

**NEBRASKA OPERATION LIFESAVER  
STATE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**January 8, 2015**

**[www.nebraskaol.org](http://www.nebraskaol.org)**

**[www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org)**

**<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nebraska-Operation-Lifesaver/147424071980165>**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Carol Daley called the meeting to order and Dan Chapp gave the Safety Briefing.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Billy Anderson, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad

Mark Ashworth, Union Pacific Railroad

Richard Bennett, Retired

Dan Chapp, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad

Carol Daley, Executive Director – NE OL

Robert Grant, Nebraska Department of Roads

Megan Grimes, Nebraska Ethanol Board

Tom Hillyard, Union Pacific Railroad

Harold Jones, Retired

Linda Kearns, Nebraska Office of Highway Safety

Marvin Kohout, Traffic Safety Plus

Richard Kotan, Retired

Pat Leahy, Union Pacific Railroad

Mike Meyer, Nebraska State Patrol

Sean Owings, Nebraska Department of Roads

Todd Palmer, Nebraska Department of Roads

Ron Scholz, Retired

Grace Snoke, News Link

Stu Sutherland, Retired

Gary Sydzyik, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad

Jeri Willms, Retired

**Statistics:**

Bob Grant discussed the following handouts. (See attachments)

- o Nebraska Traffic Fatality Toll Comparison as of January 8, 2015
- o 2014 Nebraska Railroad Fatalities – Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities
- o 2014/2015 Non-Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities

**Board and Officer Report:**

**Board:**

The NE OL Board of Directors met prior to the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: Carol Daley, Marvin Kohout, Richard Kotan, Ron Scholz, Gary Sydzyik and Linda Kearns. The Board members discussed the following items: NE OL financial expenses for 2015, Goals for 2015, Gretna School Project, Trailer Update, Presenter Training Update, OLI ad campaign, Nebraska 501©3 status, NE OL State Meeting in the west part of the state, Election of Officers and the State Coordinator Summit.

Rich suggested holding the September Committee meeting in western Nebraska.

**General Secretary/Supplies:**

If you are in need of supplies, contact Carol Daley at 402-885-8572 or by email at [neolcadaley@cox.net](mailto:neolcadaley@cox.net).

**Treasurer:**

Balance on hand as of December 31, 2014 was \$3,125.00. Carol sent out 117 letters requesting funding for the program.

## **Old Business:**

### **Gretna Schools – Mark Ashworth**

Mark Ashworth provided an update on the Gretna Schools project. A total of over 1,500 students attended an OLI presentation at 4 grade schools in Gretna, NE. The poster voting process was completed on the NE OL website. The four grand prizes winners will be presented their awards on January 13, 2015. (See NEOL Facebook & Website Update attachment)

### **Board of Directors (SWOT) Analysis Meeting – Mark Ashworth**

Mark Ashworth gave a review of the SWOT Analysis which was held at the Board of Directors meeting on October 22, 2014. The SWOT analysis is a way for an organization to discuss strengths and weaknesses of the program. The NE OL needs to have a passion to get our message out to the public with the presenters being the marketers. There is a need to be working toward a mentor (more experienced presenter)/mentee program to keep the new presenters involved.

### **See Tracks? Think Train! – National Safety Campaign – October/November – Ron Scholz**

NE OL has completed the "See Tracks? Think Train!" national and local level 2014 campaign. During the October/November campaign billboards were placed in Grand Island (3), Minden (1), and McCook (2) and 200 signs were purchased for the back of trucks. NE OL had applied for \$25,000 but was turned down. Now the national OLI is providing NE OL with a grant of \$14,000 for railroad safety. NE OL has approached the Nebraska Broadcaster Association regarding the funding and for an investment of \$34,780 they will provide NE OL with a three to one multiplier, providing approximately \$104,000 worth of messages. In order to receive this grant funding there is a need to get additional partners to provide funding to reach the \$20,780 goal. Suggestions were made to contact insurance companies, Nebraska Farm Bureau, State Farm, Mutual of Omaha, etc. to see if they would be interested in partnering with NE OL in the ad "SeeTracks? ThinkTrain!" campaign.

### **Website/Facebook Operation Lifesaver - Nebraska – Megan Grimes**

Megan Grimes gave a presentation on NE OL Website/Facebook/Twitter Updates. The home page has a format change, along with a change in the font type and photo galleries documenting NE OL work. She also has been working on the NE OL Facebook page. The Gretna school contest winners are also located on the website. The likes went from 153 to 184 since the last meeting. (See attached slide presentation) Be sure to check out the website at [www.nebraskaol.org](http://www.nebraskaol.org). If you have anything you would like to add to the website, contact Megan Grimes at [megblume@gmail.com](mailto:megblume@gmail.com).

### **Elections of Officers – Rick Kotan**

Rick Kotan handled the election ballot for the Board of Director positions. Five original positions were placed on the ballot, Marvin Kohout, Ron Scholz, Linda Kearns, and Rich Kotan along with three people who were added to the vote, Megan Grimes, Chip Frazier, and Grace Snoke. Board Member, Larry Johnson, asked to be relieved of this duty but would still be an active member. The voting took place among the committee members and the votes were tallied the following day. Results are as follows: Marvin Kohout and Megan Grimes will have a one year term, (to be voted on in January 2016) and Linda Kearns, Ron Scholz, and Rick Kotan will have a two year term (to be voted on in January 2017). If anyone has any questions regarding the election of officers, contact Rich by email at [rmkotan@gmail.com](mailto:rmkotan@gmail.com).

### **Nebraska Application for 501© 3 status – Carol Daley**

The NE OL 501© 3 non-profit application has been completed and submitted to the OLI lawyers to be submitted to the State of Nebraska for completion.

### **Nebraska Year End Reports – Presentations/Financial**

Carol will be compiling the NE OL year-end report of presentations/financial reports. Be sure to log your presentations into the OLI website by January 16, 2015. The deadline for entering presentations on the old system is March 31, 2015. NE OL will receive \$1,500 from OLI if the Annual Report deadline of January 31, 2015, is met. The \$1,500 will not be sent to NE OL until December 2015. If you have any information to add to the report, please contact Carol at 402-885-8572 or by email at [neolcadaley@cox.net](mailto:neolcadaley@cox.net).

### **NE OL Mobile Training Trailer – Mark Ashworth**

Mark Ashworth gave an update on the new NE OL Mobile Training Trailer. The trailer is getting close to completion. The flooring is down, needs to add a trim board, complete some touch up painting, labels on console, purchase a heavy duty electrical cord and 32"LED television. Upon completion of those items in Omaha, the trailer will be brought to Lincoln. Dan Chapp will work on getting the wrap completed and finding a place to store it in Lincoln. The final decision on the wrap on the outside of the NE OL trailer with a universal OL message has not been decided on at this time. Anyone who has ideas for the graphic design for the outside wrap of the trailer can contact Carol Daley at 402-885-8572 or by email at neolcadaley@cox.net.

### **New Business:**

#### **Partners of Nebraska OL – Carol Daley**

Members of the Board of Directors, Larry Johnson, Ron Scholz, Rich Kotan, Marvin Kohout, and the State Coordinator Carol Daley met to strategize on getting new partners to participate in train safety. Businesses, organizations, etc. such as Cargill, Nebraska Chamber of Commerce, National Safety Council, Game and Parks, trucking companies, safety organizations, rescue companies, etc. were listed as possible partners.

#### **State Meeting - Western Part of Nebraska – Rich Kotan**

NE OL discussed changing the day of the State Meeting and having the meeting on the west end of the State. At this time the Committee is looking at what would be the best day, possibility September 10, and location, possibility Sidney or North Platte. This way other potential partners could be invited to the Committee Meeting.

#### **"Get Legal, Stay Legal, Module 1 Federal State – Video – Carol Daley**

The committee members watched the "Get Legal, Stay Legal, Module 1 Federal State, OLI requirements" video developed by OIL Counsel Sandy Pfan Englund.

### **Projects:**

#### **Millard After School Program – Carol Daley**

The Millard Schools are also interested in having presentations provided to the students who are in the after school program. They are looking into having presentations made sometime in February and March.

#### **Summer Kitchen Initiative (Children Menu) – Carol/Megan**

Megan Grimes has designed a children's menu for the Summer Kitchen with train safety messages. This project is still in the works.

### **Open Discussion:**

Pat Leahy would like every presenter contact someone at the schools in their area and make a presentation to the school bus drivers.

Pat Leahy is in contact with the Nebraska School Transportation Association to see if he can make a presentation at the 2015 Spring Conference scheduled for March 7, 2015. This association is involved with school bus transportation throughout Nebraska.

Richard Bennett would like to have someone look at the extremely rough railroad crossing located on Hwy 92, one mile west of the David City turn-off. Todd Palmer said he would get with Ade Anshasi and discuss the matter.

### **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes were taken by Linda Kearns. Any corrections or additions will be noted at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kearns - Recording Secretary

### **NE OL State Meeting Dates:**

March 12, 2015 - NE OL State Committee Meeting, Havelock Shops, 6600 Burlington Avenue, Lincoln, NE

# Nebraska Traffic Fatality Toll Comparison

Daily Count Thru 8:00 A.M. Thursday January 08, 2015

COMPARISON TO DATE	THUS FAR		URBAN	RURAL	RURAL BY ROADWAY			URBAN BY ROADWAY			BY SELECTED ACCIDENT TYPES				
	BY MONTH	BY YEAR			INST.	OTHER HWYS.	CO. ROADS	INST.	OTHER HWYS.	LOCAL ROADS	MOTOR-CYCLE	ATV	TRAIN	PEDES-TRIAN	BIKE
2011	4	4	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
2012	5	5	1	4	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
2013	3	3	0	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2014	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011 - 2014 Average	3.25	3.25	1	2.25	0	1.25	1	0	0	1	0.25	0	0.25	0.25	0
2015	3	3	0	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>% Change 2014 - 2015</b>	200%	200%	0%	200%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>2015 Compared to 2011 - 2014</b>	-8%	-8%	-100%	33%	0%	60%	0%	0%	0%	-100%	-100%	0%	-100%	-100%	0%

Prepared By: Highway Safety Section, Traffic Engineering Division  
Nebraska Department of Roads

January 8, 2015

**2014/2015 NEBRASKA RAILROAD FATALITIES  
MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC FATALITIES**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FATALITIES</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION &amp; RAILROAD COMPANY</u>	<u>Alcohol-Related</u>
2-25-14	1	Otoe	(Co Rd C) 6 North & 3.5 East of Nebraska City Union Pacific	No
6-10-14	1	Dakota	(Co Rd) 190 <sup>th</sup> St, 2 South of Dakota City Burlington Northern Santa Fe	No
6-24-14	1	Thurston	(City St) In Winnebago, B Ave Burlington Northern Santa Fe	No

Train Fatalities

2004	5
2005	9
2006	4
2007	6
2008	1
2009	4
2010	2
2011	2
2012	3
2013	2
2014	3
2015	0

Train Injuries

2004	17
2005	25
2006	22
2007	21
2008	19
2009	18
2010	4
2011	13
2012	13
2013	18
2014 (Jan-Nov)	7

Train Crashes

2004	38
2005	40
2006	37
2007	40
2008	39
2009	38
2010	20
2011	19
2012	23
2013	25
2014 (Jan-Nov)	27

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**NON-MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC FATALITIES  
2014/2015\***

DATE	FATALITIES	COUNTY	LOCATION, RAILROADCOMPANY, & ACCIDENT TYPE
1-26-14	1	Thayer	(Private Crossing) In Belvidere Union Pacific
2-5-14	1	Lancaster	(City St) In Lincoln, 8 <sup>th</sup> & Pioneers Burlington North Santa Fe Train – Pedestrian
6-23-14	1	Lancaster	(City St) In Lincoln, North 35 <sup>th</sup> St. Near Cornhusker Hwy Burlington Northern Santa Fe Train – Pedestrian
7-15-14	1	York	(City St) In York North Blackburn Ave Burlington Northern Santa Fe Train – Pedestrian
9-3-14	1	Douglas	(Co Rd) Near Elkhorn .5 West of Main & Ohio St. Union Pacific Train - Pedestrian

\*No Non-Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities reported in 2015