



Division of Labor and Industry
Matthew Helminiak, Commissioner
10946 Golden West Drive, Suite 160
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031

MARYLAND OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (MOSH) ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 19, 2021– 1:00 p.m. | MOSH – Hunt Valley
10946 Golden West Drive # 160
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031

Board Members Present

Steve Connelly, Agriculture Member
Elizabeth “Sissy” Martin, Industry Member
Clifford Mitchell, M.D., Health Member
Neill Christopher, Public Member
Frank Trujillo, Industry Member
John Gibula, Public Member

DLI Staff Present

Matt Helminiak, Commissioner
Steven Lakin, Deputy Commissioner
Mischelle Vanreusel, Program Mgr.
Jenny Baker, Asst. Attorney General
Sarah Harlan, Asst. Attorney General
Michael Stracka, Asst. Commissioner
Michael Penn, Compliance Chief
Mark Broadwater, Program Manager
Tiffany Jones, Board Coordinator

Board Members Absent

Carol Dodson, Business Member
Richard Ruehl, Labor Member
Ed Singer, Health Member

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Steve Connelly put forth a motion to approve minutes from the July 26, 2019, MOSH Advisory Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Neill Christopher and the minutes were unanimously approved without correction.

MOSH UPDATE

Asst. Commissioner Mike Stracka provided Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) personnel and outreach updates by introducing himself to the public and new Board members. During the pandemic, Mike Stracka, Michael Penn, Mark Broadwater reported to the office daily, and assigned other staff to work remotely. MOSH performed 1200 inspections last year (2020) and has logged 994 active inspections to date. Consultation and Enforcement Units remained visible and involved during the pandemic. Mike Stracka noted that hiring actions slated for Training and Education were underway.

Board member Frank Trujillo commended Mike Stracka on MOSH’s commitment to staying diligent and active during the pandemic.

OSHA | MOSH REGULATORY UPDATE

Maryland Rule and Regulations Adoption:

Commissioner Helminiak provided an overview of HB581- Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS). Regulatory and Grants Coordinator Mischelle Vanreusel reported on the regulatory status of the Emergency Temporary Standards noting that MOSH adopted Federal OSHA ETS without making any changes. The Emergency Temporary Standards were submitted to the Maryland Register with an effective adoption and publication date of July 30, 2021.

MOTION: Sissy Martin put forward a motion for the Commissioner to adopt the Emergency Temporary Standards. The motion was seconded by Clifford Mitchell and passed unanimously.

Heat Stress

Commissioner Helminiak provided a brief overview of Heat Stress Regulations and outlined next steps. He announced that the dates and locations for the regional information sessions would be scheduled shortly noting that the pandemic placed a hold on previously scheduling the sessions. The Heat Stress Regulations are due October 2022.

Clifford Mitchell asked the Commissioner if he had any discussion with the Maryland Climate Change Commission projections for extreme temperatures. Commissioner Helminiak responded that he was aware of the projections through his oversight of the Building Codes Unit.

Frank Trujillo asked the role and responsibility of the Advisory Board during the informational sessions. Commissioner Helminiak encouraged Advisory Board members to attend the informational sessions. Asst. State's Attorney Sarah Harlan said the Commissioner would present the heat stress regulations during a future board meeting.

Public Comment:

Commissioner Helminiak opened the floor for comment.

Scott Schneider expressed his desire for MOSH to expand the populations covered by Heat Stress regulations.

Darryl Alexander, representing a coalition of labor unions for food production and farm working, asked the advisory board to encourage MOSH staff to quickly schedule and advertise the informational hearing sessions.

Commissioner Helminiak mentioned that an email address had been established for anyone interested in submitting comment or testimony.

Debbie Berkowitz representing the National Employment Law Project expressed interest in having Covid cases for meat packers and grocery stores report data to MOSH or the Health Department. She recommended MOSH staff look to California and Oregon OSHA for guidance on heat stress regulations.

MOTION: Frank Trujillo put forth a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Sissy Martin. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.