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Concord participates in hoisting training for municipal workers

November 17, 2015 – As part of new continuing education requirements for Massachusetts Department of Public Safety (DPS) hoisting licensing, eight employees from the Concord Public Works Water and Sewer Division recently completed essential license renewal training on November 5 at College of the Holy Cross (Hogan Conference Center) in Worcester, MA. Four employees completed Class 2A Hoisting – Excavator License Renewal training and four completed Class 2B Hoisting -- Front End Loader/Backhoe License Renewal training.

The Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA), Concord's property and casualty insurance provider, offered the trainings free of charge as a membership benefit. Jackson C. Pettyjohn of the New England Water Works Association led the four-hour training sessions, which included an overview of state and federal regulations governing operation and also covered machine principles, operating techniques, and special safety considerations.

Under strengthened state regulations that went into effect last year, anyone operating a range of hoisting equipment such as excavators, catch basin cleaners, backhoes, front end loaders, derricks, cranes, and forklifts must earn continuing education credits as part of the licensing renewal process. If the DPS finds an employee who has not completed the proper training during a routine worksite inspection, that employee and the onsite supervisor can face fines of up to \$3,000.

"Concord Public Works is pleased and appreciative to see MIIA offering this comprehensive training at no cost, which directly aligns with our goals around safety and staff development while maintaining the Department's compliance with this critical program" said Concord Public Works Director Richard Reine.

MIIA began providing hoisting trainings last year in order to help ensure member municipalities could meet the new state requirements in a timely and affordable manner. "Because the new law went into effect fairly quickly, we wanted to help fill in the gap for members who needed this training to keep workers safe and prevent losses through DPS fines," said Stanley Corcoran, Executive Vice President of MIIA.

Upon completion of this and other MIIA risk- and loss-prevention programs, all participating municipalities are able to receive insurance premium credits through the MIIA Rewards Programs, which helps to reduce local property and casualty insurance costs.

About MIIA

MIIA is the non-profit, member-based insurance arm of the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) insuring nearly 400 cities, towns, and other public entities in the state. In fiscal year 2014, MIIA awarded over \$2.3 million of premium credit collectively to the membership through its Rewards program for a 12-year total of \$22.1 million. For more information please visit www.emiia.org and www.mma.org.

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