

**NEBRASKA OPERATION LIFESAVER  
STATE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**September 10, 2015**

**www.nebraskaol.org**

**www.oli.org**

**Find us on Facebook: Nebraska Operation Lifesaver**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Carol Daley called the meeting to order and Gary Sydzyik gave the safety briefing.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Deb Ashworth, Union Pacific Railroad  
Abe Anshasi, Nebraska Department of Roads  
Carol Daley, Executive Director – NE OL  
Robert Grant, Nebraska Department of Roads  
Megan Grimes, Nebraska Ethanol Board  
Hilda Gurwell, Union Pacific Railroad  
Tom Hillyard, Union Pacific Railroad  
Linda Kearns, Nebraska Office of Highway Safety  
Taylor Kelley, Nebraska Central Railroad  
Marvin Kohout, Traffic Safety Plus  
Mike Meyer, Nebraska Department of Roads  
Sean Owings, Nebraska Department of Roads  
Todd Palmer, Nebraska Department of Roads  
Jason Quast, Nebraska Central Railroad  
Jeff Schmid, Retired - Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad  
Trevor Sindelar, Nebraska Department of Roads  
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 September 10, 2015
- o 2015 Nebraska Railroad Fatalities – Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities/Non-Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities

Carol Daley discussed the following handouts (see attachments).

- o Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Statistics Worksheet (January-December 2015)

**Board and Officer Report:**

**Board:**

The NE OL Board of Directors met prior to the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: Deb Ashworth, Carol Daley, Megan Grimes, Marvin Kohout, Gary Sydzyik and Linda Kearns. The Board members discussed the following items: 2015 Finances, trailer update, "See Tracks? Think Train" media project, Nebraska 501©3 status, North Platte NE OL Meeting, Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX, State Coordinator Summit, insurance policy, website update, retirement of Region 6 Representative, 2015 Fundraiser and the schedule for a Board of Director's Meeting.

**General Secretary/Supplies:**

If you are in need of supplies, contact Carol Daley at 402-885-8572 or by email at neolcadaley@cox.net. We also have large "See Tracks? Think Train" vehicle decals/clings and magnets available for anyone who would like them.

**Treasurer:**

Balance on hand as of April 30, 2015 was \$11,324.90.

## **Old Business:**

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

Megan Grimes gave a presentation on NE OL Website/Facebook Updates. The donate button is now working. 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 or Facebook page, contact Megan Grimes at [megblume@gmail.com](mailto:megblume@gmail.com).

### **Nebraska Application for 501© 3 Status - Carol**

The paperwork for the 501© 3 status has been finalized. The Federal ID has changed.

### **Fundraiser - Raffle 2015**

NE OL 2015 raffle total income was \$2,045.00. Larry Johnson, Nebraska Trucking Association, provided four Nebraska football tickets to the September 12<sup>th</sup> game against South Alabama. The winners of this year's raffle were:

- 1st Place - WASP - Falls City
- 2nd Place - Megan Grimes (Lincoln)
- 3rd Place - David Watts (HDC)
- 4th Place - Reney Robinson (UPRR-HQ)
- 5th Place - Keith Fehr (Omaha)
- 6th Place - Bill Dunbar (Omaha)
- 7th Place - Kyle Chalek (Bellevue)

Thanks to everyone for making this year's raffle another success. Next year's raffle will feature a brass bell.

### **NE OL Mobile Training Trailer – Carol**

The NE OL Trailer wrap design was approved at the North Platte NE OL meeting and has been installed. The design represents both Class 1 railroads and has a generic train. The cost of the wrap was \$3,461.00. The total cost for the trailer to date, including license and insurance, is \$18,158.96. Thanks to Larry Erickson for supplying the labor which saved a lot on the cost of the trailer. There will still need to be a cover purchased for the trailer. An estimate from Apache Camper was \$314.00. Dan Chapp picked up the trailer in Grand Island and brought it to the Lincoln meeting. For those interested in using the NE OL trailer for an event, contact Dan Chapp at 402-422-5247 or by email at [Daniel.Chapp@BNSF.com](mailto:Daniel.Chapp@BNSF.com).

## **New Business:**

### **"See Tracks? Think Train" Media Project**

National Operation Lifesaver Inc. provided the NE OL with a grant for \$14,000.00 for a railroad safety campaign. National provided \$7,000.00 at the start of the campaign. NE OL placed 12 billboards at the following locations: Grand Island, Scottsbluff, Hastings, Broken Bow, North Platte, and Kearney. The billboard campaign will run from 8/3/2015 to 11/8/2015 and cost \$10,200.00. Clings/decals and magnets were also purchased supporting the message "See Tracks? Think Train" safety message. Operation Lifesaver Inc. will provide the remaining \$7,000.00 upon receipt of a final media report from NE OL. The clings/decals and magnets are available by contacting Carol at 402-885-8572 or by email at [neolcadaley@cox.net](mailto:neolcadaley@cox.net).

### **Operation Lifesavers Inc. Leadership Conference – May 11-12, 2016**

The next conference will be held at the Embassy Suites San Antonio Riverwalk – Downtown, 125 East Houston, San Antonio, Texas. This conference is designed for state program leaders, Board of Directors, National Advisory Council members, coaches, and partners. For more information on the conference, visit [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org) for information and updates.

### **Board of Director (SWOP) Analysis – Deb Ashworth**

Deb reported that there are around 100 presenters, of which 50 are new presenters. The new presenters need to be paired up with a more experienced presenter to get them involved in the program and making presentations.

**Projects:****College World Series**

The new NE OL trailer was at the College World Series in Omaha. The presenters gave 69 presentations to approximately 3,000 people of which another 323 people went through the trailer. A total of 780 people took the "Test of Life."

**Nebraska State Fair**

The new NE OL trailer was at the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island. The attendance at the fair was 352,176. There were 24 volunteers who gave 413 presentations to 1,694 people.

**Werner Trucking Appreciation Day – September 18, 2015**

Carol and Tom Hillyard will be working a booth. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> year partnering with Werner Trucking.

**Trucking Association Annual Meeting – September 25, 2015**

Carol Daley, Ron Scholz, Rich Kotan and Tom Hillyard have been invited to attend this meeting.

**Nebraska City School Administrators Meeting – September 9, 2015**

Carol and Tom Hillyard attended a meeting with Nebraska City Public Officials. The viaduct will be closing for 2 to 4 years for repair. They want to do an Operation Lifesaver blitz through Nebraska City in October. It will include all the schools, elementary through high school. There will also be a media blitz, miniature football give away, and followed up with Officer on a Train. Lots of volunteers will be required for this activity. If you are able to help with the Nebraska City blitz contact Carol Daley at 402-885-8572 or by email at neolcdaley@cox.net. See attached list of those who attended the meeting.

**Roca Berry Farm Event – October 3, 2015**

Gary Sydzyik and Megan Grimes will be working the NE OL Trailer at the Roca Berry Farm event.

**Harold Jones – K.C. Memorial Railroad**

Harold Jones of Crete has operated the BN Mini-Train for 29 years. See attached article on "Jones' railroad makes final run."

**Open Discussion:**

**Abe Anshasi, Public Transportation Engineer,** Nebraska Department of Roads report on the following:

The Birdwood, (west of North Platte) viaduct was recently completed.

The Hershey Viaduct was recently awarded, construction should begin soon. This project will include two permanent crossing closures.

They are also working on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave viaduct project and a pedestrian bridge on 18<sup>th</sup> Ave in the City of Columbus. They hope to let this project in Dec/Jan. The project will include a 3 crossings closure.

Another viaduct is planned in Columbus on 12<sup>th</sup> Ave and may be let as soon as 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave is complete.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kearns, Board Member/Recording Secretary

**NE OL State Meeting Dates:**

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

**Scheduled speaker:** Crystal Rhoads, Nebraska Public Service Commissioner 2<sup>nd</sup> District.

# Nebraska Traffic Fatality Toll Comparison

Daily Count Thru 8:00 A.M. Thursday September 10, 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
<b>2011</b>	12	127	35	92	16	49	27	3	10	22	19	4	2	3	2
<b>2012</b>	16	152	40	112	13	51	48	2	11	27	20	3	3	13	0
<b>2013</b>	13	156	42	114	12	57	45	2	11	29	13	3	2	10	0
<b>2014</b>	4	151	32	119	14	61	44	4	8	20	16	0	3	5	1
2011 - 2014 Average	11.3	147	37.3	109	13.8	54.5	41	2.75	10	24.5	17	2.5	2.5	7.75	0.75
<b>2015</b>	5	157	56	101	13	55	33	1	15	40	22	2	1	12	4
<b>% Change 2014 - 2015</b>	25%	4%	75%	-15%	-7%	-10%	-25%	-75%	88%	100%	38%	100%	-67%	140%	300%
<b>2015 Compared to 2011 - 2014</b>	-56%	7%	50%	-8%	-5%	1%	-20%	-64%	50%	63%	29%	-20%	-60%	55%	433%

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

September 10, 2015

**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>
4-7-15	1	Cheyenne	(Co Rd) 7 East of Sidney Union Pacific Railroad	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	1

Train Injuries

2004	17
2005	25
2006	22
2007	21
2008	19
2009	18
2010	4
2011	13
2012	13
2013	18
2014	8
2015 (Jan-Jun)	6

Train Crashes

2004	38
2005	40
2006	37
2007	40
2008	39
2009	38
2010	20
2011	19
2012	23
2013	25
2014	28
2015 (Jan-Jun)	1

September 10, 2015

**NON-MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC FATALITIES  
2015**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FATALITIES</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION, RAILROADCOMPANY, &amp; ACCIDENT TYPE</u>
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\*No Non-Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities reported in 2015



**OPERATION LIFESAVER, INC.  
STATISTICS WORKSHEET  
January – December – 2015**

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

National Crossing Collision in year	<u>2015</u>	
Collisions		<u>992</u>
Injuries		<u>540</u>
Fatalities		<u>118</u>

National Trespasser Incidents in year	<u>2015</u>	
Injuries		<u>202</u>
Fatalities		<u>256</u>

Nebraska Crossing Collision in year	<u>2015</u>	
Collisions		<u>09</u>
Injuries		<u>4</u>
Fatalities		<u>1</u>

Nebraska Trespasser Incidents in year	<u>2015</u>	
Injuries		<u>1</u>
Fatalities		<u>0</u>

\*Source: Federal Railroad Administration [www.fra.dot.gov](http://www.fra.dot.gov)

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

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