

Minutes of the West-MEC Welding Advisory Council

May 9, 2014

1:30 p.m.

Central Campus Aviation Building

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. Those in attendance included: Manuel Contreras, Scott Cunningham, Jac Johnson, Scott Sage, John Kelley, Joe Speciale, John Weber, Nina Ames, John Ganzini, Doug Seaman, Katie Mehin, Doug Anderson, Troy Gabaldon, Cliff Migal and John Mulcahy.

Equipment List:

We began by reviewing the equipment list. We reviewed the entire list of major equipment making adjustments as needed. A tungsten grinder and tables for the welding booths were added to the list. The equipment list is attached is at the bottom of the minutes.

Gas Manifold System:

The second item on the agenda was the gas manifold system. Manuel Contreras presented information on a proposed system. Manuel explained that a central location for all of our gas needs will be the safest way to control all gasses that we need for the shop. It should be located outside and in area that any cylinder gas provider can get to without great difficulty to service. Once we have chosen our storage delivery site on property we can have all gases piped to that station where it is needed. Piping material can be (K) class copper 3/4 inch or 1 inch in diameter for all inert gases to insure enough gas flow to all stations. We can control the gas pressure at the delivery port. It should not exceed 125 psi at each location where you need gas. You can achieve this by putting in gas drops with a regulator at the end of the drop. In those areas where mobile equipment will be used we can install drops from the ceiling and preset the gas flow we will need. We can also install simple mechanical gas mixers to optimize the gas need for the different types of welding process you will be doing that require different gas mixtures.

The advisory council members unanimously endorsed the idea of installing a gas manifold. Discussion ensued regarding whether individual mixers should be placed at each welding booth or if we should place mixers outside where we can regulate the gas mixes delivered to various locations in the shop. We will discuss this further at our next meeting.

Shop Layout:

We next discussed the shop layout. It was agreed that we should have one larger table in the center of the shop (4' by 6' or 5' by 10'). We'll also have a cutting table. In addition, we have the tables that are currently in the shop. We'll put a piece of ¼" plate on top of these. It was recommended that all tables have wheels. We will also need a few classroom tables (wrapped in sheet metal) on which students can sit to do paper work as needed.

Instructor Job Description:

Our next task was to review the instructor job description. A number of comments were made regarding the salary range. Many feared that it would not be adequate for the purpose of hiring someone with appropriate welding certifications (i.e. AWS CWI/CWE). We also debated whether or not to require the certification and decided that we should. It was also recommended that we should make it clear that the salary is for a 220 day contract (including vacation days). We will revisit this topic at our next meeting.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Troy Gabaldon provided interested members with a tour of the welding facility immediately following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Mulcahy