization/amputation within 24 hours. This information can be called in or submitted online. If you call after hours, please leave a message. This will be used as the date/time of notification even when you don't actually speak to someone. The same applies if your call is forwarded to the Capitol Police. There could be stiff fines for not reporting fatalities or injuries.

The BioMass Expo for April 29-30 was near Laurinburg and Andy and Celeste worked a booth and provided information on training and other resources to the many loggers at this outdoor event showcasing equipment/technology. Bruce Pearson also attended the BioMass Expo and passed out cards and requests for consultative services.

Andy talked with the Tree Care Industry Association's (TCIA) representative, Mr. Peter Gerstenberger, Senior Vice President for Industry Expertise on 05/03/22. Mr. Gerstenberger expressed interest in an alliance with OSH. TCIA is one of America's oldest and largest Trade Associations comprised of Tree Care business all over the United States. Where ISA often focuses on multiple Arboricultural and Horticultural topics such as tree propagation, biology, etc.; TCIA is primarily focused on the industry and the safety of its workers.

TCIA has reserved a complementary booth for OSH at the November 10-12 TCI EXPO '22 in Charlotte. These dates are somewhat contentious within DOL due to the Veteran's Day holiday. Holiday work hours are difficult to gain authorization for, as a rule due to funding. We're evaluating options through management that will allow us to attend.

### **Open Discussion:**

Andy has offered to head up the sub-committee to evaluate and edit/produce our own NC version of an arborist rule/guide, we will accept additional members. More discussion on this from Andy and we've asked Scott Mabry and Kevin Beauregard to lend their expertise to the conversation. Kevin let Gary know that he would not be available for this meeting. Eric Smith has offered to assist Andy in this effort. (pending supervisor approval). Scott stated that the Feds have introduced a formalized rule in the legislature. Scott also that Compliance Officers were able to attend some of the upcoming training and/or expos that are geared around Arborist and Logging. As usual, work with your supervisors.

## **Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes**

**06/23/22**

Please encourage increased inspections in the SEP. We're way down on our numbers. Please provide referrals to Consultative or Compliance where appropriate.

- As a follow-on to that subject, we have recommended a reduction from 25 to 20 Compliance inspections in our Strategic Plan goals to better align with manpower issues within the Division.
- Consultative Services' goals were recommended to remain at 15 visits.

Continue to offer technical assistance and guidance whenever possible.

If you desire additional familiarization (training) with the industry and activities (inspections) associated with them, please let one of our committee members know and we'll schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person where allowed) to assist.

NC Forestry Association's executive director (John Hatcher) called Gary to discuss the warning signage that is allegedly "required" at logging truck entrance areas. Gary explained that the warning signage is discussed in limited fashion in 1910.145 and further laid out in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Most failure-to-post warning signage on highways are addressed by a General Duty citation referencing the MUTCD. Gary recommended requesting a member of DOT to make a presentation at the ProLogger classes and SLTC meetings to explain the desired signage and the basic DOT requirements associated with activities where the public roadway must be entered by slow-moving equipment and or crew members on foot to temporarily "control" vehicular traffic.

Any other discussion? None

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 22 Sept 2022, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations.

**Closed at: 11:15 AM**

## Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes

03/10/22

10:00 AM– 12:00 PM

LBT Conference Room/Charlotte office/WS office/other tele-conference locations

### **Attendance: Please provide attendance for groups via email to Gary**

Thorpe, Gary, Rose Gray, Celeste Hardy, Rob Jacobson, Beauregard, Nicole Brown, Bruce Pearson, Katie Perry, Mark Rasdall, Mildred Rivera, Scott Mabry, Eric Smith, Andy Sterlen, Paul Sullivan, Ted Hendrix, Robert Tipton, Fleda Anderson, Edwards, Ben Harris, Neesia Hill, Kay Knezevich, Luniewski, Bruce Miles, Nancy Hall, Chris Jaison, Kevin Obarr, Lee Peacock

### **Old Business:**

- December minutes review- no comments

### **New Business:**

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/21 – 03/10/22: Updated

- 3 Inspections in Logging
- 4 Inspections in Arboriculture
- 2 Consultative Visits

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- 0 arborist fatality
- 0 logging fatality
- A joint meeting of the Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (SLTC) and North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Initiative State Implementation Committee (NC SFI-SIC) was held January 25<sup>th</sup> at the North Carolina Farm Bureau Building with Celeste presenting. We (OSH) are not associated with the NC SFI-SIC and did not participate in the portion of the meeting. Among the topics presented were the concerns with fall hazards for loggers and truckers, the number of fatalities in the industry in NC/nation, still seeing problems with proper PPE on smaller crews. Overall logging accidents have declined yet some concern with truck drivers getting injured due to lack of high visibility clothing and signage and how can we better promote this. Are there ways to improve roadside awareness? Celeste continued the update with the Top 10 citations. First Aid and CPR training not being current continue to be an issue followed by HAZCOM, this has been a bigger problem on smaller crews. Nationwide citations are similar, with Emergency Preparedness Plans still a major concern. Celeste mentioned although nothing is final, NC fines are lower than Nationwide averages, and this could increase in the future. Bryan Wagner brought up accident reporting and stressed the importance of calling in a fatality within 8 hours and hospitalization/amputation within 24 hours. This can be called in or submitted online. Celeste reinforced you have to contact the NCDOL, not just insurance.

### **Open Discussion:**

Carolina Loggers Association is holding their annual meeting at Wilmington March 11-13/22. Celeste and I are attending.

The first two 2022 ProLogger base classes are being held at Wayne Community College – March 23-24 - with Eric Smith presenting and Montgomery Community College – May 25-26 – with Celeste Hardy and Mark Rasdall presenting.

The “Arbor Fest” will be held in Fletcher 1-3 April. This will be a first for OSH in NC and Celeste, Andy and I will have a booth at this affair.

The Logging Expo for April 29-30 in Hamlet is and Andy and Celeste plan to work a booth and provide information on training and other resources to the many loggers at this meeting.

During the SLTC meeting in the west, DMV noted that folks with mobile fuel tanks are required to have appropriate DOT and HAZMAT markings applied on single tanks with a capacity of more than 119 gallons. If additional fuel is desired to be on hand, one acceptable option is to have multiple tanks of less than 120 gallons. Otherwise, appropriate markings are required.

If anyone would like to be a member of the sub-committee to evaluate and edit/produce our own NC version of an arborist rule/guide, we will accept nominations/volunteers.

Please encourage increased inspections in the SEP. We’re way down on our numbers. Please provide referrals to Consultative or Compliance where appropriate.

Continue to offer technical assistance and guidance whenever possible.

If you desire additional familiarization (training) with the industry and activities (inspections) associated with them, please let one of our committee members know and we’ll schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person where allowed) to assist.

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 23 June 2022, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations?

**Close at: 11:15 am**