



**Minutes  
Amusement Advisory Board Meeting  
June 16, 2005**

Attendees: Jonathan Brooks, Elevator & Amusement Device Bureau  
Tom Chambers, Elevator & Amusement Device Bureau  
Robert Brinkley, Brinkley Entertainment  
Les Powers, Powers Great American Midways  
LouAnn Bowen, Hughie & Louie's Rentals  
Hobie Wright, The Vertical Edge  
Nancy Vick, Elevator & Amusement Device Bureau  
Andy Frazier, Standards and Inspections

Mr. Brooks welcomed everyone and expressed concern that some members were not present. He noted that it is important that members attend all Advisory Board Meetings. The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.

Mr. Brooks asked for ideas from the group regarding the Annual Amusement Company Meeting that was held in March, 2005. This year it was split into two (2) days; one-day meeting for Inflatables and one day for Hard Rides. What can the Bureau do to make this meeting better and more informative for the companies attending? Following are some ideas discussed:

1. Guest Speakers – amusement industry person to speak; a speaker from the insurance companies; a representative from a company that has had an incident to happen that all are familiar with; a representative from an amusement manufacturer such as Wisdom or Chance.
2. Pictures/Visuals – photos of amusement devices that are not correct and also of those that are correct, as well as explain why they are in violation. Have handouts of these to attendees.
3. Do not excuse Fair Managers from attending the annual meeting just because they attended the Fair Association Meeting. Attendance at the Annual Amusement Company Meeting should be mandatory and a representative from each county/company should attend as well as anyone that plays in North Carolina.

Mr. Brooks will look into all the above for next year's meeting and agrees that these are good ideas to put into place.

*Certification of Amusement Companies*

A suggestion was made to have a list of inflatable companies on our website that are "legal" or have been inspected by our Bureau. This would be accessible for the public to check on those companies that are "registered" with the Bureau. There could even be a registration fee to be added to the list. There could also be two (2) lists; one for carnivals and one (1) for inflatables. Mr. Brooks said it may require legislation on a fee for this,

but certainly could work on getting a list like this together for our website. He will work on this. The Bureau is working on a new computer system to handle amusement processes. It will register the company and we can put this list on the website. Suggestion that criteria could be setup as: issue certifications to those companies that attend the annual meeting only at the meeting. If company management cannot attend, they must send a representative. No fees necessary and no legislation needed; just a Certification. They will learn about training, do's and don'ts at these meetings and this is necessary to do business in North Carolina.

Also, could have two (2) meetings per year; one meeting in the eastern part of the state and one in the western part of the state. Timeframes will have to be looked at closely because of fair season. It should be mandatory that representatives be in attendance.

#### *Penalty Sheets*

The Penalty process on amusements was discussed. A copy of the forms issued for penalties were handed out to all attendees. All the penalties issued since this program began this year have been inflatable companies. New companies are not knowledgeable of laws and requirements of starting this type business.

#### *Apprenticeship Program*

Consistency is a goal of this Bureau. The new Apprenticeship Training Program is underway for our inspectors. This is the only program in the country for formal training in amusement device inspections. All the Bureau inspectors will be registered and certified by September 1, 2005, except three (3) new inspectors. A journeyman's card will be issued to each inspector which is recognized legally to be "an expert in their field" in a court of law. Inspectors are afraid of accidents on rides and that they will be held accountable. The Apprenticeship Program will make them more comfortable since it has everything covered in step-by-step processes. This training will be approved by their Supervisors certifying they have completed all hours of training according to the records. We have worked very hard to setup this program and are very proud of it.

#### *2005 Rider Safety Campaign*

There will be a coloring contest for kids this year along with the bookmarks, coloring books and signs. There will be a page on our website for coloring and submitting for the contest. The Fair Association Board is helping with the campaign this year. The Commissioner is continuously in the loop with our safety issues at the fairs. She will visit the fairs as she did last year.

#### *OSHA General Standards*

The state OSHA Bureau has made a determination that amusement devices meet the requirements of the General Industry Standard. This standard covers the use of fall protection, personal protective equipment and documentation of training employees. This means they can come to an amusement company and inspect their rides IF they are not handling setup correctly or are running improperly. This should not happen unless Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau inspectors continually have a problem and must call them in to inspect for fall protection. Local municipalities have different local requirements and you should check in those areas you play.

### *Website Additions*

Our website is a good central source of information. We are adding more and more information weekly. The Advisory Board minutes are there as well as forms to submit online, administrative codes, safety act, memos, etc.

### *Re-Appointments*

LouAnn Bowen and Mike Howard terms have expired. They were asked to serve another term and accepted. A re-appointment letter will be processed and sent to them. Joel Rickards has been appointed in the place of David Orringer. The Board will look at having a membership spot for rock wall/bungee representation. Mr. Hobie Wright attended today as a guest and would accept a membership term on the Board if asked.

The next meeting will be held on December 8, 2005 in the Old Revenue Building, 111 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room.