

Meeting Notes of the Construction Underground Economy Advisory Committee (CUEAC), held at Labor and Industries Headquarters July 9th, 2018

Attendees: Gary Schenk, Don Demulling, Neil Hartman, Josh Swanson, Kerry Cox, Patrick Connor, Jim King, Annette Taylor, Dean Simpson, Melissa McBride, Jan Rhoila, Debby Abe

Welcome and Introductions

Annette Taylor kicked off the meeting with an update on the status of hiring a new Assistant Director for Fraud Prevention and Labor Standards Division. As of the meeting, the agency was still in the recruitment phases. Round table introductions were conducted

Safety Message

Annette Taylor provided a safety tip about driving with consideration of the recent conclusion of the 2017/2018 school year.

Legislative Session Ramp Up

Tammy Fellin provided an overview on agency legislative ideas and concepts for the 2019 session.

- Small Business Assistance Grant
- State requirement for explosive handlers
- Extend Elevator Mechanic license timeframe
- Elevator bill with minor changes
- Increasing bond amount for construction contractors

Tammy informed committee all bills will be sent in draft form for review and feedback prior going to the Governor's Office.

Tammy provided information on the budget request for agency technology enhancements for Workers Comp system and Prevailing Wage.

Committee member questions:

- Why funds for prosecution never move forward.
- What is the agencies priority on prosecution
- Is the current money sufficient
- Are additional resources needed and if so what are they

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Discussion followed with committee members expressing interest in supporting agency in moving legislative requests forward.

There was concern regarding independent contractor issues with the underground economy. Committee members expressed their willingness to assist the department with issues.

Tammy suggested an internal conversation to occur to identify CUEAC role with these issues.

BIAW Speaker

Jan Rohila from BIAW presented an overview the BIAW's recently launched Certified Builder Program. The overview included the concept, requirements, current state of the program and next steps. Handouts were provided

The question was asked if this would become a mandatory for BIAW members. Jan is confident this program will remain voluntary program.

Review Dashboard for CUEAC meetings

Dean Simpson, Chief of Compliance, and Melissa McBride shared the monthly report Dean uses for his program. They committee agreed this was helpful in telling the story. Some suggested changes in presentation of the dashboard were made.

New Releases

Debby Abe with Public Affairs shared the latest press releases. Links to the stories were sent to the committee.

Round Table

- Committee members expressed interest in working with the department on legislative matters
- The question was asked if there is a need for a new legislative taskforce separate from CUEAC
- Concern was expressed that misclassification vs. non reporting is an important conversation the committee should address

Next Meeting

November 19, 2018