A 55-year-old railroad worker was killed Wednesday morning, Oct. 23, while working along the train tracks near the Union Tank Car yard off of FM 787 at CR 2205 outside of Cleveland.

According to Capt. Ken DeFoor, spokesperson for the Liberty County Sheriff’s Office, the man’s skull was crushed when it was caught between a tractor and the tractor’s boom.

The decedent, Oscar Alfaro, an employee of Bayou City Railroad Contractors for nine years, was discovered by his son who had grown concerned about his father.

“Oscar had been gone from the work crew for a while so his son went over to where he was working,” said DeFoor. “Oscar had been working with a tractor that had a bucket boom on it. He had gotten off the tractor and was picking up metal debris by hand and throwing it into the tractor.”

Some of the debris hit the tractor’s controls, causing the bucket to swing around and pin the man’s head between the bucket and the tractor. It is believed he was killed instantly.

Pct. 5 Justice of the Peace Wade Brown was called to the scene to make the pronouncement of death. An autopsy has been ordered.