



A publication of the
Oregon Independent Aggregate Association
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www.oraggregate.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Erick Staley – Chairman
Jerry Davidson- Vice Chairman
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Bill Ruchti
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Melissa Bronson
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Oregon Independent Aggregate Association *Newsletter*

September 2023

Chairman's Message

Kids are back in school, rain is falling again (finally!), and construction projects are in full-tilt panic mode to finish up before the *real* wet season arrives. Hopefully you all had an enjoyable and successful summer and are making plans for next year.

Your OIAA Board is also making plans. We have a few long-time Board members who will be stepping down after this year. I invite each of you to take a more active role in OIAA and join the Board. Without a Board to run the organization, OIAA will cease to be, including the annual MSHA training sessions so many of you attend.

Our Board only meets a few times a year. But that little bit of effort pays a lot of dividends. OIAA's efforts are designed not only to help you maintain training compliance but also inform you of upcoming changes like the new silica rule. Our relationships with associate members have helped miners prepare and respond to regulatory actions.

Please reach out to myself, Kellie Ramar, or any other Board member to add your voice to OIAA.

Take care and be safe,

Erick Staley
Chairman

Our next Board meeting will be held at the offices of KPD Insurance 1111 Gateway Loop Springfield, Oregon on **October 30th at 10AM**. If you are interested in a Board member position please plan to attend. As mentioned in the above article **“without a Board to run the organization, OIAA will cease to be.”**



Fall is upon us and with fall comes rain, be prepared

WORKING IN THE RAIN

The potential hazards present on a worksite can be exacerbated during inclement conditions such as rain. Working in the rain can cause slippery surfaces and limited visibility. However, steps can be taken to mitigate such hazards.

- **Move cautiously.** Although the weather may make you inclined to work more quickly to get out of the rain, this is dangerous. Because rain causes slick surfaces, work more slowly and deliberately – particularly when climbing ladders.
- **Use the correct equipment.** Do not use electrical tools and equipment that are not specifically rated for outdoor use when working in the rain. Select hand tools with textured, nonslip grip handles. Wear proper footwear with a deep tread to prevent slipping. In the rain, be sure your pant leg lies over your boot or shoe. Tucking your pants into footwear can cause water to enter.
- **Wear appropriate rain gear that includes both pants and a coat.** Be sure the material is ventilated so it can be worn comfortably for extended periods. If it is cold, select wool or synthetic materials that insulate even when wet. Be certain clothing fits properly so it does not interfere with movement.
- **Use proper hand protection that features a strong, slip-proof grip.** Make sure gloves are adequately tight and long enough to allow your rain coat sleeve to prevent water from entering.
- **Ensure adequate vision.** If you wear glasses or goggles, use anti-fog spray or wipes on them before going outside. Wear a hood or hat to keep rain out of your eyes. Because a hood narrows your range of vision, be sure to look both ways when wearing one. When working at night, make sure lighting is adequate and the lights used are rated for outdoor use.
- **Make sure you can be seen.** Wear high-visibility clothing, especially in areas with vehicle traffic and heavy machinery. Do not wear rain gear or vests that have become dull or are no longer reflective.



Our Scholarship application period has closed. We will announce the winner/winners in next month's newsletter.

Attention OIAA member contacts

Please keep us updated on contact changes and email changes for your company.

Is there someone in your company that you would like to receive this newsletter? Please send information to memberreply@oregonaggregate.com

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Next Board Meeting October 30th 10AM