



**REGION X VPPA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE & MEETING
May 9-12, 2022**

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Max VanValey, Saprena Lyons Jack Griffith, Curtis Reece, Tim Taylor, Mike Welsh, Andy Foster

Agencies: Carol Henning, Darren James, Mark E Hurliman, Sharell Lien, Abby Lopez, Elaine Banda, Julie Love

Planning Committee: Max VanValey, Saprena Lyons Jack Griffith, Curtis Reece, Tim Taylor, Mike Welsh

Region X Conference Report:

The 27th Annual Region X Safety & Health Summit was held May 10-12, 2022, at the Grove Hotel and The Boise Centre (West) in Boise, Idaho. "Tour de Safety" was the 2022 summit theme.

Classes were held over three days with 188 attendees, 35 exhibitors and 18 sponsors including 3 contactors from CPU River Road Generating Plant. It was supported by: Alaska OSHA, Oregon OSHA, Washington Department of Labor & Industries – DOSH, US Department of Energy (DOE) and the US Department of Labor – OSHA.

On Tuesday May 10, 2022:

Five pre-conference workshops were conducted for attendees interested in specific topical

areas:

- Personal Planning for Effective Emergency Response in a Disaster
- Perspectives on Healthy Movement:” Why Your do my joints ache?”
- Safety Training 101 Workshop: Make Your Safety Training More Effective
- VPP Application Workshop
- Building a Successful Safety Culture

Six Tracks included topics for the following:

- Management Leadership
- Strengthening Star, Wellness/Preparation
- VPP Basics
- Construction
- Wellness/Total Worker Health
- Technical

Tuesday May 10, 2022, Networking evening:

The Tuesday night bowling outing was a great success based upon attendee feedback. Conference attendees had the opportunity to network, collaborate and enjoy an evening of fun and prize give aways. A dedicated shuttled was procured to drive attendees to and from the bowling alley.



Region X Safety and Health Summit attendees enjoy the annual bowling networking outing on the evening of Tuesday May 10, 2022

Wednesday May 11, 2022:

Max VanValey opened the meeting with a welcome to the dignitaries, the membership, and all attendees.

The National Anthem was sung by **Paul Savage**

Dignitary Speaker: Director, Idaho Department of Commerce; Tom Kealey. Mr. Kealey expanded upon the commerce mission as follows: Foster a business-friendly environment,

support existing Idaho companies, strengthen our communities, promote innovation, market Idaho to the world.

Andy Foster provided the attendees with updates regarding the VPPPA National office. He provided a synopsis of NVPPPA's strategic plan to demonstrate value, grow strategic partnerships, enhance global presence, and provide resources for SMS excellence. He also provided information on the NVPPPA's quantitative and qualitative goals for 2022. He reminded everyone that the National Conference is in August **Monday, August 22, 2022 - Friday, August 26, 2022**, Walter E. Washington Convention Center 801 Mt Vernon PI NW Washington, DC 20001.

Additional opening session speakers: Federal OSHA; Abby Lopez, AKOSH; Elaine Banda, Oregon OSHA; Julie Love, DOE-ID; Carol Henning, and DOSH; Darren James,

Next Max conducted a session to meet the current board of directors, Saprena Lyons, Vice-Chair, Jack Griffith, Treasure, Marjorie Brice, Secretary, Tim Taylor, Director at Large, Curtis Reece, Director at Large, Michael Welsh, Director at Large. Max also introduced the conference planning team: Michael Bessler, Jonathan Hagen, and Mike Van Wyhe.

Acknowledgement of agencies that support Region X VPPPA Board of Directors

A very special thank you to:

Oregon OSHA Conference Team, Sharell Lien, Jill McConnel, and Diane Kronemann; for all of support and dedicated work behind the scenes to make our conference the success that it is.

NVPPPA Board members in attendance include Jack Griffith, Andy Foster, Saprena Lyons and Dave Jackson

Jack Griffith: VPPPA National Board of Directors Member & Region X Board of Directors Member provided a brief, detailed treasurer's report. He also encouraged attendees to become a member of NVPPPA if not already a member. He provided details regarding the benefits of membership.

Bylaws and Elections were covered by Mike Welsh.

Saprena Lyons, Region X vice-chairperson will cast a single vote (in Marjorie Brice's absence) for the following positions will be verified by Mike along with the appropriate protocol of nominations from the floor for each position:

- Max VanValey, Chairperson, Carlisle Construction Materials, Puyallup, WA
- Curtis Reece, Director at Large, Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Falls, ID
- Tim Taylor, Director at Large Non-Union, Conoco Phillips, Kuparuk, Alaska
- Andy Foster, Director at Large, Hanford Mission Integration Solutions, Richland, WA
- Currently Open Director at Large, Labor Represented

Important events were covered by Max including the conference reception on Wednesday evening from 7p.m. to 10 p.m., Breakfast with the exhibitors on Thursday 7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. and the closing session on Thursday 3:45-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday May 11, 2022, General Session Keynote Speaker:

Brendan McDonough

Topic: Inspiring others to find their tribe of support

Brendon's gripping real life story is conveyed in the motion picture "Only the Brave" based on the true story of the Granite Mountain Hotshots. Brendan is the only survivor of the horrendous Yarnell Hill fire that occurred in 2013. Brendon lost 19 of his dearest co-workers and brothers that day. He provided perspectives on how he had so many obstacles to overcome due to the decisions he made with substance abuse and how those decisions nearly hindered his chances to become a fire fighter. Upon realizing his dream through unconventional means and developing a lasting brotherhood with men he worked alongside of. He lost the men whom he genuinely considered family. He has dealt with the unrelenting guilt of being the only survivor of the tragic fire that occurred on Jun 30, 2013.

One of many take aways from his extraordinary ordeal and message to the Region X audience is, "Purpose: no passion, no purpose, no profession, character defects can be your greatest asset." Brendon continues community service efforts in Arizona in substance abuse support. At the conclusion of his message, he opened the session for questions and answers.

Region X Reports: All

Max VanValey, Region X Chairperson: opened the 27th Year Region X meeting of the Membership meeting.

Remarks along with the business portion of the meeting were covered. A reminder was conveyed to everyone about the members' rules and the benefits. The benefits include participation opportunities, if eligible, of serving on the Board of Directors and committees with voting rights/obligations.

Mike Welsh, Chairperson, completed a review of the nominations. A review of the election bylaws was conducted with the membership to ensure everyone understood who is eligible to run for the Board and voting criteria.

At the 2022 annual meeting of the membership there were (5) open BOD positions.

- Chairperson
- Director at Large #1
- Director at Large #2
- Director at Large Non represented
- Director at Large-Labor-Represented

Chairperson: Max VanValey

A single vote was cast by Saprena Lyons, Vice Chairperson (in Marjorie Brice's absence), and accepted by the nomination chair. No nominations from the floor and membership elected Max VanValey as Chairperson.

Director at Large: Curtis Reece

A single vote was cast by Saprena Lyons, Vice Chairperson (in Marjorie Brice's absence), and accepted by the nomination chair. No nominations from the floor and membership elected Curtis Reece as Director at Large.

Labor Representative from a Site with a Collective Bargaining Unit: Tim Taylor, a nomination

was received from the membership for Tim Taylor. No additional nominations were received from the floor.

A single vote was cast by a single vote was cast by Saprena Lyons, Vice Chairperson (in Marjorie Brice's absence), accepted by the nomination chair. The membership elected Tim Taylor as Labor Representative from a Site with a Collective Bargaining Unit.

The remaining positions remain currently unfilled.

Tim Taylor: Exhibitors:

Recognized the conference exhibitors & sponsors and thanked them for their support of the conference and Region X VPPA.

Max VanValey: Drawings during the Conference

- 50/50 Drawing Funds raised support to support the VPPA Scholarship Program
- Cash - Drawing for scholarship. The winner of the \$500 cash was Carol Henning, DOE-ID. Carol donated the funds back to Region X.

Thursday May 12, 2022: General Session Keynote Speaker Tyson Allen Human Performance Subject Matter Expert, Battelle Energy Alliance (BEA)

Topic: Failing Safely, building resiliency

Tyson's message to the membership includes Don't define a situation based upon the "absence" of something – safety is the "presence" of something.

Predict the fact that humans will error and give them the ability to fail safely. Anticipate, prevent, catch, recover. To reduce the frequency and severity tailor the work specifically to the process do not depend on the human.

General Session Speaker May 12, 2022: Frank King, The Mental Health Comedian:

Frank King provided a 15-minute overview of the 1-hour session he was scheduled to provide in one of the breakout sessions. He emphasizes and provides tools on the relationship between workplace stress and suicide, and the identification of actions that are common in suicide attempts.

Conference conclusion/closure:

Region X Awards: Presented by Max VanValey:

-Special Awards were present to:

Rocky Simmons (former Region X chairperson, retired),
Carol Henning (DOE-ID, retiring)
Cliff Butler (BOD, retiring)

The awards were presented for all their support to Region X and the NW Safety -Summit Conference.

Region X Awards: Presented by Max VanValey

Awards Presented by: Max VanValey & Jack Griffith

-Sponsors for supporting the Region X NW Safety Summit Conference:
ConocoPhillips, Alaska; Diamond level

The Conference closure was well attended, and the membership meeting was adjourned and well wishes for safe travels.

Saprena Lyons
Region X Vice Chair (on behalf of Marjorie Brice, Region X BOD Secretary)