



August 16, 2013

The Honorable Paul Thissen
Chair, Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy
463 State Office Building
St. Paul MN 55155

Dear Speaker Thissen:


I am responding to your letter dated August 5, 2013 requesting information on the advisory councils and boards that provides advice to the Department of Labor and Industry. We have prepared the following information for you and the Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy and trust that it will meet your needs as you review these groups going into the future.

Advisory Group	Mission	Membership	Budget	Mtg. Dates	Reports	Link to Website
Apprenticeship Board	The Apprenticeship Board was created in 1939, soon after the federal passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Its duties are to propose occupational classifications for apprenticeship programs and standards for apprenticeship programs and agreements (i.e. required hours of supervised training). The board also advises the Commissioner on establishment of policies, procedures and rules.	See attached. Compensation under M.S. §15.059 covers meeting or committee activities at \$55 a day plus expenses.	No	The three most recent meetings were 10/10/2012; 2/6/2013 and 7/10/2013. The next meeting is scheduled for 10/9/2013.	The board issues no formal reports; any recommendations are contained in board meeting minutes.	The board does not maintain its own website; information about the board is contained within the agency's website.
Construction Codes Advisory Council	The council was reestablished in 2008 to review laws, codes, rules, standards and licensing requirements relating to building construction. It may make recommendations on ways to eliminate inconsistencies, streamline construction regulation, and promote enforcement of construction codes.	See attached. No compensation provided.	No	10/19/2012; 11/8/2012; and 6/20/2013. Next meeting is scheduled for 9/19/2013.	Recommendations regarding the building codes and rules are contained in council meeting minutes.	The council does not maintain its own website; information about the council is contained within the agency's website.
OSHA Advisory Council	The council was created 40 years ago to advise the department in carrying out the purposes of M.S. §182 and other OSHA statutes.	See attached. Compensation is provided.	No	2/1/2013; 5/3/2013; and 8/2/2013. Next meeting is 11/1/2013.	The council provides informational advice and recommendations to the agency. Both are contained in the council meeting minutes.	MNOSHA website is part of the agency's website.

Advisory Group	Mission	Membership	Budget	Mtg. Dates	Reports	Link to Website
Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	The council shall advise the department in carrying out the purposes of Chapter 176, Minnesota Workers' Compensation Law.	See attached. Compensation is provided.	No	2/13/2013; 4/10/2013; 6/19/2013. Next meeting is 10/9/2013.	The council advises the commissioner about policies pertaining to workers' compensation and submits its recommendations for changes to the proper legislative committees. The changes must be supported by a majority of business and labor members. Any amendments to legislation must also be approved.	Information on the council can be found on the agency's website.
Combative Sports Advisory Council	The council advises the commissioner on carrying out the duties under Chapter 341.	See attached. Compensation is provided.	No	1/28/2013; 5/20/2013; and 7/15/2013.	The council provides informal advice and recommendations to the agency; it issues no formal reports.	The Office of Combative Sports does not have a website.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact me and I would be happy to provide you with more information about these boards and councils.

Sincerely,


Ken B. Peterson, Commissioner
MN Department of Labor and Industry

KP/JR/ccr

cc: Allison Jones, Governor's Office

Apprenticeship Advisory Board Members:

Employer Members

Jeni Blaylock
Term expires 1/5/15

Mathew McDowall
Term expires 1/4/16

Todd Ferrara
Term expires 1/4/16

Employee Members

Stan Theis
Term expires 1/5/15

Harry Melander, Chair
Term expires 1/5/15

Mark Christianson
Term expires 1/4/16

Members From The Public

Everett Pettiford
Term expires 1/4/16

Dale Narlock
Term expires 1/5/15

Mike Mitchell
Ex-Officio

Johnnie Burns
Director of Apprenticeship/Labor Standards ~ Board Secretary