

State of Connecticut Board for Crane Operators  
Minutes of the August 3, 2016, Meeting

Members Present: Nate Brown; Keith Murphy & Edward Shapiro

Also Attending: Elliot Henowitz, State Crane Inspector; David Doherty, Cianbro; David D'Ostilio, Local 478; Chris Syrek, Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc; John Cavatorta, Middlesex Corp., Ryan Pepin, Eastern Steel Erectors, and Norman Bolduc, American Rigging.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes of the June 1, 2016, meeting – approved and seconded.
3. Old Business:
  - A. Agreements: None.
  - B. Crane regulations: The State Crane Inspector reported to the State Crane Board that the Construction Services' legal department was open to having the state crane regulations include medical requirements.
  - C. At the previous meeting of the State Crane Board on April 6, 2016, the Legal Advisor of DAS, Jenna Pedula, submitted various ways the Board could handle the process of addressing fraudulent licenses. At that meeting, Chairman St. John suggested that the wording of the drafts be more stringent and the penalty be increased from a civil penalty to a criminal offense. This issue was tabled at the April 6, 2016, meeting and continues to be tabled: Waiting on Legal Department's reply on comments from the State Crane Board to use more stringent wording and penalty.
4. New Business:

A & B. Crane and apprentice crane applications were reviewed by the State Crane Board for compliance to the state regulations at this meeting. All reviewed at this meeting were approved with the exception of one applicant. A call will be made by the State Crane Inspector to request additional information.
5. Accidents/Incidents
  - A. The State Crane Inspector submitted a letter from the director at the Danbury Municipal Airport looking for the state's support in enforcement of the laws pertaining to (high) crane booms working within proximity of airports. The State Crane Board reviewed the information/documentation submitted from the Danbury Municipal Airport. The State Crane Board endorsed sending out a letter to the Summit Crane Company warning that they must comply with the laws pertaining to crane booms and FAA requirements (Tabled – awaiting signature).
  - B. A discussion took place at the June 1, 2016, meeting of the State Crane Board regarding pile driving situations encroaching over public roadways that create a serious hazard and are in violation of OSHA and ANSI/ASME regulations. This particular incident occurred on the I-95 Middlesex Corporation project in West Haven, Connecticut, where driving piles encroached over the southbound lane of I-95. The State Crane Inspector will write a letter to the DOT

Engineering Department detailing the safety hazard presented when driving piles which encroach over public roadways and request consideration of the possibility of splicing piles to prevent this situation.

- C. The State Crane Board reviewed a crane accident, which occurred on May 19, 2016, at the Brewer Pilots Point Marina in Westbrook, Connecticut. On this day, crane operator Richard Wiley was preparing to hoist a 70-foot mast of a sailboat. Crane operator Richard Wiley was positioning the crane's boom and hookblock in anticipation for the lift. In the process of the hookblock being positioned for the lift, the hookblock struck rigging crewman John Ridgeway on the side of his head and face. The State Crane Board reviewed this crane accident and decided not to take any action.
  
- D. The State Crane Board reviewed a fatal hoisting accident, which occurred on December 8, 2015, in Danbury, Connecticut. Hoisting operator Benjamin Kovacs was hoisting two bundles of rebar, which resulted in a construction worker who was working on the foundation being constructed on site being pinned under the rebar. As a result of being struck by and/or pinned under the two bundles of rebar being hoisted, the construction work died. The State Crane Board decided to have the hoisting operator attend a hearing due to this fatal accident.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.