

Chancellor's University Safety Committee (CUSC) Meeting
July 15, 2025 - 3:00-4:00 p.m.
EHS Training Room & Zoom

AGENDA

1. Introductions (3:00 – 3:05 p.m.) Martha Morton
2. Old Business
 - A. Chair/volunteers if update Plan Ahead (3:05 – 3:10 p.m.)
 - B. Other Old Business (3:10 – 3:15 p.m.)
3. New Business
 - A. 4th Qtr. Injury Incidents/Near Misses (3:15– 3:20 p.m.) Elizabeth Howe
 - B. The Sheldon: Emergency Flip Chart (3:20 – 3:35) Diane Pinkerton
 - C. Other new business (3:35 – 3:40 p.m.)
4. Reminder of next meeting & Adjourn Martha Morton

Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026 (EHS training room, Warehouse 1, East Campus and Zoom)

- September 16, 2025 - Open Forum
- November 18, 2025 (this is not Thanksgiving Week)
(Injury/Illness report July-September 2025)
- January 20, 2026 (Injury/Illness report October-December 2025)
- March 24, 2026 (4th Tuesday to avoid spring break) - Open Forum
- May 19, 2026 (Injury/Illness report January-March 2026)
- July 21, 2026 (Injury/Illness report April-June 2026)

Goal FY 2025-2026:

Develop, review, and maintain lines of safety communication while fostering a culture of safety awareness, where everyone is encouraged to report “near misses” and unsafe practices. Use safety reports as lessons learned to share anonymously throughout the university to prevent reoccurrences/similar incidents.

Chancellor's University Safety Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2025
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The July meeting was convened by Chair Martha Morton at 3:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

All attendees introduced themselves by name and the department/facility they represent.

Members In Attendance: Ron Bacon (Custodial Services), Eileen Bergt (Landscape Services), Rick Campos (FP&C Fire Inspector), Sandi Overkamp (Ag Research), Kyle Hansen (CREC), Diane Pinkerton (Sheldon Museum of Art), Darren Johnson (ENREEC), Sharleen Roth (Housing), Samantha Link (ARD Plant Facility), Mike Livingston (Agronomy & Horticulture), Barb McCain (Dining Svcs), Deb Royal (Vet Diagnostic), Jody Wood (Institutional Equity & Compliance), Alan Boldt (BSE), and Zhiguang (Zach) Sun (NCMN)

Guests: Randi Houghtelling (NCTA), Adam Eiken (University State Museum)

OLD BUSINESS

The group had previously discussed updating the Plan Ahead graphics that are designed to highlight topics of employee safety awareness. Sandi Overkamp volunteered to chair a committee to investigate ideas to add to and/or replace current graphics. Deb Royal volunteered to serve on the committee. Elizabeth Howe, CUSC liaison, will facilitate the process with UCOMM once there are a few ideas developed to present to UCOMM.

Currently "Plan Ahead" graphics are online on a rotating basis, posted at <https://ehs.unl.edu/safety-resources/plan-ahead-graphics/>. Members are encouraged to share ideas for new graphics with Sandi and/or Deb. Topics proposed so far are ladder safety, lithium-ion battery safety and avoidance of struck by injuries. Review past injury incident reports provided to the CUSC quarterly for other suggestions.

There was no other old business

NEW BUSINESS

Abby Scheletzbaum was unable to attend the meeting but provided the following information via email:

UNL is currently finalizing a five-year Hazard Mitigation Plan update which is required by FEMA in order to receive grant funding for hazard planning and mitigation projects. These funds have been used to fund the SNR Mesonet system. We hope to use FEMA mitigation grants to fund future projects at UNL including the construction of tornado saferooms on extension campus sites and exploring backup power generation options. One requirement of the plan development process is to seek out feedback from the public. If you have ideas on ways we can mitigate against hazards at UNL, or have feedback on the plan document, please provide feedback to Abby at aschletzbaum2@unl.edu or https://go.unl.edu/hazard_mitigation_plan.

Injury Incident Reporting for 4th Quarter 2024-2025

Elizabeth Howe noted that from April 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025, there were fifty-five (55) First Reports of Injury (FRIs). 18.2% were classified as OSHA-Recordable, considered more serious injury incidents. 5.5% of the injury incidents required workers to be off work or resulted in restricted duty for the worker.

Elizabeth pointed out that the approximately 20 of the recorded injuries were due to being Struck Against or By. While some of the workers were Animal Handlers, 15 were Custodial, Food Service, Laboratory or Office workers. This should inform CUSC members that training by departments within their spheres of influence is needed to avoid such incidents in the future.

Injury reports were sent to CUSC membership for review prior to the meeting. Elizabeth Howe asked those in attendance if there were any questions. There were none. Any questions that arise after the meeting can be sent to ehs@unl.edu to be addressed.

Elizabeth gave a brief review of near misses submitted since the last meeting. One incident occurred when a researcher set off a smoke-producing device indoors. The researcher did not understand the device and did not heed warnings on the device. Another involved vendors not following protocol to check into the facility and subsequent lockout/tagout issues.

Resource

The topic, "The Sheldon: Emergency Flip Chart" will be presented at the November meeting as there were technical difficulties preventing presentation at the July meeting.

Other New Business

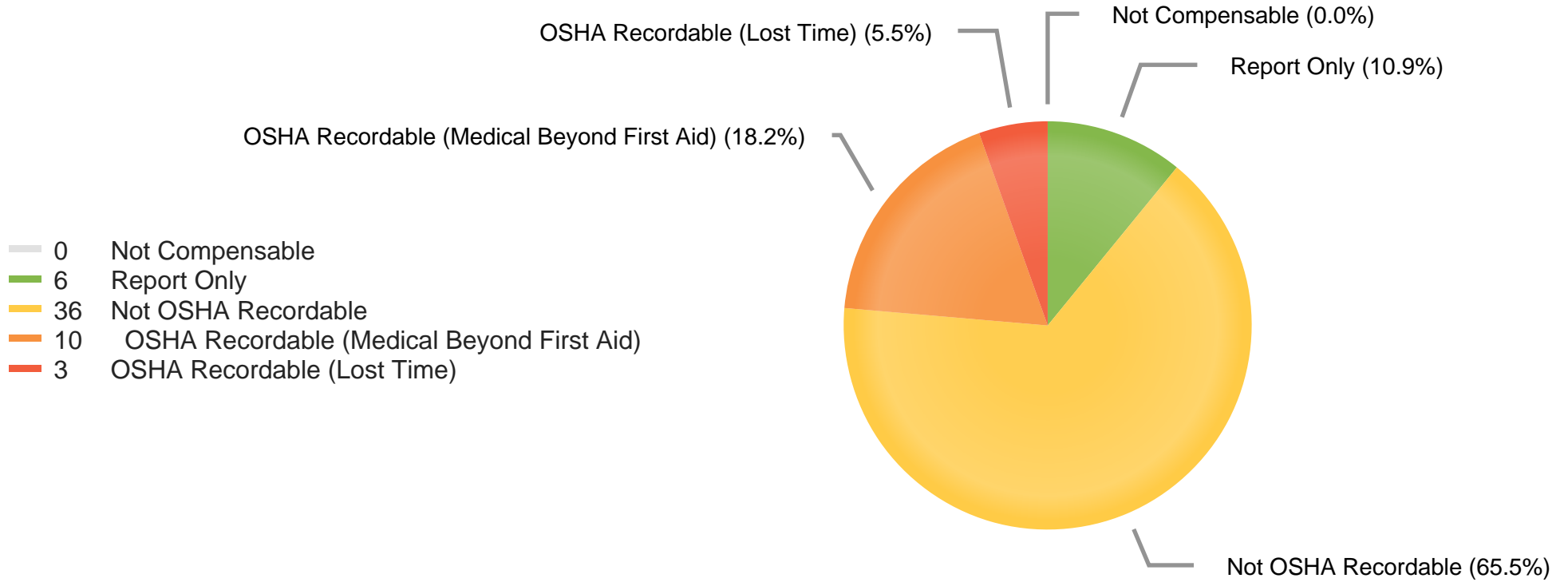
Questions arose about the Splinter Lab fire caused by lithium-ion batteries. Rick Campos and Alan Boldt will present information on that incident and follow-up as the "Resource" for the September meeting.

Darren Johnson asked about information regarding temporary trailers/equipment on university property for a time period for the purpose of conducting/facilitating a particular area of research. There is such at ENREEC-Mead. Rick Campos and Deb Royal will follow up.

CLOSING REMARKS

Martha Morton, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm. The next meeting will be an Open Forum meeting for which the campus community is particularly invited to be held on September 16, 2025.

Severity (Total : 55)
Start Date: 4/1/2025 - Stop Date: 6/30/2025



Event/Exposure By Employment Type
Start Date: 4/1/2025 - Stop Date: 6/30/2025

