

**NEBRASKA OPERATION LIFESAVER
STATE COMMITTEE MEETING
March 13, 2014
www.nebraskaol.org
www.oli.org**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Carol Daley called the meeting to order and Gary Sydzyik gave the Safety Briefing.

INTRODUCTIONS

Billy Anderson, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Abe Ahshasi, Nebraska Department of Roads
Deb Ashworth, Union Pacific Railroad
Dan Chapp, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Joe Coleman, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Carol Daley, Executive Director – NE OL
Megan Grimes, News Link
Tom Hillyard, Union Pacific Railroad
David Hinrikus, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Harold Jones, BN Mini Train
Linda Kearns, Nebraska Office of Highway Safety
Marvin Kohout, Traffic Safety Plus
Chad Korth, Nebraska Central Railroad
Pat Leahy, Union Pacific Railroad
Tom Micek, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Sean Owings, Nebraska Department of Roads
Todd Palmer, Nebraska Department of Roads
Bill Saxton, Road-Ready Driver Training
Stu Sutherland, Retired
Gary Sydzyik, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Jeri Willms, Retired

Statistics:

Sean Owings discussed the following handouts. (See attachments)

- o Nebraska Traffic Fatality Toll Comparison as of March 13, 2014
- o 2014 Nebraska Railroad Fatalities – Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities
- o 2014 Non-Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities
- o Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Statistics Worksheet – January – December – 2013
- o Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Statistics Worksheet – 2012
- o Federal Railroad Administration - Accident/Incident Overview by State/Region – 2013 – Nebraska
- o Federal Railroad Administration - Accident/Incident Overview by State/Region – 2013 – All States

Board and Officer Report:

Board:

The NE OL Board of Directors met prior to the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: Carol Daley, Gary Sydzyik, Marvin Kohout, Deb Ashworth, and Linda Kearns. The Board members discussed the following items: NE OL Financial expenses for 2013, completed Carol Daley's Performance Review, and Carol provided information on attending the OL State Coordinator Summit on May 13-15, 2014 in Albuquerque, NM.

General Secretary/Supplies:

If you are in need of supplies, contact Hilda Gurwell at 402-544-3465 or by email at hildagurwell@UP.com.

Treasurer:

Balance on hand as of February 28, 2014 was \$19,825.09. Carol reviewed the finances with the NE OL committee. Carol sent out 110 letters and invoices to law enforcement agencies, short line railroads, etc. requesting funding donations for NE Operation Lifesaver. There has been a very good response using the letter campaign for donations.

East Co-Coordinator:

No report at this time.

West Co-Coordinator:

Pat Leahy is the Western Nebraska Area Coordinator. He continues to do presentations.

Old Business:**Hunter Visor Card – Carol Daley/Tom Hillyard**

The Hunter/Fisherman Key Safety Tip Visor Cards are still in the works. NE OL will provide the visor cards to students taking the Nebraska Firearm Hunter Education Classroom Course. These should be available by the May NE OL meeting.

Update for new presenter training – Carol Daley

The new Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer (OLAV) presenter training has about 60 people who have applied to take the training. There are 35 to 45 presenters that have taken the online training. This training needs to be completed first before the presenters are ready for the face-to-face training. Carol completed the pilot class on January 25, 2014 at the Harriman Dispatch Center. There will be a face-to-face training after the meeting today with the committee presenters. Carol will set up training in Omaha, Lincoln, Gering, North Platte (April) and Grand Island. The training in Lincoln will be held on March 24 at News Link.

Gretna Schools – Deb Ashworth

Deb Ashworth has met with the principal of the Gretna School District on setting up an OL Blitz with the 4 elementary schools. The focus will be on the 1st through 4th grade students which would target 1,100 students. The Union Pacific LEAD volunteers will help with the presentations at the schools.

Fundraiser Update – Carol Daley

The 2013 NE OL raffle provided another \$4,799.00. There will be more discussion on this year's fundraising event at the next meeting.

New Business:**See Tracks? Think Train – National Safety Campaign – October/November**

"See Tracks? Think Train!" is a campaign designed to run at a national and local level throughout 2014. The national umbrella campaign consists of television and radio PSAs; billboard and poster materials covering trespassing, transit safety and grade crossing safety; and a mini-website (SeeTracksThinkTrain.org) that will host the PSAs and toolkit materials that NE OL and our volunteers can use throughout the campaign. OLI will also develop and provide starter kits of campaign materials and merchandise for each state program.

Each region will receive \$25,000 which will be divided between the five states, of which NE OL will receive \$5,000 for this project. The campaign will run during the months of October and November for our region. NE OL will be looking into billboards as a possibility or it may be some 5 second PSAs. A suggestion was made to purchase hunter/fisher license pocket billfold with the message on the cover. Clip art in different sizes for the newspapers to use the message as fillers is also an option. Carol would like to see the "See Tracks? Think Train!" placed on the ticker tape at the Department of Motor Vehicle sites.

2014 Operation Lifesaver Leadership Conference – Carol Daley

Carol and Deb Ashworth will be attending the 2014 Operation Lifesaver Leadership Conference, May 14-15, 2014, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The conference is for state program leaders, presenters and partners. The theme of this event for rail safety advocates is "See Tracks? Think Train!"

Projects:**NE OL Trailer – Deb Ashworth/Dan Chapp**

Deb Ashworth gave an update on the new OL trailer. The console has been painted and is being completed by the Council Bluffs Mechanical Department. As soon as the console is completed, cabinets, carpet, ramps, awning will be installed, ceiling will be painted and then the trailer will be ready for the outside design. A locomotive seat also needs to be found for the trailer. Dan Chapp has been getting estimations for the cost of

the wrap. The cost will be higher if the rivets are pulled out and replaced. The final decision will be a wrap on the outside of the NE OL trailer with a universal OL message. The visual on the side of the trailer needs to draw people inside. We will also need to find a cover and a place to store the trailer. 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 neolcdaley@cox.net.

Professional Drivers – Larry Johnson

No additional information available at this time.

Trucking/Insurance Company Contacts – Larry Johnson, Ron Scholz

No additional information available at this time.

Open Discussion:

Tom Hillyard will be contacting every propane carrier in his area to provide information in regards to propane trucks and railroad crossings. The recent motor vehicle (propane truck)/highway-rail grade crossing fatality has made this a priority issue with the Union Pacific Railroad. He has made 19 contacts and 7 presentations since the crash.

Abe Ahshasi discussed the cost of Quiet Zones which can run up to \$200,000 to more than \$500,000. The cities which requested this option have to come up with most of the funding and bear the expense of hiring a consultant.

Pat Leahy reported the Union Pacific will be placing the "Report Problem or Emergency" call/location plaques on both sides of the post on the railroad crossing signs. There should be yield signs at all the railroad crossing by 2015. He contacted the DMV to see if this information can be placed in the State Driver's Manual. He was told this would not happen until the manual is reprinted.

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:

May 8, 2014 – NE OL State Committee Meeting, Havelock Shops, 6600 Burlington Avenue, Lincoln, NE
July 10, 2014 - 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 March 13, 2014

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
2010	3	30	6	24	9	13	2	0	1	5	0	0	0	3	1
2011	3	22	10	12	1	7	4	0	4	6	0	0	1	0	0
2012	3	36	15	21	2	8	11	1	6	8	1	0	2	3	0
2013	2	43	9	34	4	22	8	0	3	6	0	0	1	3	0
2010 - 2013 Average	2.75	32.8	10	22.8	4	12.5	6.25	0.25	3.5	6.25	0.25	0	1	2.25	0.25
2014	7	37	7	30	4	10	16	2	1	4	0	0	1	2	0
% Change 2013 - 2014	250%	-14%	-22%	-12%	0%	-55%	100%	-100%	100%	-33%	0%	0%	0%	-33%	0%
2014 Compared to 2010 - 2013	155%	13%	-30%	32%	0%	-20%	156%	700%	100%	-36%	100%	0%	0%	-11%	100%

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

March 13, 2014

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

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FATALITIES</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION & 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

Train Fatalities

2002	12
2003	6
2004	5
2005	9
2006	4
2007	6
2008	1
2009	4
2010	2
2011	2
2012	3
2013	2
2014	1

Train Injuries

2002	19
2003	15
2004	17
2005	25
2006	22
2007	21
2008	19
2009	18
2010	4
2011	13
2012	13
2013 (Jan-Oct)	13

Train Crashes

2002	46
2003	46
2004	38
2005	40
2006	37
2007	40
2008	39
2009	38
2010	20
2011	19
2012	23
2013 (Jan-Oct)	18

March 13, 2014

**NON-MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC FATALITIES
2014**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FATALITIES</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION, RAILROAD COMPANY, & ACCIDENT TYPE</u>
1-26-14	1	Thayer	(Private Crossing) In Belvidere Union Pacific
2-5-14	1	Lancaster	(City St) in Lincoln, 8 th & Pioneers Burlington North Santa Fe Train – Pedestrian



OPERATION LIFESAVER, INC. STATISTICS WORKSHEET January – December – 2013

1. Most collisions occur with trains traveling under **30 mph**. (Visual 4)
2. Approximately **64%** of all collisions occur in daylight hours. (Visual 4)
3. Most collisions occur within **25 miles** of the driver's home. (Visual 4)
4. Approximately every **3 hours** (some place in the United States) a collisions occurs between a train and a vehicle or a train and a pedestrian. (Visual 4)
5. You are **20 times** more likely to die in a collision with a train than in a collision involving another motor vehicle. (Visual 4)
6. At 55 mph, it may take a train up to a **mile** or more to stop. (Visual 7)
7. Nearly **50%** of all collisions occur at crossings equipped with active warning devices. (Visual 15)
8. Nearly **25%** of all collisions occur when the vehicle runs into the side of the train. (Visual 22)

National Crossing Collision in year	<u>2013</u>	
Collisions		<u>2,087</u>
Injuries		<u>929</u>
Fatalities		<u>251</u>

National Trespasser Incidents in year	<u>2013</u>	
Injuries		<u>430</u>
Fatalities		<u>488</u>

Nebraska Crossing Collision in year	<u>2013</u>	
Collisions		<u>41</u>
Injuries		<u>23</u>
Fatalities		<u>2</u>

Nebraska Trespasser Incidents in year	<u>2013</u>	
Injuries		<u>2</u>
Fatalities		<u>1</u>

*Source: Federal Railroad Administration www.fra.dot.gov

Statistics are available at Operation Lifesaver, Inc (national) www.oli.org or call 800-537-6224.

The Nebraska Operation Lifesaver information www.neolcadaley@cox.net or call (402) 885-8572
 Carol Daley, Executive Director Nebraska Web Site: www.NebraskaOL.org



OPERATION LIFESAVER, INC. STATISTICS WORKSHEET

1. Most collisions occur with trains traveling under **30** mph. (Visual 4)
2. Approximately **64%** of all collisions occur in daylight hours. (Visual 4)
3. Most collisions occur within **25** miles of the driver's home. (Visual 4)
4. Approximately every **3 hours** (some place in the United States) a collisions occurs between a train and a vehicle or a train and a pedestrian. (Visual 4)
5. You are **20** times more likely to die in a collision with a train than in a collision involving another motor vehicle. (Visual 4)
6. At 55 mph, it may take a train up to a **mile** or more to stop. (Visual 7)
7. Nearly **50%** of all collisions occur at crossings equipped with active warning devices. (Visual 15)
8. Nearly **25%** of all collisions occur when the vehicle runs into the side of the train. (Visual 22)

National Crossing Collision in year	<u>2012</u>	
Collisions		<u>1,960</u>
Injuries		<u>921</u>
Fatalities		<u>233</u>

National Trespasser Incidents in year	<u>2012</u>	
Injuries		<u>406</u>
Fatalities		<u>438</u>

Nebraska Crossing Collision in year	<u>2012</u>	
Collisions		<u>28</u>
Injuries		<u>13</u>
Fatalities		<u>3</u>

Nebraska Trespasser Incidents in year	<u>2012</u>	
Injuries		<u>3</u>
Fatalities		<u>4</u>

*Source: Federal Railroad Administration www.fra.dot.gov

Statistics are available at Operation Lifesaver, Inc (national) www.oli.org or call 800-537-6224.

The Nebraska Operation Lifesaver information www.neolcadaley@cox.net or call (402) 885-8572
 Carol Daley, Executive Director Nebraska Web Site: www.NebraskaOL.org

1.05 - Accident/Incident Overview by State/Region

[Back to Query Page Print Version](#)

SELECTION: Railroad - All Railroads
 Region 6
 State - NEBRASKA County - All Counties
 January To December, 2013

TOTAL ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS: 193 Number of fatal accidents/incidents 3 1.55%
 Total fatalities: 3 Total nonfatal conditions: 122

Total accidents/incidents is the sum of train accidents, highway-rail incidents, and other incidents.

TOTAL TRAIN ACCIDENTS: 54 Number of fatal train accidents 0 . %
 Total fatalities: 0 Total nonfatal conditions: 0
 Collisions: 3 5.56%
 Derailments: 40 74.07%
 Other accidents: 11 20.37%

-----Primary causes-----
 Human factors: 31.48% 17 Track defects: 9 16.67%
 Equipment defects: 20.37% 11 Signal defects: 1 1.85%
 Miscellaneous causes: 29.63% 16

Number of accidents on yard track: 31 57.41% of all train accidents.

Train accidents represent 27.98% of all reported events.

Number of train accidents involving passenger trains 0 . %

Number of train accidents that resulted in a release of hazardous material 0 . % of total

Number of persons evacuated 0 Number of rail cars releasing hazmat 0

A train accident is an event involving ontrack rail equipment that results in monetary damage to the equipment and track above a certain threshold. Lading, clearing costs, environmental damage is not included.

HIGHWAY-RAIL INCIDENTS		TRESPASSING INCIDENTS(not at crossings)	
Crossings: 4,863	Incidents: 41		
	Total fatalities: 2	Total fatalities: 1	
	Total nonfatal conditions: 23	Total nonfatal conditions: 2	
Number of fatal crossing incidents 2	4.88%		
Public Crossings 2,957	With gates 676	Other activated crossings 186	Number with passive warnings 2,095
Private crossings 1,906	***** THE COUNT OF CROSSINGS IS THE COUNT IN THE CURRENT INVENTORY *****		

Highway-rail and trespassing incidents account for 100.0% of all fatalities.

Highway-rail incidents represent 21.24% of all reported events.

A highway-rail incident is any impact between a rail and a highway user at a crossing site, regardless of severity. Includes motor vehicles and other highway/roadway/sidewalk users at both public and private crossings.

OTHER INCIDENTS: 98 Number of fatal other incidents 1 1.02% of other incidents
 Other incidents account for: 50.78% of all accidents/incidents
 Total fatalities: 1 0 Number to employees on duty. Trespassers 1
 Total nonfatal conditions: 99 81 Number to employees on duty

Other incidents include events other than train accidents or crossing incidents, that caused a death or nonfatal condition to any person. Most fatalities in this category are to trespassers. Other events include such activities as getting on/off equipment. Doing maintenance work, throwing switches, setting handbrakes, stumbling, tripping, etc.

EMPLOYEES ON DUTY CASES: 83
 Total fatalities: 0
 Total nonfatal conditions: 83 68.03% of all nonfatal cases

Total passenger deaths 0. Total passengers injured 3. Passenger cases include all circumstances, including getting off/on standing trains, stumbling aboard trains, assaults, train accidents, crossing incidents, etc.

1.05 - Accident/Incident Overview by State/Region

[Back to Query Page Print Version](#)

SELECTION: Railroad - All Railroads
 All Regions
 State - All States County - All Counties
 January To December, 2013

TOTAL ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS: 11,233 Number of fatal accidents/incidents 748 6.66%
 Total fatalities: 784 Total nonfatal conditions: 8,296

Total accidents/incidents is the sum of train accidents, highway-rail incidents, and other incidents.

TOTAL TRAIN ACCIDENTS: 1,758 Number of fatal train accidents 6 0.34%
 Total fatalities: 11 Total nonfatal conditions: 297
 Collisions: 161 9.16%
 Derailments: 1,251 71.16%
 Other accidents: 346 19.68%

-----Primary causes-----
 Human factors: 37.77% 664 Track defects: 544 30.94%
 Equipment defects: 12.29% 216 Signal defects: 51 2.90%
 Miscellaneous causes: 16.10% 283

Number of accidents on yard track: 952 54.15% of all train accidents.

Train accidents represent 15.65% of all reported events.

Number of train accidents involving passenger trains 64 3.64%

Number of train accidents that resulted in a release of hazardous material 18 1.02% of total

Number of persons evacuated 3,234 Number of rail cars releasing hazmat 77

A train accident is an event involving ontrack rail equipment that results in monetary damage to the equipment and track above a certain threshold. Lading, clearing costs, environmental damage is not included.

HIGHWAY-RAIL INCIDENTS		TRESPASSING INCIDENTS(not at crossings)
Crossings: 209,902	Incidents: 2,087	
	Total fatalities: 251	Total fatalities: 488
	Total nonfatal conditions: 929	Total nonfatal conditions: 430
Number of fatal crossing incidents 228	10.92%	

Public Crossings 129513 With gates 45,939 Other activated crossings 21,957 Number with passive warnings 61,617
 Private crossings 80,389 ***** THE COUNT OF CROSSINGS IS THE COUNT IN THE CURRENT INVENTORY *****

Highway-rail and trespassing incidents account for 94.26% of all fatalities.

Highway-rail incidents represent 18.58% of all reported events.

A highway-rail incident is any impact between a rail and a highway user at a crossing site, regardless of severity. Includes motor vehicles and other highway/roadway/sidewalk users at both public and private crossings.

OTHER INCIDENTS: 7,388 Number of fatal other incidents 514 6.96% of other incidents
 Other incidents account for: 65.77% of all accidents/incidents
 Total fatalities: 522 10 Number to employees on duty. Trespassers 485
 Total nonfatal conditions: 7,070 4,025 Number to employees on duty

Other incidents include events other than train accidents or crossing incidents, that caused a death or nonfatal condition to any person. Most fatalities in this category are to trespassers. Other events include such activities as getting on/off equipment. Doing maintenance work, throwing switches, setting handbrakes, stumbling, tripping, etc.

EMPLOYEES ON DUTY CASES: 4,199
 Total fatalities: 14 1.79% of all fatalities
 Total nonfatal conditions: 4,185 50.45% of all nonfatal cases

Total passenger deaths 6. Total passengers injured 1507. Passenger cases include all circumstances, including getting off/on standing trains, stumbling aboard trains, assaults, train accidents, crossing incidents, etc.