

# LUCC Meeting Minutes

## February 2, 2023

**Welcome** – President Rocky Stewart called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees.

**Self-Introductions** – 42 people were present.

**Meeting Minutes** – Meeting minutes were approved at the opening of the meeting.

**Treasurers Report** – Naomi Shirtcliff: Annual dues letters went out to members for 2023. Purchased stamps and gift cards for giveaways. Shirts are being ordered this week.

**Publicity & Education**- Jim Franklin: Getting supplies to replenish brochures at the rental companies. Waiting to hear back from Jerry's and the other promo events that we inquired about.

**Damage Report**- Jason Williams: We've had a month straight being damage free in this area. Did one training for a Electrician company after a damage. Have been handing out manuals to people when found to have minor violations, for education.  
3C Concrete has had multiple incidents and were found again in Springfield digging next to a meter with no locates.

**Web Page**- Amy Abramson: Needs to be updated. Would like someone to take this role over.

**OUCC Standards Review** – Jason Robinson: PG 19, definition of “Excavation” means any operation in which earth rock or other material on or below the ground is moved, with exceptions as listed. Jacob provided an example of which he recently explained this definition to a residential homeowner that was digging in their yard.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** Jim: had a utility respond to a pre-survey with “call us if you really want marks”. Is this acceptable? The purpose of pre-survey marks is to design around existing facilities to avoid conflicts during construction.

**Program:** Kevin Hennessy Oregon PUC – Chief of Pipeline Safety and Board member of OUCC  
Complaint process to the OPUC:

Traditionally, the complaint process was an RAA (Request for Administrative Action). These are reviewed by a committee and then refers to the PUC. They are going away from that process and now has an agreement with Oregon OSHA to investigate and enforce federal rules that are performance based. When a complaint is submitted to OPUC they will refer it to OSHA, as applicable. OSHA only covers contractors with employees.

In some situations that need immediate response, it is best to know other options. Lean on local authorities, such as police, city permitting agents, etc. to enforce stop work. A formal complaint isn't always the best route, depending on the situation.

OPUC has a new online form to submit a complaint. The links or QR code below can be used to access the form.

The new form includes questions to identify root cause of the issue. This is for data collection and analysis to better understand where efforts should be made to make improvements in the future. This will used in combination with the DIRT reporting tool via Common Ground Alliance to determine “why” there was a violation. We (contractors, utility operators, etc.) should be collecting and reporting this info for better data, so efforts can be directed accordingly.

Fines can be imposed to violators, as determined by OPUC. They can give the option to waive the fee with an agreement that the company creates a policy to correct the issue (such as a safety manual or other internal process).

Reminder that is the Utility Operators responsibility to send mapping updates to OUNC so they are accurate on the 811 mapping.

<https://www.oregon.gov/puc/safety/Pages/Call-Before-You-Dig.aspx>

<https://arcg.is/1u4T1b1>



**Meeting Adjourned- 1 pm**