

MINUTES

PREVAILING WAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Chair Norman Malbin called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guests Present</u>
Robert Bachofner	Daniel Boldt	Dan Gardner	Daniel Bonham
Tim DeGan	Jessica Harris-Adamson	Annette Talbott	Bob Childers
Norman Malbin	Mark Holliday	Christie Hammond	Ed Hensley
Shawn Miller		Lois Banahene	Denise O'Farrell
Jay Minor		Hannah Wood	Dan Roberts
John Mohlis			Bruce Temple
Dan O'Brien			Rick Thomas
Bob Shiprack			David Yamaka
Dick Springer			

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the June 11, 2003 meeting of the advisory committee were reviewed and accepted.

Staff Reports

Christie Hammond presented a summary of PWR enforcement activities, a summary of PWR education seminars, and a 2002 survey violations report for the committee's review.

Review/Discussion of 2003 PWR Survey/Data

Commissioner Gardner invited Dan O'Brien and Bob Shiprack to share their observations of the prevailing wage rate-setting process, since they both participated in a meeting to review the 2002 survey data the preceding week.

Dan O'Brien expressed surprise that the separate data collected for "building" and "heavy/highway" construction had not been as disparate as he expected. Mr. O'Brien also indicated that the amount of data collected from rural counties had not increased significantly, even with the pilot survey which surveyed peak weeks by region.

Bob Shiprack commented that even expanding the survey peak week identification period (from six weeks during the summer to the entire previous year) had not resulted in substantial increases in the amount of data collected. Mr. Shiprack suggested that the individual crafts be consulted to both help interpret and/or identify any potential errors in the data collected.

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Meeting Minutes

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Commissioner Gardner discussed the problems of rate-setting without any existing guidelines, and said that he thought consistency in the survey was critical to collecting quality data. Commissioner Gardner said that he was particularly interested in formulating guidelines to be used in the rate-setting process and that the bureau had begun working on compiling a list of such guidelines for consideration, such as when statewide data should be used in making regional determinations in regions with limited or insufficient data; under what circumstances rates for contiguous regions should be considered; and when regional data should be consolidated.

Committee members were asked to submit suggestions for rate-setting guidelines or the survey process to Christie Hammond by January 23, 2004.

Dick Springer asked about the “error range” in the survey data. Denise O’Farrell of the Employment Department responded that “error ranges” apply only in surveys surveying a *sample* as opposed to an entire “universe” of respondents.

In response to an inquiry about the survey questionnaires from Norm Malbin, Denise O’Farrell said that the department had received over 2,000 responses to the questionnaire this year and she agreed to prepare a summary of the responses for the next advisory committee meeting, along with a report relating to the pilot survey.

Formation of Subcommittee to Review Application of PWR Law to Truck Drivers

Commissioner Gardner asked for volunteers to serve on a subcommittee that will review and make recommendations regarding BOLI’s policies relating to the application of the prevailing wage rate law to truck drivers on public works projects. Norman Malbin agreed to chair the subcommittee. Shawn Miller, Bob Shiprack and Dick Springer volunteered and Jessica Harris and Lynn Lehrbach of the Teamsters Union were appointed to the subcommittee. Representatives from the trucking and aggregate industries will also be invited to participate on the committee.

The first meeting of the subcommittee was scheduled for Thursday, December 18, 2003 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM at IBEW Local 48, 15937 N.E. Airport Way in Portland.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Prevailing Wage Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, February 12, at 1:30 PM at the Bricklayers Local #1, 12812 N.E. Marx St., Portland.

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