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RESOLUTION NO. 180-90

ESTABLISHING A LABOR-MANAGEMENT SAFETY COMMITTEE

By Mr. D. Smith, Chairman, Personnel Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature enacted a law in 1984 requiring municipalities who wish to operate their self-insured Workers' Compensation plans on an experience-rating basis create a labor-management safety committee, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators believes that the establishment of such a safety committee is desirable to encourage a closer working relationship between management and workers, improving attitudes towards safety and understanding and providing an excellent means of maintaining good employee public and intermunicipal relations and providing the stimulation and suggestions necessary to maintain safe conditions and safe workers,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators hereby establishes a safety committee made up of members from participating municipalities and in accordance with the following:

"THE JULY 1984 LAW
REQUIRING SAFETY COMMITTEES FOR ALL SELF-INSURED COUNTIES
USING EXPERIENCE RATING SYSTEMS"

If a county elects to operate its plan on an experience rating basis, the chief elected official of such county shall create and appoint a labor-management safety committee. The purposes of the committee shall be to educate public employees of the plan participants in proper health and safety procedures in the work places of the participants, and to design such additional programs as may be appropriate to the development of a safe working environment in participants' facilities and job sites. The committee shall accomplish these purposes by establishing and maintaining such employee safety and health programs as it deems appropriate and by publicizing the availability of such programs. The purposes and powers of the committee may be expanded by the county by adopting rules and regulations pursuant to section sixty-five of this chapter.

The committee, which shall be appointed by the chief elected official, shall be comprised of an equal number of employer and employee representatives consisting of not less than three nor more than five representatives each of the employer and of the employees, respectively. The participants in the plan shall submit to the chief elected official a list of candidates for the labor-management safety committee. In cases in which employee organizations recognized or certified to represent employees of the participants pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law exist, such recognized or certified employee organizations shall submit a list of employee candidates for the labor-management safety committee to the chief elected official. The chief elected official shall create the committee from the lists of candidates so submitted. The chief elected official, or person designated by him, shall act as the chairperson of the committee.

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ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY LABOR-MANAGEMENT SAFETY COMMITTEE

Purpose

To educate public employees in proper health and safety procedures in the workplace and to design additional safety and health programs, as appropriate, to further the development of a safe working environment.

Scope

This committee has been developed to increase the promotion and practice of job-related safety among all public employees covered by the St. Lawrence County Self Insurance Plan. Its aim is to keep all persons gainfully employed.

Goal

No work-related accidents or lost time injuries or illnesses.

Objectives

- Identification and removal of injury or illness "hot spots."
- Increased worker safety awareness through more intense promotions of existing as well as new safety programs.
- Implementation of safety and loss control programs, specifically aimed at reducing certain injuries and illnesses.
- Increased use of accident and cost data with the emphasis on seeing pool participants becoming more familiar with data provided by the pool administrator.
- Development of safety and loss control manuals for all pool participants.
- Inspection of facilities owned by pool participants.

Membership

The Committee shall consist of 10 persons; 5 representing management and 5 representing labor. They shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Legislators with labor representatives being recommended by employee organizations. The Chairman of the Board of Legislators shall designate the chairman of the committee, who does not have voting power. Members serve without salary. Members will serve for a two-year term.

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Procedures and Duties

Meetings shall be held at least 6 times per year with at least one meeting each quarter. Members will be given a least 5 days notice of a meeting. Specific member duties include the following:

- Reporting hazards and unsafe work behavior
- Discussion of problems for solutions
- Stimulate program participation and interest
- Advise on complaints
- Assessment of use and observance of safety communications
- Discuss changes in safety procedures as a result of new technology or laws
- Attend meetings regularly

Committee Functions shall include but not be limited to:

- provide and exchange information
- review accidents and review statistics
- study and resolve recommendations made before the committee
- provide corrective recommendations
- discuss only safety and health issues as they pertain to the workplace.

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Mr. D. Smith made a motion to adopt resolution number 180-90, seconded by Mr. Romigh and Mr. McFaddin, and carried by a voice vote with twenty (20) yes votes and two (2) Legislators absent (J. Smith and Purvis).