

MINUTES

PREVAILING WAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 11, 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>
Jessica Harris	Robert Bachofner	Lois Banahene	Rich Banel
Mark Holliday	Daniel Boldt	Dan Gardner	Jeff Carlson
Norman Malbin	Tim DeGan	Christie Hammond	Ed Hensley
Jay Minor	Shawn Miller	Hannah Wood	John Killin
John Mohlis	Bob Shiprack		Denise O'Farrell
Dan O'Brien			
Dick Springer			

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the April 30, 2003 meeting of the advisory committee were reviewed. The second paragraph of page 2 was corrected to read “[I]t was also proposed that **sub-journey** data be eliminated from the survey.”

Review/Discussion of Draft 2003 PWR Survey(s)

Copies of the draft 2003 PWR surveys were distributed to committee members. The 2003 survey will collect peak week data from between September 1, 2002 and August 31, 2003. Previous surveys collected data from a 6-week window in June, July and August only. The 2003 survey will include a column to distinguish the hours reported as either “Building” construction or “Heavy/Highway” construction. Additionally, “Registered Apprentice” has been deleted as an option under “Skill Level” and the PWR check off box has been deleted from the “Basic Hourly Rate” column.

A separate pilot survey to collect survey data by peak week *per region* will be tested this year. A sample of approximately 10% of contractors from the Carpenters, Cement Masons, Laborers, Power Equipment Operators and Truck Drivers trades will be asked to submit data for the peak week in every region they worked between September 1, 2002 and August 31, 2003. Participating contractors will be notified by cover letter that this is a test project, and assistance

to these contractors will be offered. The estimated number of laborer contractor respondents was questioned. Denise O'Farrell of the Employment Department agreed to verify the number.

Ms. O'Farrell explained the need to collect data from a cross section of union and non-union, and small, medium and large contractors in the pilot. It was agreed that it might be helpful for committee members to identify contractors known to do work in multiple regions and are likely to provide multi-regional data in the pilot survey.

Committee members were concerned that the survey did not state clearly enough that residential data should not be included. It was agreed that "non-residential" would be bolded in question 2A on the survey.

Committee member Dan O'Brien suggested that guidance be provided in the survey relating to selection of the contractor's "peak week." Mr. O'Brien said that information in this regard may be available from the Construction Financial Managers Association, and he would follow up on this.

To clear up any confusion about what type of work falls under Building, Heavy/Highway, or Residential Construction, definitions of each will be included at the front of the survey booklet and "(see definition)" with the appropriate page number will be inserted into Question 9 – Construction Type.

A draft questionnaire to be sent with the survey was reviewed, asking for feedback regarding the survey. Completion of the questionnaire will be voluntary. The responses should help identify ways the survey process can be improved and/or made easier for the contractors. A separate questionnaire will be sent with the sample "Peak Week by Region" surveys.

Any additional suggestions relating to the 2003 surveys and questionnaires submitted to BOLI by June 20, 2003 will be considered.

Other Business

Commissioner Gardner presented an advance copy of the July 1, 2003 Prevailing Wage Rates publication and noted that the publication includes the rates appeal process previously approved by the committee.

Commissioner Gardner also discussed his desire to establish guidelines for making future rate determinations and suggested that committee members representing labor and management participate in the January 2004 rate determination process. Dan O'Brien and Bob Shiprack were designated to sit in on the Prevailing Wage Rates determination meeting with the Oregon Employment Department in Salem in November.

A new rule was adopted by the committee allowing a member to be dropped from the committee if they have three unexcused absences in a row. The rule will take effect beginning with the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Prevailing Wage Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, November 20, at 1:30 PM in the WHD Conference Room at the Portland State Office Building, Suite 1160, 800 NE Oregon.

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