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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AMUSEMENT RIDE AND ATTRACTION SAFETY BOARD

BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

2:00 P.M.

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

2 PUBLIC MEMBERS:

David Bennett

3 William N. Jennings

Michael Sutton

4

APPEARING FROM SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS:

5 Tom Coe, Chief Ride Inspector

Mary Pierce

6

7

Court Reporter:

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1 MR. BENNETT: We'll start our
2 meeting. This is the Amusement Ride and
3 Attraction Safety Board meeting on October 16th,
4 2021. So I am Dave Bennett. I'm the chair of
5 the board. Why don't we call roll. Is there
6 someone there -- is it Mary who can do the roll
7 call?

8 MR. COE: I'm on the phone and she's
9 in the office listening. I didn't know how this
10 would go over, but I'll just run down the list
11 real quick. Direct Kleinik?

12 MR. KLEINIK: Here.

13 MR. COE: Wes Sparks.

14 MR. SPARKS: Here.

15 MR. COE: Daniel Schwabe? Not yet.
16 Hopefully he'll come in. Joseph Redshaw?

17 MR. REDSHAW: Present.

18 MR. COE: Michael Sutton?

19 MR. SUTTON: Present.

20 MR. COE: And William Jennings.

21 MR. JENNINGS: Present.

22 MR. COE: And Jessica Yard just in
23 case she does -- it doesn't sound like she's
24 here. So we have a quorum, and we can go ahead

1 and proceed.

2 MR. BENNETT: Okay. Thanks, Tom. So
3 the agenda calls for the new member
4 introductions. I know we do have one new member,
5 Michael Sutton. I believe he's the engineering
6 member of the board. I thought we would just
7 introduce yourselves for all the others who are
8 here and guests who are here listening and
9 watching. So my name is Dave Bennett. I'm an
10 attorney, defense attorney in the amusement
11 industry. My office is in Chicago, and I've
12 represented the amusement industry for a number
13 of years. So I represent family entertainment
14 centers to inflatables and carnivals and climbing
15 centers and gyms and roller rinks and all that.
16 So that's my involvement in the association.

17 Why don't I turn it to Joseph.
18 Joseph, why don't you tell us your involvement in
19 the association?

20 MR. REDSHAW: Yeah. I'm Joe Redshaw,
21 and I am the owner of an insurance agency in
22 Rushville, Illinois, about 25 years I've owned
23 the agency and I've been involved with carnivals
24 and on the local fair board here for about 20

1 plus years.

2 MR. BENNETT: Great. And Wes, can
3 you just introduce yourself?

4 MR. SPARKS: Wes Sparks, I work for
5 North American Midway Entertainment. I was born
6 and bred into the industry, and it's all I've
7 ever done.

8 MR. BENNETT: Great. And William,
9 could you introduce yourself?

10 MR. JENNINGS: Bill Jennings,
11 representative from the Illinois Association of
12 Ag Fairs, was president of our local fair board
13 for 40 some years. Still on the board, and
14 that's where I'm from.

15 MR. BENNETT: Okay. And Michael
16 Sutton Michael, our new member. Michael, could
17 you introduce yourself?

18 MR. SUTTON: Michael Sutton, I'm the
19 CEO of Infrastructure Engineering. I've been a
20 civil engineer for about 45 years. I've been in
21 business 24 years. And when it comes to
22 amusement rides and attractions, I'm more of a
23 consumer. And so I'm kind of excited to be on
24 this board to learn about all of the different

1 things that is considered with regards to
2 amusement ride and attraction safety. So thank
3 you for, again, accepting me to be on this board.

4 MR. BENNETT: Great. Thank you
5 Michael, good. I think I covered everyone. I
6 think I counted and it's five out of the seven.
7 So Jessica is not here and Daniel is still not
8 here. So I think --

9 MR. SCHWABE: Dan Schwabe, I just got
10 on.

11 MR. BENNETT: Okay. Hey, Dan. Can
12 you just introduce yourself and say how you're
13 involved in the industry.

14 MR. SCHWABE: Dan Schwabe, Six Flags
15 Great America. I've worked there for 36 years.
16 I started out as a seasonal mechanic. I worked
17 my way up and now I am in charge of construction
18 and any construction-related projects here at Six
19 Flags Great America.

20 MR. BENNETT: Great, Dan. Thanks.
21 The approval of the agenda, which I don't think
22 that requires a vote, but is there anything else
23 we should add to the agenda or anything else to
24 say at this time? Nothing. Let's move onto the

1 approval of minutes.

2 Tom, were the minutes from the last
3 minutes circulated?

4 MR. COE: I believe they were and
5 they are available on our website under the board
6 tab to download or look at.

7 MR. BENNETT: Okay. Is there
8 discussion on approval of the minutes from the
9 last meeting? Hearing none, then is there a
10 motion to approve the minutes?

11 MR. REDSHAW: I'll make a motion.

12 UNIDENTIFIED: So moved.

13 MR. BENNETT: I think I heard a
14 second as well. So if there's no further
15 discussion then all those in favor of approving
16 the minutes from the last board meeting say yea.

17 (WHEREUPON, ALL VOTING MEMBERS VOTED
18 YEA.)

19 MR. BENNETT: Any opposed say no or
20 nay. All right. The minutes have been approved.
21 Next is old business. I believe Tom Coe, you can
22 take over and talk about the issues in your
23 PowerPoint that you want to discuss.

24 MR. COE: Sure, for the new member,

1 my name is Tom Coe. I'm the chief ride inspector
2 for the state. I handle all of the engineering
3 review for any of the amusement attractions that
4 come in and take care of the day-to-day
5 operations.

6 Under the old business, the last
7 meeting, there was quite a bit that went on. The
8 slide show won't go -- there we go. We approved
9 in February increased fee structure for large
10 inflatables. Those are inflatables over
11 1500 square feet in a footprint. It went from
12 \$55 for all inflatables no matter the size to \$55
13 for everything up to 1500 square feet and
14 anything under 1500 square feet and then anything
15 1500 square feet and over went to \$130. At that
16 time, we were making modifications to the rules,
17 there was a request to have a clarification done
18 on what we called slides in the amusement -- for
19 the amusement industry. We did that and
20 basically when you inspect all slides now that
21 are to be used in the amusement industry
22 carnival, we did give exceptions to playground
23 type equipment. That was kind of ambiguous at
24 the beginning. We tightened up the definition,

1 and that is basically operations as we've always
2 done in the past.

3 Another modification to the rules was
4 ride operator training. That means anyone, if he
5 touches a ride, has to have a signed off training
6 for that calendar year, and, you know, it doesn't
7 matter if you've been in the business for
8 30 years and you were the third generation you
9 still have to have that paper updated.

10 One of the biggest changes that we
11 made is we did adopt oversight of aerial
12 adventure courses and the rules. We put a set of
13 rules together for that and had that added in.
14 We made some other minor modifications to some
15 language. We also did -- this is probably the
16 biggest part that we went there is we updated a
17 bunch of the ASTM standards. Most of them hadn't
18 been updated since between 2009 and 2013. They
19 did approve 2974-18, which is an auditing
20 guidelines; ASTM 2374-17, which is standard
21 practice and design for inflatables; and then
22 ASTM 770-18 which is ownership and operations of
23 amusement devices. These have all been approved.
24 They were in effect January 1st, 2021, and the

1 rule changes are available on our website.

2 We did have at one point -- and I
3 don't know if it's still up -- we had just the
4 modified sections and not the entire rules, so
5 that still may be available just to get what the
6 changes were, but, again, the updated rules are
7 posted as a whole on our website. Are there any
8 questions so far?

9 Okay. We'll skip onto the next item
10 on the agenda, which is new business. We're
11 going to give you the 2021-year update and this
12 goes until August 31st. I had to print off some
13 reports, so it's not to the day, but it's pretty
14 close. It covers some basic statistics, accident
15 reports, safety bulletins when they're available
16 and then some additional updates if we need them.

17 The statistics to 8/31, we basically
18 did as a whole 1905 inspections; of those, 644
19 were followups and the rest were initial
20 inspections where we were issuing permits and
21 that's at 278 locations and 169 companies. These
22 numbers are quite a bit less than what you can
23 see down in the 2019, 2018 and that is still a
24 result of COVID. We do have about 630 companies

1 that are listed in our program that are
2 considered active but a lot of them have not done
3 anything because of the shut down. We don't know
4 how many of those companies are going to come
5 back, and this year is kind of been the first
6 year where things have gotten into kind of a
7 standard operation. We're hoping next year it
8 will be closer back to normal if things go good.

9 Accident reports to date, we had
10 eight accidents. That's on the low side but
11 pretty normal. 2020 was kind of deceptive
12 because there were hardly no one operating.
13 There were very few select amusements that were
14 available. Of the eight accidents, we classify
15 them into -- we're not laying blame but a patron
16 act, an operator act or a mechanical malfunction.
17 We had seven patron incidents and one operator
18 incident, which the one operator incident is kind
19 of a close call. This table kind of summarizes
20 where we were. It doesn't specifically put names
21 on things, but you can kind of guess.

22 MR. SUTTON: This is Mike Sutton. I
23 hate to interrupt you, but I am writing some
24 notes here. And you know, since I'm new on the

1 board, I do have a question about your previous.
2 We talked about companies. What type of
3 companies, you know, you're talking about here?
4 Are you talking about amusement ride companies
5 like Great America, or are you talking about the
6 contractors that do things at the amusement
7 parks? I'm just curious about when you say
8 companies, and it shows like 4,000 companies or
9 something like that, I believe, and now there's
10 only about 600, so what type of companies are we
11 talking about here?

12 MR. COE: That 4,000 number is total
13 inspections. The number of companies that we
14 have listed in our program is around 630. It
15 varies a little bit. Those are individual
16 companies that own any piece of equipment that we
17 would inspect. So that could be Six Flags, a
18 regular mobile carnival, and it goes down to, you
19 know, the individual that is running a bounce
20 house rental company out of their garage and
21 they'll have like four bounce houses.

22 A lot of those companies, the
23 majority of the companies I would say are bounce
24 house companies. It's an easy thing to start,

1 and those are the ones -- the smaller companies,
2 the mom and pops, they're the ones that kind of
3 got really hurt in the COVID and we haven't seen
4 too many of those come back. Some of the bigger
5 bounce house companies, they're just barely
6 operating. There's some companies out there that
7 we had a hundred inflatables inspected for that
8 one company and they're, you know, probably down
9 to probably 20 operating this year.

10 MR. SUTTON: Okay. Thank you.

11 MR. BENNETT: If we go back to the
12 accident report, we can kind of look -- the
13 adventure courses kind of lead the charge on
14 accidents. It's kind of dangerous. Most of them
15 get hurt on coming off of the zip line. The one
16 accident that was reported -- we do require that
17 if somebody seeks medical treatment, that they
18 report it. That was the 5/31 accident on the
19 adventure course. Basically, that person had a
20 panic attack and had to be removed, but did take
21 a ride in the ambulance. You know, it's kind of
22 a weird thing. He wasn't physically broken leg,
23 broken arm, but went ahead and went to the
24 emergency room.

1 The last one -- if we run down to the
2 bottom, the 8/1/21 is a fixed park, was a car
3 collision. This one was a little bit sketchy
4 where it was patron or operator but what happened
5 is the operator pulled an emergency stop. He
6 stopped all of the vehicles on the track. I
7 would blame it on the operator, but he flipped
8 the switch back on and one of the persons ended
9 up hitting another cart in the back at the flip
10 of the switch and caused that incident to occur.
11 And any questions on this table?

12 MR. SUTTON: I did have a question.
13 For the accident and injuries, I see part of the
14 board is a defense attorney. So on all these
15 accidents, have people filed lawsuits in regards
16 to these or these are just reporting of accidents
17 and not taking into account the lawsuits that
18 come out of them?

19 MR. BENNETT: These are just reported
20 accidents. That is what Tom is saying.

21 MR. COE: Correct. We typically --
22 in a normal year, since I do all of the
23 paperwork, so I get all of the FOIA requests if
24 there's any litigation involved in an accident,

1 we typically see maybe three or four at the most,
2 and those generally are not for the current year.
3 They are for past years. So this year, we had
4 two FOIA requests for lawsuits that are moving
5 forward that were from three years ago. But
6 generally speaking of the accidents you will see
7 on this list, probably two or three of them may
8 go to litigation.

9 MR. SUTTON: Thank you.

10 MR. COE: Okay. This one is kind of
11 important. I have to review all of the NDT
12 submittals that come into the agency. We try our
13 best. We have a list that keeps it up to date
14 which has the ride and what the requirement is
15 for the NDT so that people can go and look it up.
16 They're supposed to have that information with
17 them. The ride manufacturer is supposed to
18 actually give it to them when they put it out.
19 That typically sometimes gets overlooked. There
20 are a couple other references that are available
21 on the web that have ride databases, the CARES
22 Bulletin, that database we actually put together,
23 and that's the document you'll see on our
24 website. And then there's also another group,

1 NAARSO, that carries bulletins. And a lot of the
2 ride manufacturers will give you access to them.
3 Some of the ride manufacturers will not unless
4 you're a registered owner with them so that's why
5 we have these outside references.

6 Just a COVID update, the state kind
7 of took a step backwards. They have a mandate
8 now for any indoor activity and right now it
9 stands they encourage face coverings for large
10 gatherings. Updates should be posted, and that's
11 a different agency that handles that. And to the
12 last part, the DCM COVID-19 resources, that will
13 actually get you to their website and that will
14 have the information there that is most current.
15 They also have a 1-800 number, but, again, that
16 agency I believe is still on remote work so it
17 may take a little while to get back to you if you
18 try to get ahold of someone.

19 One of the things we always bring up
20 in the meeting, usually there's more public
21 members present, we do have a policy that we like
22 to keep, and this makes it easier on us to
23 maintain the schedules for the inspectors, the
24 applications must be received 30 days prior to

1 the first spot. We do work with people as much
2 as we can but there is a fee if somebody
3 blatantly avoids that and we do require that the
4 owner/operator, there is a sign off sheet from
5 Chance Manufacturing, because when this ride is
6 put together that particular piece on that ride
7 can't be checked unless it's disassembled. So
8 every year, the owner, when they do an initial
9 inspection, they tear the ride down, they put it
10 back together to get it ready to go out for the
11 season. They have to verify that they checked
12 those bars and made sure they're in good place,
13 good repair.

14 MR. SUTTON: What does it mean by
15 30 days prior to claim the first spot? What is
16 claim the first spot?

17 MR. COE: Their first open to the
18 public event that they would have to have permits
19 for. If they have a spot where they're going to
20 play a public event May 1st, basically they would
21 have to have their paperwork into us by
22 April 1st. That is -- you know, it's hard to
23 explain, but May through June is almost a
24 whirlwind of activity for us because everyone in

1 a typical year wants to be open in that time
2 period and if somebody calls you up five days
3 before they're open, then it becomes a pretty
4 significant problem to get someone out there and
5 get them permitted. I will let everybody know
6 that we have very little owners that we have not
7 permitted for them to be open. There's maybe one
8 or two that happen a year, and that's an extreme
9 circumstance.

10 MR. SUTTON: Thank you, Tom, for the
11 explanation. Thank you.

12 MR. BENNETT: Tom, let me ask you how
13 many inspectors did you have working for you this
14 year in 2021?

15 MR. COE: We have five inspectors
16 that are spread throughout the state. There's
17 two in the Chicago area and then there's one that
18 is out of Peoria that handles most of the rest of
19 the northern area that is outside of Chicago in
20 the Collar Counties. We have one in central
21 Illinois and then we have one that does the
22 southern end of the state. And for the first
23 year in two years all five of them were working.
24 We had some issues for a couple of years where we

1 were short. I am an inspector, even though I
2 spent most of my time in the field, I can go out
3 in the field, and occasionally, I do if there's
4 problems with scheduling. We try our best to get
5 everybody open and if we got -- if I've got to go
6 out, then we'll go out and get it done.

7 And just so everybody knows
8 inspection wise where we are, we're about halfway
9 into our haunted house and fall farm business.
10 Most of that will be completed in the next two
11 weeks and we have a little bit of time in
12 between. That's when we get everybody set up for
13 the start of the next year because shortly after
14 Thanksgiving we have everything in place for the
15 year around operators so we can get them
16 inspected and they're ready to go January 1st.

17 Okay. If everybody is ready for the
18 new business. Newest legislation. This was just
19 signed not too long ago by the governor. We will
20 start regulation of trampoline courts, and it
21 will become effective January 1st, 2022. We're
22 putting our plans together. We have talked with
23 the industry. We agree that inspection by a
24 qualified third party would be the best option

1 and we do a follow-up inspection. This is
2 typical of how we inspect other amusements which
3 require a very specific skill set and training.
4 We do -- indoor adventure courses have third
5 party inspections and zip lines have third party
6 inspections. In the rules, we adopted 2970-20
7 and we'll talk about that a little bit later, but
8 that is basically the construction guidelines and
9 basic operating principles for trampoline courts.

10 As with most amusement attractions,
11 we will require a submission of stamped drawings
12 for the new facilities that are being built. The
13 old facilities, they kind of get grandfathered,
14 but they will have to be inspected by the third
15 party and they will have to meet the 2970-20
16 requirements. Any questions on that?

17 Okay. This is what 2970-20 does.
18 That's the title of the standard. It contains
19 best practice for designs. It does exempt
20 certain types of activities that use trampolines;
21 training, gymnastics would be exempt. And though
22 that is contained in the standard, we'll probably
23 define it a little bit more in the rules if we
24 think that we need it. One of the interesting

1 parts of the standard is it does define a maximum
2 patron to attendant ratio and that is 32 to one.
3 Now, that is a maximum and the designer or the
4 manufacturer of the trampoline court can dictate
5 it to be less than that, and that's why we kind
6 of need the information on the design side from
7 the drawings and that should be included in it.

8 Another requirement that they list in
9 there is how many square feet per patron, which
10 would give you a maximum capacity for a court,
11 depending on the size of the court. Rules of
12 use, in the rules of use are a basic set of
13 rules. The designer, again, or the engineer can
14 make specific requirements for their specific
15 piece of equipment and this does -- this standard
16 does include a patron responsibility portion,
17 which we sometimes have pushback on that, but
18 again, it's just if you read it, it's basic
19 common sense, don't do something that you're
20 going to get hurt or hurt yourself. But when we
21 put the rules together, if we see something in
22 the standard under the rules, we're allowed --
23 you know, we can exempt someone and we can
24 actually add a requirement in. One of my

1 suggestions, and we may just see and run with it,
2 how it goes, the standard only requires basic
3 rules that be posted. What we've seen in the
4 carnival industry is when you have signs up
5 there, people tend not to read them or not read
6 them fully. And again, this is a manufacturer
7 requirement also, but some kind of video or
8 verbal explanation of the rules may be more
9 advantageous than just having a sign posed on the
10 wall, but we can develop that as we go.

11 So what I would like to do, this is
12 kind of preemptive, we could either vote now to
13 adopt 2970-20 and we'll just have it in the
14 rules, or if the board would like to take some
15 more time, I can actually send out a copy of that
16 standard if they want to review it personally,
17 and we've got a fairly short time to work with to
18 get the rules in place for January 1st, 2021. I
19 will leave it up to the board if they want to
20 discuss it or they just want to vote on it.

21 MR. BENNETT: First, Tom, when it
22 says trampoline courts, can you just define that,
23 what that means, places that involves and what it
24 doesn't involve?

1 MR. COE: A trampoline court -- I
2 don't know if anybody is familiar with the Sky
3 Zones, but basically it's a big open interior
4 building. They'll have trampolines. Imagine a
5 backyard trampoline, except it's four or five
6 times as big as that, and then they'll have 10 or
7 12 of those grouped inside that building.
8 Usually you walk up to a raised platform and you
9 enter the cells that have the separate trampoline
10 off of that platform, and that's kind of why the
11 attendants are required to maintain some safety
12 rules, not mixing ages, size is a big thing,
13 number of people in any one court at a time, and
14 then, you know, bad behavior, trying to correct
15 that. But basically, it's just a giant open
16 group of trampolines that are put together and
17 they get separated by padded walls for a separate
18 kind of attractions. They will have basketball
19 and just regular jumping and things like that.

20 MR. BENNETT: Tom, thanks. So you
21 said Illinois has passed a law regulating
22 trampoline courts. Is this law the same language
23 as this ASTM 2970-20?

24 MR. COE: No. Basically, the law

1 just says that we're going to adopt rules to
2 inspect these, so they'll become under our
3 purview to look at them and, you know, have some
4 type of control over how they operate. We will
5 be issuing permits to them just like an amusement
6 ride.

7 MR. BENNETT: As a board, we should
8 discuss, and I would like to hear everyone's
9 comments on voting on ASTM standard for
10 trampoline courts, the 2970, whether we feel
11 comfortable adopting ASTM for trampoline courts.

12 MS. EVANS: Dave, Tom, this is
13 Bethany Evans. I'm the executive vice president
14 for the International Association of Trampoline
15 Parks, and I just wanted to chime in here for one
16 minute here and just give you a little background
17 on the ASTM 2970, and that our industry was
18 extremely proactive in stepping forward to
19 develop and design this standard and we are very
20 active in ASTM in currently updating the standard
21 as our industry evolves and changes. So if
22 there's everyone, the board, that has questions
23 about the industry, I know this is a new industry
24 you're going to be regulating in Illinois, so we

1 are here to answer questions or help you
2 understand our industry as best as possible.

3 MR. BENNETT: Great. Bethany,
4 excellent. Thank you very much. I know ASTM. I
5 know what goes into agreeing to those standards,
6 and that's been agreed to, and so then, Bethany,
7 you're saying your industry is on board and
8 worked with and approved the ASTM standard for
9 trampoline courts; is that right?

10 MS. EVANS: That's correct. Back in
11 2012 when the industry was only 40 parks in the
12 United States, key operators that were involved
13 in that point, as well as manufacturers, came
14 together to create this standard, which we
15 obviously still adhere to today and are
16 continuously, like I said, updating and changing.
17 And just to give you a real insight onto this
18 patron to attendant ratio, that 32 to one number
19 has been a big discussion point for us for many
20 years and that number was derived at -- based on
21 basically because of dodge ball courts. Each
22 side had 16 participants, so the minimum
23 number -- or the max, you know, was 32. So we
24 really feel there probably should be a better

1 ratio for patron to attendant, but this was the
2 number we could reach consensus on.

3 MR. BENNETT: Good. Okay. Thank
4 you.

5 MS. EVANS: Sure. My pleasure.

6 MR. BENNETT: Does anyone have any
7 other comments? Any board members that want to
8 ask Bethany any questions or anything else to add
9 about this? Go ahead.

10 MR. JENNINGS: If the international
11 group is on board with it, then I see no reason
12 why we couldn't vote on it and go on.

13 MR. BENNETT: Right. I agree. Bill,
14 I agree with you. Any other discussion, or is
15 everyone ready to vote? I guess we can bring
16 this to a vote. So is there a motion to adopt
17 ASTM 2970-20?

18 MR. JENNINGS: Bill Jennings, I'll
19 make that motion.

20 MR. BENNETT: Is there a second?

21 MR. SPARKS: Wes Sparks, I'll second
22 it.

23 MR. BENNETT: Any discussion? I'm
24 hearing none then. All those in favor of the

1 motion say yea?

2 (WHEREUPON, ALL VOTING MEMBERS VOTE
3 YEA.)

4 MR. BENNETT: Opposed say nay? So I
5 believe that is approved, so that motion is
6 adopted to adopt ASTM standard 2970-20 for the
7 trampoline courts in Illinois, so that's good.
8 Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. COE: Thank you very much. That
10 will make things run a little bit smoother in the
11 rules when we get to that. Now, the second ASTM
12 standard, and I believe I sent a copy of this to
13 all of the board members, a weird scenario
14 because of COVID, 2291-18 was the standard that
15 we started with. Since there was such a large
16 amount of information contained in it, we kind of
17 worked on four standards that we had adopted the
18 year before and got those completed and this one
19 kind of languished, and we were hoping to bring
20 it up again at an in-face meeting but it's
21 getting to the point in I believe in my last
22 e-mail I pointed out that 2291 now has a 21
23 version, which I just completed a review of it
24 and we can go down to 2018 because everything

1 that is in 2018 is in 2021 and then there's like
2 four additional things that they added in the 21
3 version. And what I would like to do is go
4 through this list, see if there's any questions,
5 look at the additional information that was added
6 in 21 and actually vote on the adoption of the 21
7 standard.

8 So we get started, 2219-18 is the
9 design of amusement rides and devices and it
10 affects new and existing rides. It allows
11 existing rides to be service proven. And just
12 for those people that aren't real familiar with
13 the carnival industry, there are a significant
14 number of rides still in operation that were
15 built as far back as the 40s and the 50s. So
16 that's -- it would cover those rides to be able
17 to be service proven. There are significant new
18 requirements for designs of newly constructed
19 amusement rides. It includes fall hazard
20 protection when they're erecting the ride. It
21 does require the manufacturer to do hazard
22 mitigation, and there's quite a bit on that.
23 What we're seeing -- probably the biggest thing
24 that occurred in the last couple of years and

1 most of the manufacturers had adopted it, is
2 corrosion inspections. Some ride manufacturers,
3 you know, made a minimal attempt at, you know,
4 you need to look at your ride and see if there's
5 corrosion damage, but most of them now have
6 adopted mandatory yearly inspections that require
7 you to document corrosion and if it becomes
8 significant it requires the manufacturer to
9 approve the ride for operation or approve a
10 repair procedure. Additional information that
11 was added in are restraints on kiddy rides. Some
12 of the older rides basically had none and a lot
13 of them were pretty minimal. This gives the
14 manufacturer requirements for designs of specific
15 restraints for kids that delves into acceleration
16 limits for patrons. And that's something that
17 you usually saw on the roller coaster industry
18 quite a bit. Some of the higher end rides had
19 that, but I don't know that that was necessarily
20 completed on kiddy rides.

21 They expanded safety control related
22 systems, and this is all generally -- they're
23 just adding more requirements and explanations of
24 what they want to see when a person goes into the

1 design process of a new ride. Fencing guide
2 rails and handrails are clearly explained what is
3 needed and where. One of the biggest changes
4 that did occur when they went through this
5 modification in 2018, most of the standards had a
6 huge amount of modifications done to them. There
7 used to exist a grandfather clause for fencing
8 that was designed and manufactured at the time
9 that the ride was built, and we did grandfather
10 that fencing in. And this is the crowd fencing
11 that marks off the ride area that you need to
12 operate the ride safely. That eliminates that,
13 so there would be no more old fencing. It would
14 all have to comply with the new fencing
15 requirements, which is significantly more than
16 some of the old rides that existed. And this
17 did -- does include requirements on elevated
18 platforms. This does reference one of the
19 standards that we've already adopted, S770. It
20 outlines in basic terms, the manuals, what you
21 have to have, 770 goes into a little bit more
22 details and specific details on what the contents
23 have to be.
24 Clarifications of restraint design,

1 there were different levels of restraint design,
2 and it dictates how the manufacturer determines
3 what level of design is required for what type of
4 ride and it's all based on the age, the heights,
5 the G forces and impact stops and basically
6 hazard mitigation also. Those are all considered
7 when you decide what kind of restraint needs to
8 be on the ride.

9 An additional item that was added was
10 a better definition of a supervising companion,
11 and this is typically smaller rides where there
12 is the capability -- kiddy rides where they're
13 under 48 inches. Sometimes there's a little
14 transition where if you have a responsible person
15 that can go with you, that's someone that is
16 small can get on that ride with them and that
17 defines who that responsible is or what criteria
18 they have to meet. An example would be
19 four-year-old brother wants to go on this ride.
20 His six-year-old brother a supervising companion,
21 not by the definition. They would have to be
22 older than that. There's some modification for
23 acceleration designs for the smaller rides for
24 patrons under 48 inches.

1 So that's just a very brief overview.
2 I did send out a comparison to the current
3 standard which we have, which is 2011. That
4 standard has all of the modifications that were
5 made -- or this paper has all of the
6 modifications that were made in 2018. And as I
7 said, it takes a while to run through these. We
8 did not have a red lined copy so the changes had
9 to read every line.

10 Does anybody have any questions on
11 the 2018? It's a very technical document and
12 I've got to say I'm an engineer and it's pretty
13 tough.

14 MR. BENNETT: Thanks, Tom. I have
15 that here. Thank you for sending the 2291-18. I
16 know it's 60-some pages. It is very technical,
17 so I liked your comparison. That's helpful. So
18 remind me, did the board approve -- has the 2011
19 version been adopted already by the state?

20 MR. COE: Yes. That was done in
21 2013, I believe. That's the last adoption that
22 we had completed.

23 MR. BENNETT: Well then the question
24 is whether to adopt this update, the 2291-18 or

1 are you asking us now to -- I guess there's a 21
2 version?

3 MR. COE: Yes. That's what I wanted
4 to do, you know. Because of the way that I had
5 it broken out, most of the modifications were
6 mentioned in that 2018 document that I gave you.
7 I did not have time to put a comparison together
8 for 21, but I did have enough time to put a slide
9 together with the changes that are included in
10 the 21, which are above the 18 version.

11 MR. BENNETT: Right.

12 MR. COE: So we can go to that next
13 slide. These are the changes that were added to
14 the 2291-21 version over what we have looked at.
15 In section five, there's an explanation, an
16 assessment of environmental hazards for a ride.
17 Basically, that includes weather. They also
18 added a section for deterioration of safety
19 components. I'm glad to see that. We
20 typically -- a lot of your padding on these rides
21 is very susceptible to human damage and
22 environmental damage. Seat belts are very
23 susceptible to UV damage. So it dictates that
24 the manufacturer has to do an assessment on those

1 safety components and then actually outline
2 methods to make sure that those components are
3 still acceptable for use.

4 Section six, I actually have to go
5 read that, but basically there was a paragraph in
6 there and they just ended up rewriting it a
7 little bit, but it had the same focus. It was
8 just reworded. In section seven, it adds an
9 additional process onto the determination of the
10 restraint type. They did add a specific
11 publication date for ASTM 2137. They didn't
12 specify the 19 version. And under that process
13 of determining the restraint type, they did add
14 an appendix, which included biometrics for impact
15 stops, which was not there before.

16 Section eight, they basically
17 required the manufacturer to do a corrosion
18 mitigation in the design of the rise so that you
19 don't have the issues that we have now, where
20 there is closed tubing, you get freeze damage,
21 interior rust throughs. So the designer is now
22 supposed to look at that as a requirement and try
23 to work around those issues to make the ride
24 safer. Additional appendix were added. There

1 are three. The degradation due to environmental
2 conditions, and they give you a process to run
3 through to determine how the ride is going to
4 last; the ride design is supposed to last, you
5 know, X amount of cycles, 35,000 hours, I
6 believe, and what is going to happen to that ride
7 as it's exposed to the environment.

8 Appendix nine, that's loading and
9 unloading hazard mitigation. It is
10 considerations on how they're going to get people
11 on and off the ride and through the cycle. And
12 then the newest one -- and this goes back to the
13 added process for the design for the restraint --
14 is it explains how to determine the result for
15 impact events on the restraint type. So there
16 was not a huge amount of change between the two.
17 What they've added is pretty good in my opinion.
18 I guess I'll leave it open. Does anyone have any
19 questions and hopefully not too technical?

20 MR. BENNETT: Does anyone have any
21 questions for Tom?

22 MR. SUTTON: Yeah. This is Mike
23 Sutton. As you mentioned, the 2291-8 and it's
24 pretty extensive and so what you just presented

1 is edits that have been made to 2219-18; is that
2 correct?

3 MR. COE: There were actually -- if
4 you go to ASTM, there were actually some
5 additional sub modifications to 18, but like I
6 said, between 18 and 21, this last slide that I
7 have, these are the only changes that occurred.
8 A lot of times what ASTM will do is when they
9 publish a standard, if they see something and it
10 can be as little as punctuation or language,
11 they'll have like a 2291-18A or B or C, and
12 occasionally, if it's really important, these are
13 on a cycle that they're reviewed every so many
14 years. But if they find something important that
15 they want to add, they'll do it and it will be,
16 you know, 2219 when they actually rewrite it.

17 MR. SUTTON: Thank you.

18 MR. SCHWABE: This is Dan Schwabe. I
19 have a question about the supervising companion.
20 I think I remember at the last meeting we were
21 talking about an age. I think it was 14. Is
22 that still true?

23 MR. COE: I am going to have to --
24 off the top of my head, I don't know what section

1 that is, but, yes, the age 14 is still in there.

2 And I don't believe the language has changed.

3 MR. SCHWABE: So my question will be
4 how are you going to determine a 14 or
5 15-year-old's age?

6 MR. COE: That is a tough question.
7 That will be very hard to do. And you know,
8 something that we deal with in the adventure
9 courses and the zip lines is kind of similar
10 because -- and actually, some amusement rides and
11 they will have to be in the future more cautious
12 about it, but there are weight limits on certain
13 rides and especially on zip lines. So it's an
14 issue that becomes problematic. You don't ask
15 people their weight. That's not good business.
16 And again, like you said, Dan, how do you tell
17 unless mom or dad are standing there and a lot of
18 times mom and dad aren't there. They send the
19 older kid with the younger kid and send them to
20 the park to have fun, and we do see that a lot.

21 MR. SCHWABE: As far as the weight
22 things would go, you can have a scale that can
23 say go or no go weight range instead of asking a
24 person how much they weigh. But with this,

1 there's -- children 14 and 15 don't have IDs.
2 The state of Illinois doesn't even require an ID
3 to vote. So how are you going to determine this
4 in the midst of trying to get people on and off
5 rides?

6 MR. COE: I would totally agree with
7 you in that case. You know, maybe that is a not
8 a specific requirement that we would want to
9 adopt, and we can, you know, make exceptions in
10 the rule to any part of any standard. And the
11 determination even for you as a fixed part, it's
12 probably more prevalent, but it will be the same
13 at a carnival. There's no way really to
14 determine unless the parents are there and even
15 that may be questionable.

16 MR. SCHWABE: I just understand the
17 need for it, but just implementing it is we're
18 going to run into trouble, I feel.

19 MR. COE: Right. I agree. I think
20 it was an issue and maybe that's a little harsher
21 requirement than it needs to be.

22 MR. BENNETT: Tom, just to recap on
23 the supervising companion requirement, that is
24 new, that is brand new in this version?

1 MR. COE: Yes, it is.

2 MR. BENNETT: And going to Six Flags,
3 you don't have any signs about this, do you, or
4 have you adopted -- I mean, this ASTM 2291 was
5 probably adopted in '19? Do you have any signs
6 at Six flags for this kiddy rides, if there's an
7 accompanying adult or supervising companion,
8 needs to meet all ride requirements?

9 MR. SCHWABE: I believe that there is
10 just a height requirement, but I have not looked
11 at the signs to determine that. I think it just
12 goes by height at this point.

13 MR. BENNETT: Right. Because this
14 new rule says the supervising companion must be
15 either, one, comply with the service and proven
16 practice of the operating facility, which I don't
17 know what that means, to meet all of the criteria
18 for riding along and be approximately 14 years of
19 age or older. Must be approximately 14 years of
20 age or older. Okay.

21 MR. SCHWABE: There is a loophole.

22 MR. BENNETT: Yeah. All right.

23 MR. COE: It makes it a judgment call
24 then and that's what most people aren't going to

1 want to see.

2 MR. BENNETT: Tom, I mean, who is
3 provided as -- discussing to serve as a
4 companion? Is this the family or parents that
5 say -- assume the young four year old wants to go
6 on a kiddy ride, who says that, well, that little
7 kid should go with a supervising companion?

8 MR. COE: There are some rides that
9 can -- it's different for different facilities.
10 There are some rides that have minimum
11 requirements and basically it is a height
12 requirement. But some manufacturers will allow
13 smaller kids, patrons, to go on that ride -- even
14 though it says 48 inches, they may allow a
15 36-inch rider if the intent was their parent goes
16 with them or a legal guardian. And what they're
17 trying to do is, you know, stop the four and
18 5-year-old saying, well, the five-year-old is
19 responsible for the four-year-old. That's not
20 going to fly anymore, here are some minimum
21 requirements.

22 MR. BENNETT: So now this companion
23 must meet all of the requirements, must meet the
24 height requirement and I guess appear to be

1 14 years old. Okay.

2 MR. COE: Yeah. That would be the
3 second requirement if he didn't meet -- I guess
4 what they're giving is they're giving a pass for
5 the manufacturer to state something or for the
6 operator if they have a process that already
7 exists that they haven't had any issues with that
8 they can continue to use their internal process.

9 MR. BENNETT: And this is under
10 section 6, 6.4 of the new F2291.

11 MR. COE: We could eliminate -- you
12 know, like I said, if the age thing is a problem,
13 we could just write that out in the rules.

14 MR. SCHWABE: The only ride it
15 applies to here, I believe, is the Whizzer roller
16 coaster that is between 36 and 48 you need to be
17 accompanied by a person that is over 48 inches.
18 We use the height instead of an age here. I
19 don't think it would affect us. I don't think
20 we're going change anything. But I just don't
21 know how other operators would want to handle
22 that.

23 MR. BENNETT: And that for you, Dan,
24 would be an existing service proven practice

1 where you haven't had a major issue with that
2 policy that you have for that ride so there's no
3 need to upgrade it, so the exception -- like I
4 said, we could adopt the standard and just say
5 we're eliminating 6422, item two. So -- would
6 this be that you would have to have a practice in
7 place for qualified supervision. And then that
8 would be up to the owner to determine what would
9 work.

10 MR. SCHWABE: Or you could leave it
11 in and it still allows any operators to do with
12 similar to what we did, restricted by height and
13 not age which is something you can ask. You ask
14 someone how tall they are but you don't have to
15 talk to them about how old they are.

16 MR. COE: I'll bring this up as being
17 the devil's advocate. When they say service
18 proven, there is a definition for that and that
19 means that process has to be in place and
20 followed for at least five years so you have to
21 have kind of five years of data to show that that
22 is an acceptable service proven process. And I
23 would go out on a limb and say most of the rides
24 that this is going to impact are way over five

1 years old and have been running similar to how
2 you run.

3 MR. BENNETT: Tom, you're saying that
4 these operators know, they have the service
5 proven practice in place, years of experience
6 knowing, as Dan has said, the other companion
7 meets the height requirements and the only thing
8 new here is they need to be approximately
9 14 years of age or older.

10 MR. COE: Yeah, I believe that would
11 be the sticking point. And it's just what Dan,
12 you know, said that how do you prove they're 14.
13 So my suggestion would be we vote to adopt the
14 standard and then we vote to eliminate that
15 14-year-old requirement.

16 MR. BENNETT: Any other discussion
17 about that? Tom's proposal and I would agree to
18 the way Tom phrased that.

19 MR. SUTTON: I would agree. That
20 word approximate is too nebulous and it leaves it
21 open for all types of interpretation,
22 approximate. You know. You're approximately 14,
23 that doesn't make a whole lot of sense.

24 MR. SCHWABE: Is that plus or minus

1 two years or plus or minus five years?

2 MR. BENNETT: I know, right. It
3 could get the operator in trouble if the other
4 companion meets the requirements, is tall enough,
5 large enough, goes with the smaller kid, but then
6 somewhere somehow they're only 12 or 11 and then
7 that could be held against them. So yeah, I
8 would then move and agree to recommend adopting
9 ASTM F2291-21 version with the exception that we
10 eliminate this one section, which is 6.4.2.2
11 number two, the year requirement.

12 MR. SUTTON: I second.

13 MR. BENNETT: Okay. That is my
14 motion and that's a second. Any discussion on
15 this vote? All those in favors of a motion say
16 yea.

17 (WHEREUPON, ALL VOTING MEMBERS VOTED
18 YEA.)

19 MR. BENNETT: Any opposed? Ayes have
20 it so that's been approved as we've discussed and
21 so that's been adopted. Good. Okay. Yes. Go
22 ahead, Tom. Anything else?

23 MR. COE: I was going to the last
24 thing I need to check with people is the next

1 tentative meeting. We kind of do this just by
2 month and date, February 17th, 2022. I'm going
3 to call it a Webex, and we'll go from two to
4 four. Is there anyone looking for something
5 different or is that going to work? If things
6 change, maybe we'll look into a face to face
7 meeting, but everybody on the news says it's not
8 going to get significantly better.

9 MR. BENNETT: That date seems fine
10 then, thank you.

11 MR. SUTTON: The other thing we
12 should do is look at having -- I thought it was
13 nice to be in-person, but we've got the
14 technology and everything now, you know, making a
15 four-hour trip to Springfield from Chicago and
16 back to Chicago, you know, these virtual meetings
17 are very convenient.

18 MR. BENNETT: I agree with Michael.
19 That is true. We should have this option and
20 maybe -- I don't know if we have one or the
21 other, but I agree as well and that's what courts
22 are moving to. They realized that this has saved
23 so much travel time. My status calls, I have two
24 tomorrow that are on Zoom so I don't have to

1 travel and it seems like it's more efficient with
2 just saving the travel time.

3 MR. SUTTON: So can we -- I don't
4 know, can we agree to have a -- for the people
5 that want to travel to Springfield, they can do
6 so but have the option of that in virtual and
7 also for those that want to do in person they can
8 travel there? Does that make sense?

9 MR. COE: We typically have an
10 in-person meeting. We have a phone call in for
11 those that can't make, basically, the in person.
12 The Webexs seem to work pretty well. The only
13 thing I would say for the board is typically the
14 February meeting we call it a winter meeting.
15 That does coincide with the Illinois Fair
16 Association meeting and maybe to just be there
17 and see some of those people, that would be kind
18 of neat for the board.

19 MR. JENNINGS: You do have some
20 operators that might come to a meeting that are
21 there at the convention which they have over past
22 years, until we got into the COVID and cancelled
23 the convention, and we're set to go again this
24 year but who knows.

1 MR. COE: That's an option out there.
2 And like I said, I'm going to plan for a Webex,
3 and if we see things change I'll contact the
4 board and we'll get together and make a decision
5 whether we wanted to do a face to face and just
6 keep it as a Webex.

7 MR. JENNINGS: Sounds good.

8 MR. BENNETT: Then we can open up --
9 go ahead, Tom. Do you have anything else?

10 MR. JOHNSON: This is Bill Johnson,
11 Fantasy Amusement Company. Did you say
12 January 17th or on the note it says
13 February 17th?

14 MR. COE: As a Webex, we scheduled it
15 for February 17th. That's going to give us some
16 more time at the first of the year to get some of
17 our changes done.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Can I recommend going
19 maybe a week later, only because that is the week
20 of our trade show in Florida for the carnival
21 industry?

22 MR. COE: I have no problem with
23 that.

24 MR. JOHNSON: All though I think I'm

1 the only carnival person on here, although I
2 think Greg Chiecko with the OABA is on. If you
3 guys can look at that, because the 17th, because
4 a lot of us are in meetings while we're at the
5 trade show. Thank you.

6 MR. CHIECKO: Bill and/or Tom, do you
7 have the date in front of you of the Illinois
8 convention? This is Greg Chiecko?

9 MR. JENNINGS: Let me get to it here.
10 The third weekend. The 15th, 16th and 17th it
11 should be of January, right. January the 14th,
12 15th, 16th.

13 MR. JOHNSON: The 13th is a Thursday,
14 so the 13th through 16th.

15 MR. JENNINGS: Right.

16 MR. CHIECKO: Would that be a better
17 option for a day, even if you are doing Webex for
18 now, just in case you go live and you could do it
19 at convention because we do have several
20 carnivals that are at that convention and I know
21 in the past they have attended the meeting, if
22 for nothing else just to listen in.

23 MR. COE: I can make that work. If
24 we want to vote on that date, we can just call it

1 that Thursday, that would be January 13th.

2 MR. CHIECKO: If it pleases the
3 board, it is a great opportunity to get the
4 actual operators in a room with your group. So
5 if that works for everyone, that will work for
6 us.

7 MR. COE: So we'll change -- we can
8 go ahead and change the date to January 13th.
9 We'll do it as a Webex initially. I'll send a
10 notice out and we'll get it up on the web page
11 for that date.

12 MR. CHIECKO: Thank you, Tom.

13 MR. BENNETT: And if we're there in
14 person, too, that would be in Springfield; is
15 that right?

16 MR. COE: Yes. It's typically at the
17 Crown Plaza.

18 MR. BENNETT: Right. Okay. Good.
19 And is there any other public comments or any
20 questions? I want to open up the floor to
21 anyone.

22 MR. KLEINIK: Mr. Chairman, this is
23 Director Kleinik. I just want to let you know
24 for the vacancy on the board, we did submit the

1 names to the governor's office to start the
2 process. So hopefully by the next one we'll have
3 the full board, so I just want to let everybody
4 know.

5 MR. BENNETT: Good. Are there any
6 public comments by anyone? All right. I don't
7 hear any, any questions or anything from the
8 floor from the members of the public so I don't
9 have anything further. Then I'll ask for a
10 motion to adjourn. Is there a motion?

11 MR. JENNINGS: Motion to adjourn.

12 MR. BENNETT: And a second?

13 MR. REDSHAW: I'll second that, Joe
14 Redshaw.

15 MR. BENNETT: And then all those in
16 favor of adjourning our meeting say yea.

17 (WHEREUPON, ALL VOTING MEMBERS VOTED
18 YEA.)

19 MR. BENNETT: Any nays? So our
20 meeting is adjourned. Thank you, everyone.
21 Thanks for attending. It's great to see and talk
22 to everyone. We've accomplished a lot. And
23 hopefully we'll see everyone in person and/or
24 Webex in February and January, January 13th. All

1 right. Thanks very much.
2 (The meeting was adjourned at 3:42
3 p.m.)
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