RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-330

MEETING: July 7, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Steve Johnson, Human Resources Director - Risk Manager

RE: Amend the Safety Commission and Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Amend the “Safety Commission and Advisory Committee” as follows: (1) change the name to the “Mariposa County Safety Committee”; (2) revise the committee membership so that it is composed of thirteen employees (seven being representatives from rank and file, and six being representatives from management), all with one year terms, as well as two Board of Supervisor members who will serve in an advisory capacity; (3) change the department overseeing the committee from the Public Works Department to the Human Resources/Risk Management Department; and (4) authorize the Human Resources Director/Risk Manager to solicit nominations for committee membership from County departments in order to make recommendations for appointment by the Board.

In 1991, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 91-181 which established the Safety Commission and Advisory Committee in order to comply with California Labor Code Section 6401.7 which is still the prevailing law. However, that Committee (whose composition and membership is attached to this Staff Report) has not met on an on-going basis for the purpose for which it was created, and many of the vacancies have either not been filled, or are filled with County employees who no longer work here.

Staff is recommending changes to the committee in order to revitalize the County’s effort to provide a safer workplace for County employees, reduce accidents and injuries through a concerted and educated effort, and to maintain County compliance with all applicable State and Federal safety laws. Specific changes being recommended include a change of the name from the “Safety Commission and Advisory Committee” to the “Mariposa County Safety Committee”; and a membership amendment so that the committee is comprised of thirteen employees (composed of seven rank and file representatives, and six management representatives), as well as two Board of Supervisor members who will serve in an advisory capacity. These Safety Committee members will serve a term of one year. Staff believes that this cross section of County employees on the committee will greatly enhance the County’s ability to provide for a
safer workplace.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
In 1991 the Board created the “Safety Commission and Advisory Committee” in order to comply with California Labor Code Section 6401.7 which is still the prevailing law.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
If the Board does not approve an amendment to the committee, then the Safety Commission and Advisory Committee will continue as it currently exists.

As alternate actions, the Board may select a different committee name, alternate membership categories, and/or a different department to oversee the committee.

ATTACHMENTS:
California Labor Code Section 6401.7 (DOCX)
Resolution 1991-181 - Formation of Safety Commission and Advisory Committee (PDF)
Safety Commission and Advisory Committee (DOC)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson, CAO 7/2/2015

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier
CALIFORNIA LABOR CODE SECTION 6401.7

(a) Every employer shall establish, implement, and maintain an effective injury prevention program. The program shall be written, except as provided in subdivision (e), and shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements:

(1) Identification of the person or persons responsible for implementing the program.

(2) The employer's system for identifying and evaluating workplace hazards, including scheduled periodic inspections to identify unsafe conditions and work practices.

(3) The employer's methods and procedures for correcting unsafe or unhealthy conditions and work practices in a timely manner.

(4) An occupational health and safety training program designed to instruct employees in general safe and healthy work practices and to provide specific instruction with respect to hazards specific to each employee's job assignment.

(5) The employer's system for communicating with employees on occupational health and safety matters, including provisions designed to encourage employees to inform the employer of hazards at the worksite without fear of reprisal.

(6) The employer's system for ensuring that employees comply with safe and healthy work practices, which may include disciplinary action.

(b) The employer shall correct unsafe and unhealthy conditions and work practices in a timely manner based on the severity of the hazard.

(c) The employer shall train all employees when the training program is first established, all new employees, and all employees given a new job assignment, and shall train employees whenever new substances, processes, procedures, or equipment are introduced to the workplace and represent a new hazard, and whenever the employer receives notification of a new or previously unrecognized hazard. An employer in the construction industry who is required to be licensed under Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 7000) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code may use employee training provided to the employer's employees under a construction industry occupational safety and health training program approved by the division to comply with the requirements of subdivision (a) relating to employee training, and shall only be required to provide training on hazards specific to an employee's job duties.

(d) The employer shall keep appropriate records of steps taken to implement and maintain the program. An employer in the construction industry who is required to be licensed under Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 7000) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code may use records relating to employee training provided to the employer in connection with an occupational safety and health training program approved by the division to comply with this subdivision, and shall only be required to keep records of those steps taken to implement and maintain the program with respect to hazards specific to an employee's job duties.
(e) (1) The standards board shall adopt a standard setting forth the employer's duties under this section, on or before January 1, 1991, consistent with the requirements specified in subdivisions (a), (b), (c), and (d). The standards board, in adopting the standard, shall include substantial compliance criteria for use in evaluating an employer's injury prevention program. The board may adopt less stringent criteria for employers with few employees and for employers in industries with insignificant occupational safety or health hazards.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), for employers with fewer than 20 employees who are in industries that are not on a designated list of high hazard industries and who have a workers' compensation experience modification rate of 1.1 or less, and for any employers with fewer than 20 employees who are in industries that are on a designated list of low hazard industries, the board shall adopt a standard setting forth the employer's duties under this section consistent with the requirements specified in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c), except that the standard shall only require written documentation to the extent of documenting the person or persons responsible for implementing the program pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), keeping a record of periodic inspections pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), and keeping a record of employee training pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (a). To any extent beyond the specifications of this subdivision, the standard shall not require the employer to keep the records specified in subdivision (d).

(3) (A) The division shall establish a list of high hazard industries using the methods prescribed in Section 6314.1 for identifying and targeting employers in high hazard industries. For purposes of this subdivision, the "designated list of high hazard industries" shall be the list established pursuant to this paragraph.

(B) For the purpose of implementing this subdivision, the Department of Industrial Relations shall periodically review, and as necessary revise, the list.

(4) For the purpose of implementing this subdivision, the Department of Industrial Relations shall also establish a list of low hazard industries, and shall periodically review, and as necessary revise, that list.

(f) The standard adopted pursuant to subdivision (e) shall specifically permit employer and employee occupational safety and health committees to be included in the employer's injury prevention program. The board shall establish criteria for use in evaluating employer and employee occupational safety and health committees. The criteria shall include minimum duties, including the following:

(1) Review of the employer's periodic, scheduled worksite inspections; investigation of causes of incidents resulting in injury, illness, or exposure to hazardous substances; and investigation of any alleged hazardous condition brought to the attention of any committee member. When determined necessary by the committee, the committee may conduct its own inspections and investigations.
(2) (A) Upon request from the division, verification of abatement action taken by the employer as specified in division citations.

(B) If an employer's occupational safety and health committee meets the criteria established by the board, it shall be presumed to be in substantial compliance with paragraph (5) of subdivision (a).

(g) The division shall adopt regulations specifying the procedures for selecting employee representatives for employer-employee occupational health and safety committees when these procedures are not specified in an applicable collective bargaining agreement. No employee or employee organization shall be held liable for any act or omission in connection with a health and safety committee.

(h) The employer's injury prevention program, as required by this section, shall cover all of the employer's employees and all other workers who the employer controls or directs and directly supervises on the job to the extent these workers are exposed to worksite and job assignment specific hazards. Nothing in this subdivision shall affect the obligations of a contractor or other employer that controls or directs and directly supervises its own employees on the job.

(i) When a contractor supplies its employee to a state agency employer on a temporary basis, the state agency employer may assess a fee upon the contractor to reimburse the state agency for the additional costs, if any, of including the contract employee within the state agency's injury prevention program.

(j) (1) The division shall prepare a Model Injury and Illness Prevention Program for Non-High-Hazard Employment, and shall make copies of the model program prepared pursuant to this subdivision available to employers, upon request, for posting in the workplace. An employer who adopts and implements the model program prepared by the division pursuant to this paragraph in good faith shall not be assessed a civil penalty for the first citation for a violation of this section issued after the employer's adoption and implementation of the model program.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, the division shall establish a list of non-high-hazard industries in California. These industries, identified by their Standard Industrial Classification Codes, as published by the United States Office of Management and Budget in the Manual of Standard Industrial Classification Codes, 1987 Edition, are apparel and accessory stores (Code 56), eating and drinking places (Code 58), miscellaneous retail (Code 59), finance, insurance, and real estate (Codes 60-67), personal services (Code 72), business services (Code 73), motion pictures (Code 78) except motion picture production and allied services (Code 781), legal services (Code 81), educational services (Code 82), social services (Code 83), museums, art galleries, and botanical and zoological gardens (Code 84), membership organizations (Code 86), engineering, accounting, research, management, and related services (Code 87), private households (Code 88), and miscellaneous services (Code 89).
To further identify industries that may be included on the list, the division shall also consider data from a rating organization, as defined in Section 11750.1 of the Insurance Code, and all other appropriate information. The list shall be established by June 30, 1994, and shall be reviewed, and as necessary revised, biennially.

(3) The division shall prepare a Model Injury and Illness Prevention Program for Employers in Industries with Intermittent Employment, and shall determine which industries have historically utilized seasonal or intermittent employees. An employer in an industry determined by the division to have historically utilized seasonal or intermittent employees shall be deemed to have complied with the requirements of subdivision (a) with respect to a written injury prevention program if the employer adopts the model program prepared by the division pursuant to this paragraph and complies with any instructions relating thereto.

(k) With respect to any county, city, city and county, or district, or any public or quasi-public corporation or public agency therein, including any public entity, other than a state agency, that is a member of, or created by, a joint powers agreement, subdivision (d) shall not apply.

(l) Every workers' compensation insurer shall conduct a review, including a written report as specified below, of the injury and illness prevention program (IIPP) of each of its insureds with an experience modification of 2.0 or greater within six months of the commencement of the initial insurance policy term. The review shall determine whether the insured has implemented all of the required components of the IIPP, and evaluate their effectiveness. The training component of the IIPP shall be evaluated to determine whether training is provided to line employees, supervisors, and upper level management, and effectively imparts the information and skills each of these groups needs to ensure that all of the insured's specific health and safety issues are fully addressed by the insured. The reviewer shall prepare a detailed written report specifying the findings of the review and all recommended changes deemed necessary to make the IIPP effective. The reviewer shall be or work under the direction of a licensed California professional engineer, certified safety professional, or a certified industrial hygienist.
RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes__ No__) Resolution authorizing establishment of a Safety Commission and Advisory Committee. Need direction from the Board that each Department Head appoint representatives to committee and to appoint representatives from Public Works, Building Department and Public Health Department as an advisory committee. Per the regulations of Senate Bill 198, Labor Code Section 6401.7 requires that every employer shall establish, implement and maintain an effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
A Safety Committee was established several years ago. Board Resolution 87-85 disbanded the committee.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not authorize committee and state regulations will not be complied with.

COSTS: (X) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted current FY $_________
B. Total anticipated costs $_________
C. Required Add’l funding $_________
D. Source: ___________________________

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

SOURCE: ( ) 4/5ths Vote Required
A. Internal transfers $_________
B. Unanticipated revenues $_________
C. Reserve for contingency $_________
D. Description: ___________________________
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved: $_________

CLERK’S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: ____________________
Ord. No.: ____________________
Vote - Ayes: ________ Noes: ________
Absent: ________ Abstained: ________
Approved ( ) Denied ( ) Minute Order Attached

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: ____________________

ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Mariposa, State of CA
By: ____________________
Deputy

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

Recommended
Not Recommended
For Policy Determination
Submitted with Comment
Returned for Further Action

Comment: ____________________

A.O. Initials: ____________________

Action Form Revised 12/89