

Over the next few weeks I will be sending daily educational bulletins on industry practices for Safety-Advisory Committees. The purpose is to enhance your knowledge and perspective on a valuable tool for reducing your entity's expenses incurred by worker injuries and damage to your entity's property. All of the daily bulletins will be short, and hopefully quick to read. PLEASE SHARE THEM WITH ANYONE IN YOUR ENTITY THAT YOU FEEL SHOULD HAVE THE INFORMATION.

#1 2/18/11

### **Intro**

After surveying various members YCPARMIA has a comfort level that:

- There are no common Safety-Advisory Committee practices among our members.
- There is little communication between the active committees and management.
- Committees that are active spend the majority of their time looking at what has happened, but make few, if any, recommendations designed to improve the safety of workers.
- It is not generally understood that safety training is only one component of an effective safety-advisory committee.
- Collectively what members are doing to reduce claims has not impacted the number of injuries. In FY 99-00 we had 442 injury claims; in FY 09-10 we had 439. Over the last 16 years our annual average is 444 injured workers.
  - Our results compared to other public entities are good; compared to private industry they are pretty dismal.
- Over the last ten years the average cost of a YCPARMIA workers' comp claim has been \$5,633; the median is much lower as the numbers are small and a few significant claims distort the average.
- Some workers' comp claims can have a very long life. Our oldest open claim has an injury date in February 1981; we have 35 open claims that occurred before 2000.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact YCPARMIA with questions, or for assistance. We view the collective safety efforts of our members as the most immediate and COSI effective way of lowering our members' workers' Compensation costs.