

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2017

8:00 a.m. @ Shari's Restaurant

Attendance:

Ed Ortega	Northern Wasco County PUD
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles Public Works
Brewster Whitmire	Wasco Electric
Shelly Gray	City of The Dalles Public Works
Don Patterson	NW Natural
Troy Klein	NW Natural
Nathan Pope	Chenowith Water
Sheri Clark	NW Natural
Scott Gallegos	NW Natural

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 a.m. by President, Ed Ortega.

Minutes:

Minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Arthur absent. Ed noted the previous balance of \$4,290.99, with one payable pending for \$900 (hoodies).

Damage Report:

Dale reported three damages by USI for a project in the port: Feb 22nd to new sewer main and the second 2/28 to fire hydrant and the third was to a streetlight power feed which had to be repaired by NWCPUD. He said that locates had been requested and properly marked, and utilities are present on the plans and that there was a pre-construction meeting. He noted that there had also been other issues (such as tampering with a Qlife fiber line in a vault). There was a follow-up meeting with the contractor and the City threatened to issue a stop-work order, but after talking with the project developer, project manager, and contractor, the hope is that the project will go smoothly.

Scott said that CGA at the state level is hoping to get DIRT data out to counties and that by looking at the damage data, councils can see where they need to expand the 811 message.

Old Business:

Ed brought up the question regarding retention records for minutes. It was discussed and doesn't appear to be a standard; suggestion to be added to bylaws. However, as the minutes are uploaded to the website monthly, it was decided that hard copies of the 2006-2009 minutes may be destroyed.

Ed also mentioned the emergency locate that Dale discussed last meeting (USIC said they wouldn't be able to respond for several hours). This was discussed and determined that there should be a current list of local contacts for locates in the event of an emergency, if a contracting locator cannot respond in a timely manner. Don mentioned that it would be helpful if the OAR stipulated response times for urban and rural areas. It was also mentioned that there are large territory coverage areas for one locator.

Dale mentioned that Zayo is installing a fiber line from eastern to western Oregon and that he invited them to attend a WCUCC meeting.

New Business:

Cherry Festival. Ed confirmed the trailer is reserved and Don said he can drive it up. Ed will contact the Chamber regarding the parade and/or having a booth. Sheri asked if there is any swag to hand out. Dale said we may need to have another meeting before the festival.

Don said that he attended Hood River and Klickitat/Skamania meetings and asked if WCUCC would be interested in doing an event with another council. One suggestion was radio ads, as they reach the same areas and people. Sheri agreed the radio ads would be a good use of funds and Ed said we do have the funds. Don said he would bring it up again at the Hood River meeting. Ed said he'd be interested in attending the Hood River meeting to introduce himself to members there.

Dale asked if we want to do a contractor's event this year. The question was raised if it really draws contractors into attendance: did the breakfast or dinner have a better turn out? Don suggested a contractor's day/discount tickets for the fair. Dale said the Hood River fair has more attendance than the Wasco County fair. Troy suggested Beer Fest: tickets to event, drink tickets, logo on tasting glasses, or coloring books for kids. Dale said he'd like to see how Cherry Fest goes.

Don said we need to find a way to reach people we haven't reached before. Scott said other councils have offered to buy breakfast for a utility rep when they attend the first council meeting.

Don said he's working on a newsletter for another council and suggested doing a gorge newsletter.

Sheri suggested that we target the email list once a month: bringing pizza and the 811 message to contractors that are too busy to come to meetings.

Shelly suggested surveying contractors to see what type of event they'd be most likely to attend.

Troy suggested the car show/wheel of fortune.

Don suggested having a contractor drawing (business cards). Whatever we do, he said it needs to be interactive.

Dale mentioned 4th of July, Fort Dalles Days, concerts. Brewster said he would make contact with the event organizers about sponsorship.

Round Table:

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ Street Division started on 21st and Lewis project last week, and planned on paving last week but the rain caused complications. The work should be completed today, and the paving done tomorrow (Tuesday, March 21, 2017). The rest of the week will be spent patching.
- ❖ Next project will be 14th and Lewis, work will begin the last week of March to identify utilities and pull pavement.
- ❖ Another project, West 7th from the theatre to Mrytle, had planned to CTB, currently holding off and exploring other options, hopefully will start in April.
- ❖ Painting and striping, and crack sealing work will be done as weather permits.
- ❖ Wastewater Collection Division is working on Madison Street, and down the alley. Parts have been ordered for boat basin project pump station, hoping to finish the end of the month.
- ❖ On Snipes between 7th and 8th the wastewater crew will be doing some potholing and looking into putting a main in.
- ❖ Water Distribution is working on rebuilding PRVs and replacing meters.
- ❖ There have been lots of locates, and lots of projects going on.
- ❖ There is a service renewal to be done on Mill Creek, and a new service request on Old Dufur.
- ❖ Major projects currently in the works include the 18” water main line from Rivertrail Way, painting Columbia View and Sorosis Reservoirs, and the Lone Pine Well project.

Brewster Whitmire—Wasco Electric

- ❖ Pole replacement. New services

Nathan Pope – Chenowith Water

- ❖ 6th & 2nd Hostetler hydrant replacement and putting meters in the ground

Sheri Clark- NW Natural

- ❖ Project on 18th between Thompson and Morton is still open
- ❖ Port project still open: waiting for parts
- ❖ Trevitt from 13th/14th alley to 15th/16th alley—bare and shallow mains to be replaced
- ❖ Site for air gas injection @ W 2nd—need to talk to property owner
- ❖ System reinforcement at 6th/7th alley
- ❖ Want to do Oakwood, from E 16th to hospital- reinforce service
- ❖ Mt Hood from W 16th to W 17th- want to reinforce service
- ❖ May have to do work for MCMC
- ❖ Sheri said she'd check on the status of 19th/Dry Hollow (in a response to a question about it)

Scott Gallegos- NW Natural

- ❖ Talked about the enhanced positive response for locaters and that this will come via email if available. He reminded the group that it doesn't replace keeping locates marked.

Ed Ortega – Northern Wasco County PUD

❖ Responding to emergencies and smaller projects

The next OUCC quarterly meeting is May 8th in Medford; please let Ed know if you'd like to attend.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Put next month's meeting on your calendar: April 18th.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelly Gray
Secretary