

JAN 08 2009

Joe Aiello  
Sangamon County Clerk

Ordinance Number 10-1

WHEREAS, Sangamon County is a participant in the Worker's Compensation system, and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing this vital service to the workers who are injured is increasing at a rate that will soon be unsustainable, and

WHEREAS, the County and the injured workers who are being compensated under this system have an equal stake in making the system work as effectively as possible, and

WHEREAS, the County and its employees need to cooperate in the management of the hazards and risks faced by such employees in the course of their employment with the County,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Board of Sangamon County, as follows:

Section 1. The Board. There is created a Workplace Safety Board comprised of three employee members appointed by the County Board Chair, with the approval of the County Board, from names submitted by the labor organizations representing County employees, three County employees appointed by the County Board Chair from among the non-union employees of the County, provided however, that no more than one such employee may be employed in the same office or department, three members of the County Board, and the County Auditor. The members of the Board shall serve terms of three years, and shall serve without compensation. The Board shall elect from among its number a Chairman and a Secretary and such other officers as it deems necessary, and such officers shall serve terms of one year and until their successors shall have been elected. The Board staff shall be the County Director of Human Resources and the County labor counsel, and such other persons that the Board shall designate.

Section 2. Powers. The Workplace Safety Board shall have the authority to assemble information about injuries sustained by County employees in the workplace, including, but not limited to:

1. The time, date, and place of the injury.
2. The nature of the injury and the expected duration of the employee's absence from work.
3. The cost of replacing the injured employee until he or she is able to return to work.
4. Any information regarding other accidents or injuries suffered that seem to have a causal link to the cause of the injury suffered by the employee.
5. Reports, analyses, and statistical compilations of the County's Workers Compensation insurance carrier, as well as interviews of the injured employee and/or his or her supervisor.
6. Any recommendations that either employees or supervisors may have on safety measures that might be taken to prevent such injuries in the future.

Section 3. Limitations. (A) The Board shall have no authority to access, view, review, or otherwise inspect any information protected by state or federal law, including, but not limited to, personnel files, medical records, or membership in protected classes. (B) The Board shall have no authority to access any information claimed by a party to a worker's compensation action to be relevant and material to a claim for benefits not yet

finally resolved, or a defense to such a claim.

Section 4. Additional authority. The Workplace Safety Board shall make recommendations to the Employee Services Committee of the County Board regarding the improvements that it believes should be made in the various County workplaces and employee policies that will reduce the incidence of workplace injuries.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage according to law.

Employee Services Committee

[Signature], Chairman

Joni E. Kull, Member

Abe Forsyth, Member

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Todd Smith, Member

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Linda D. [unclear] Member

B. Williams